an ancient civilization that existed in north-central Anatolian region.

93. Writer Preeti Shenoy has been honoured with Indian of the Year Award by Brands Academy, a reputed branding company in India.

August

1. India’s Essar Ports signed 30-year concession agreement with Government of Mozambique to develop a 20 million tons per annum (MTPA) coal terminal at Beira Port as part of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) project. First phase will be developed at a cost of $275 million.

2. A new representative body US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) is being set up to enhance business relations between India and USA. Mukesh Agar will serve as a USISPF President while Gaurav Verma will serve as Chief Operating officer.

3. A team of researchers led by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen discovered wreckage of World War II warship USS Indianapolis 18000 feet below the surface in Pacific Ocean, after 72 years of its drowning by Japanese soldiers.

4. According to a report by United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), island of Tuvalu is least visited country in 2016. Approx 2,000 people visited Tuvalu in 2016, while 1000 people visited it in 2014. Located in South Pacific Ocean, Tuvalu has a population of 11,000 people.

5. According to report by UN Body International Telecommunication Union (ITU), India and China are home to 39% of the 830 million young people worldwide who use Internet.

6. African country Chad will released limited edition Lord Krishna silver coin on Janmashtami in commemoration of 5,244th birth anniversary of Hindu God.

7. After Hindi version, Oxford University Press (OUP) launched online dictionaries in Tamil and Gujarati as part of its special focus on Indian languages, under Oxford Global Languages (OGL) initiative launched in September 2015.

8. Arab Nation Qatar government announced that citizens belonging to 80 countries including India can now enter Qatar without a visa.

9. As per Bloomberg Billionaires Index, India’s Mukesh Ambani became Asia’s second-richest man with Worth of Approx 35.7 Billion USD, getting past Hong Kong Businessman Li Ka-shing. Mukesh added $12.1 billion to his wealth in 2017, mainly owing to Reliance, that roped in Over 11 Crore users in Under an year.

10. As per Forbes’ Magazine, Chinese e-Commerce Firm Alibaba’s CEO Jack Ma is back as Asia’s richest man with worth of $37.4 billion. He is followed by China’s Ma Huateng (Chairman of Tencent) with worth $36.7 billion.

11. As per data by U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2016 was warmest on record for planet as a whole and it also surpassed temperature records dating back 137 years.

12. As per speed tester Ookla, Norway has fastest mobile Internet in the world with 52.6 Mbps speed, followed by Netherlands and Hungary.

13. Australian government will build world’s biggest single tower solar thermal power plant (150-megawatt capacity) in South Australia by 2020. Solar thermal technology uses mirrors to concentrate the Sun’s light at the top of a tower, heating stored molten salt and heat is used to operate steam turbines.

14. Bangladesh will open a new diplomatic station in Chennai, to focus on medical tourism and educational centres that drew thousands of Bangladesh citizens to India every year.

15. Bank of England would not change the way its new plastic banknotes are made, that have small amounts of animal fat used in their production.

16. Biggest X-ray laser gun on earth named, European X-ray Free Electron Laser (XFEL) in German federal states of Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein, will begin operation in September 2017. -
   - XFEL will shoot 27,000 laser pulses per second, 200 times more per second than next highest-performing gun in California (USA).
   - 1.5 billion-euro laser replaces its predecessor, FLASH, in Germany.
   - European XFEL is constructed such that electrons produce x-ray light in synchronisation, resulting in high-intensity x-ray pulses with properties of laser light and at intensities much brighter than those produced by conventional synchrotron light sources.

17. Brazil Government abolished a vast national reserve in the Amazon to open up area to mining, covering 46000 sq km. This area straddles northern states of Amapa and Para and is believed to be rich in gold, zinc, phosphate, manganese and other minerals.

18. Cabinet Approved MoU with Sweden on cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property (IPR).

19. Cabinet approvals -
   - MoU with Spain on cooperation in renewable energy.
   - Establishment of BRICS Agriculture Research Platform (BRICS-ARP), as a natural global platform for science-led agriculture-based sustainable development for addressing the issues of world hunger, under-nutrition, poverty and inequality.
   - India and South Africa signed agreement for transfer of sentenced persons, to deepen humanitarian cooperation between two nations.
   - Proposal to extend proxy voting to overseas Indians by amending electoral laws has been cleared. NRIs will also be allowed to use option of proxy, which as of now is only available to service personnel.

20. Canadian government announced to allow Transgender citizens to obtain gender-neutral passports, by marking X in space of gender on their passports and other identity documents.

21. China and Nepal have signed three pacts to further boost their ties. Areas of co-operation are gas resources exploration, economic and technological cooperation and promotion of investment.

22. China launched its first cyber court specialising in handling internet-related cases in the e-commerce hub of Hangzhou, amid a spike in number of online disputes.

23. Chinese electronics company TCL Corporation will launch a full touchscreen, waterproof Smartphone under BlackBerry name in October 2017.

24. East African Nation Kenya has put toughest laws against use of Plastic Bags, with imprisonment of up to four years or fines of $4000.

25. Facebook acquired artificial intelligence (AI) startup Ozo, aimed at building more elaborate personal assistant for Messenger users.

26. Facebook rolled out Watch video platform to take on Google’s owned YouTube. It is a platform for all creators and publishers to find an audience, build a community of passionate fans, and earn money for their work.

27. Finance Ministry imposed anti-dumping duty on certain textured toughened (tempered) glass imported from China (for five years), to protect domestic industry from cheaper imports.

28. First Israeli satellite for environmental research - Venus has been launched from French Guiana (France), as a joint effort by the Israel Space Agency and the French Space Agency (CNES).

29. First meeting of Japan-India Coordination Forum (JICF) for Development of North-Eastern Region held in New Delhi.

30. First regional centre of New Development Bank has been opened in South Africa. NDB has been set up by India and other BRICS nations with an authorized capital of USD 100 billion. Its headquarters is in Beijing (China).

31. Five Indian-origin persons featured in Fortune's annual list of 40 young and influential people in business globally.
   - Indian Origin Persons - Leo Varadkar (Irish Prime Minister), Divya Nag, Rishi Shah, Shradhita Agarwal and Leila Janah.
List is topped by 39-year-old French President Emmanuel Macron (France's youngest leader since Napoleon).

Google launched its version 8.0 of operating system as Android Oreo. It boasts of a double faster boot speed, autofill option, and a longer battery life. The new update comes with a Picture-in-Picture feature that allows the user to see two apps simultaneously.

Government imposed a five-year anti-dumping duty on Sodium Nitrite imports from China, amid injury caused to domestic industry by the same.

Government restricted imports of gold and silver items from South Korea in a bid to contain rise in inbound shipments of precious metals from South Korea.

India and China agreed to disengage 2 month old border standoff at Doklam (Bhutan), brining end to possibilities of an armed conflict between India and China over the matter.

India and China jointly submitted a proposal to World Trade Organisation (WTO) calling for the elimination of the most trade-distorting form of farm subsidies, known as Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS).

It has come ahead of upcoming 11th Ministerial Conference of WTO (to be held in Buenos Aires (Argentina)) in December 2017.

It counters efforts of some countries to target subsidies of developing countries while letting developed countries retain their huge farm subsidies.

Developed countries have more than 90 percent of the global AMS entitlements amounting to nearly US$ 160 bn. While, Most of developing countries including India and China do not have AMS entitlements.

India and Europe Union (EU) agreed to strengthen cooperation between their security and intelligence agencies to combat threat of terrorism.

During 10th India-European Union Counter Terrorism Dialogue held in New Delhi.

India and Germany signed agreement on technical cooperation under Indo-German Energy Programme – Green Energy Corridors (IGEC-GEC). Green Energy Corridor Project aims to synchronize electricity produced from renewable sources (solar / wind), with conventional power stations in grid.

India and US established new two-by-two (2 by 2) ministerial dialogue to enhance strategic coordination maintaining peace and stability in Indo-Pacific region, replacing earlier India-US Strategic and Commercial Dialogue. It will be similar to India-Japan 2+2 dialogue format between foreign and defence secretaries of two countries.

India became 80th country to ratify second commitment period (2013–2020) of Kyoto Protocol (or Doha Amendment) that commits countries to contain emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs).

India granted US pharmaceutical company Pfizer patent for its pneumonia vaccine Prevnar 13. Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine is used for prevention of pneumococcal pneumonia and invasive diseases caused by 13 Streptococcus pneumoniae strains. There are currently 3 types of PCV available on global market - Prevnar, Synflorix and Prevenar 13.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of Health inked MoU with International Vaccine Institute (IVI) to collaborate on vaccine research and development, committing annual contribution of US $5,00,000 to IVI.

Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) (Ministry of Earth Sciences) inaugurated Ocean Forecasting System for Indian Ocean countries Comoros, Madagascar, and Mozambique, during 3rd Meeting of Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Asia and Africa (RIMES) held in Papua New Guinea.

Ocean Forecast System will offer, high wave alerts, port warnings, forecast, oil spill advisory services along the ship routes in addition to tsunami and storm surge warnings and help in search and rescue operations.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) brought 1.9 million barrels of U.S. crude oil, its second import tender making it first Indian refiner to purchase Eagle Ford shale oil. IOC bought 950,000 barrels of light sweet Eagle Ford shale oil and 950,000 barrels of heavy sour Mars crude oil.

Indian Pharma Company Natco Pharma received approval from US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to market Lanthanum Carbonate chewable tablets in various strengths. These tablets are used in treatment of patients with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD).

Indian Software services firm Infosys acquired London-based firm Brilliant Basics for Rs 62 crores (£7.5 million).

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and USA’s National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) are working to develop and launch a dual frequency synthetic aperture radar satellite in the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission 2021.

It will be first radar imaging satellite to use dual frequency and it is planned to be used for remote sensing purposes, to observe and understand natural processes of the Earth.

NASA will be responsible for development of L-band SAR, a 12m unfurlable antenna & its deployment elements, GPS system and data recorder. ISRO will be responsible for development of S-band SAR, Spacecraft Bus, data transmission system, Spacecraft Integration & testing, launch using GSLV and on-orbit operations.

Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) signed MoU with Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal (ICAN).

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) opened world’s first low Enriched Uranium (LEU) Bank in Oskenem in Kazakhstan. It will be the first of its kind LEU bank not to be under control of any individual country.

International Seabed Authority (ISA) in its 23rd session recently held at Kingston (Jamaica) has extended India’s exclusive rights to explore polymetalic nodules from seabed in Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB). Estimated polymetallic nodule resource potential of this area is around 380 million tonnes, containing nickel, copper, cobalt and manganese.

Ican’s IDRO and the privately owned Negin Group signed Iran’s biggest-ever car deal ($778 million) with French automobile manufacturer Renault to produce 150,000 cars, beginning in 2018.

Japan launched Michibiki No. 3 satellite of its new quasi-zenith satellites to improve the global positioning system (GPS) navigation services in Japan.

Mastercard and Rutgers University released Digital index 2017, ranking 60 nations in terms of developing their digital economies and integrating digital connectivity among people. India has been categorised under the break out segment that refers to countries with relatively lower absolute levels of digital advancement, yet remain poised for growth and are attractive to investors by virtue of their potential.

Mumbai Based Engineering conglomerate Larsen & Toubro acquired INR 3375 crores metro order from Mauritius government to design and build an Integrated Light Rail-based Urban Transit System in Mauritius.

NASA launched Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS-M) aimed to ensuring efficient communication of astronauts at International Space Station with Earth. TDRS-M is last of 13 such satellites that have been launched since 1983.

Nepal launched climate-smart snow leopard landscape management plan to safeguard endangered species of snow leopard, as first climate-smart landscape management plan for snow leopard conservation in the world.

Nepal's Parliament passed a law that criminalises an any practice called Chhaupadi that banishes women from home during menstruation and after childbirth.

Nepal's Parliament passed a law that criminalises an ancient practice called Chhaupadi that banishes women from home during menstruation and after childbirth.

Newly established Constitutional Assembly of South American Nation Venezuela announced itself superior to all other governmental institutions, including opposition-controlled congress. It prohibit opposition-held National Assembly and other government bodies from taking any action that would interfere with constituent assembly's tasks.
June to September 2017

60. Noted Software Firm Microsoft launched Project Brainwave as a deep learning acceleration platform for real-time artificial intelligence (AI), amid AI becoming increasingly important. Project Brainwave uses massive field-programmable gate array (FPGA) infrastructure deployed by Microsoft over past few years.

61. ONGC Videsh will invest $150 million in exploration to drill more wells in Colombia, Kazakhstan and Bangladesh.

62. Online entertainment platform Netflix made its first ever acquisition after it acquired comic book company Millarworld.

63. Powerful Hurricanes Harvey and Irma struck USA, triggering huge Financial and Human Losses.

64. Qatar approved law for making permanent residency available to some non-citizens like children of Qatari women married to foreigners, who offered valuable services to the country and those with special skills. This has made Qatar first Gulf Arab state to make permanent residency available to some non-citizens.

65. Qatar launched a new direct route between Qatar’s Hamad Port and Pakistan’s port of Karachi.

66. Qatar restored full diplomatic relations with Iran, disregarding demands of other Arab Nations.

67. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) signed agreement with its Iran’s counterpart Securities & Exchange Organization (SEO), to promote technical assistance and facilitate cross-border co-operation in area of securities regulations.

68. Sher Bahadur Deuba, Prime Minister of Nepal visited India. 8 MOUs were signed during his visit -

1. MoU on Modalities for Utilization of India’s Housing Grant Component to support Reconstruction of 50,000 Houses.


4. MoU on Drug Demand Reduction and Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemical and Related Matters.

5. Agreement on Cooperation in Field of Standardization and Conformity Assessment.

6. MoU between Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal.

69. Sri Lankan Navy commissioned SLNS Sayurala, an India-built state-of-the-art Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel (AOPV), first-ever purchase from a foreign ship builder, to boost its search and rescue capabilities.

70. Swedish defence firm SAAB and Indian conglomerate Adani group signed collaboration agreement, main aim at a contract for single-engine fighter jets for Indian Air Force.

71. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) signed letter of intent (LoI) with Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) deepen cooperation. It was signed during ITU-TRAI Asia-Pacific Regulators’ Roundtable jointly organised by International Telecom Union (ITU) and TRAI in New Delhi.

72. US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved first gene therapy treatment that uses patient’s own immune cells to fight acute lymphoblastic leukemia, that may bring new approach to treat of cancer and serious and life-threatening diseases.

73. CAR-T cell therapy (CTL019 or tisagenlecleucel) and now is called Kymriah, completely different as compared to present immunotherapy drugs called checkpoint inhibitors that treat variety of cancers by helping body’s natural T cells better spot tumors.

74. CAR-T treatment is not a pill or chemotherapy. It uses gene therapy techniques not to fix disease-causing genes (cells) but to turbocharge T cells, immune system cells that cancer can evade.

75. US and South Korea began 10-day-long annual military exercise - Uchio Freedom Guardian drill.

76. USA Space Exploration Firm SpaceX successfully launched Hewlett-Packard Enterprises (HPE) Spaceborne Computer towards International Space Station using Falcon 9 rocket, as part of HPE’s joint experiment with NASA.

77. USA named Pakistan based Kashmiri terrorist outfit Hizbul Mujahideen as a “Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO)”, the list that has Other organizations like Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

78. USA will install radar systems in national Indian nation Palau. It is located in south-west of Guam, the US territory that North Korea has threatened to target.

79. Unicity International (USA) launched world’s first ever Genomical (gene controlling) range of products to India. DNA contains DNA undergoes a process called transcription or gene expression that creates a “messenger” molecule, telling body to make a specific protein.

80. United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted a resolution to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons, particularly small arms and light weapons. It came after witnessing a continuous flow of weapons, unmanned aircraft systems and improvised explosive device (IED) components between terrorist organizations.

81. World Bank allowed India to construct hydroelectric power facilities on tributaries of Jhelum and Chenab rivers with certain restrictions under 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT).

82. World Health Organization (WHO) declared Somalia free of polio as it had not recorded any case of polio disease in last 3 years.

83. World breastfeeding week 2017 is being celebrated from 1st - 7th August 2017 with theme Sustaining Breastfeeding Together.

84. World’s largest data center - Kokes facility is being developed by a US-Norwegian partnership in Ballangen, a small town in Northern Norway. It will draw on record-setting 1,000 megawatts of power.

September

1. 9 metre (30ft) statue of Mikhail Kalashnikov, inventor of AK-47 assault rifle unveiled in Russian capital Moscow.

2. A tomb belonging to a royal goldsmith who lived more than 3500 years ago has been discovered in Luxor (Egypt).

3. According to Forbes Real-Time Billionaires List, Hui Ka Yan (chairman of Chinese real estate giant Evergrande Group) is now Asia’s richest man with net worth of $41.1 billion. Asia’s second and third richest persons are Tencent Holdings Chairman Ma Huateng ($39.1 billion), Alibaba Group Chairman Jack Ma ($38.9 billion).


   • Global Growth will reach 2.6% this year, well below pre 2009 financial crisis average of 3.2%.

   • India’s Growth is slowed down 6.7% in 2017 from 7% in 2016.

   • China’s Growth has been retained at 6.7%, same as in 2016. China’s estimated debt-to-GDP ratio is 249%, so it needs to introduce measures to contain its rising debt as domestic demand could be squeezed, with adverse consequences.

5. Air India launched its direct flight from New Delhi to Copenhagen (Denmark), as 11th destination for Air India in Europe (described as Coaching For: BANK PO / CLERK, NET, JEE, TNPSG, CL, IIT, JEE, M., IARI, VAC, SSC, RRB, TET, TRB, MAT, POLICE, S.INC-ACO, LAC-ADO & AO, TANCET AND ENTRANCE EXAMS).

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6. Airbus Perlan 2 Engineless aircraft has set a new altitude world record for a glider, climbing to 52,172 feet in El Calafate (Argentina).

7. American Chipmaker AMD (Advanced Micro Devices) presented new line of microprocessor chips called 'Ryzen Pro' for commercial desktops to be available in India by end of 2017.

8. Apple and Google respectively took 2 top spots in list of world’s 100 most valuable brands, as per report by consultancy group Interbrand. This is the fifth consecutive year with Apple and Google at top of the list.

9. Arab Nation Jordan, that is 90% desert, has launched Sahara Forest Project near Aqaba City to turn desert land into farming land to produce food using sun and sea water. It is funded by Norway and European Union.

10. As per Data by Forbes, based on a recent research by Transparency International (TI) -
   - India beats Vietnam, Thailand, Pakistan and Myanmar inn terms of corruption, making India most corrupt asian nation with 69 % bribery rate.
   - As per HSBC, India ranks 14th in terms of best country for expats to live and work in. The list is topped by Singapore.

11. Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide USD 152 million to Nepal for implementation and enhancement of its power transmission and distribution.

12. Australia and East Timor (Known as Timor - Leste) agreed on a maritime boundary and revenue sharing agreement from a natural gas field beneath seaweed between them.

13. Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina floated a five-place peace proposal at United Nations to find a permanent solution to Rohingya crisis (Over 430,000 refugees fleeing violence in Bangladesh’s Rakhine State from Myanmar since August 2017). These Points Include UN intervention to ensure safe return of all displaced Rohingyus in Bangladesh to their homes in Myanmar and implementing Kofi Annan Commission Recommendations immediately.


15. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) signed agreement with USA’s networking solutions provider Coriant to study possibilities of bringing and expanding 5G and Internet of Things (IoT) in India.

16. Britain launched a new plastic 10-pound note featuring Jane Austen (renowned British Author). To tackle counterfeiting. Apart from Queen, Austen is 3rd woman (after Florence Nightingale and Elizabeth Fry) to feature on a modern-day British banknote.

17. Cabinet Approvals -
   - MoU with Morocco on cooperation in the field of health.
   - MoU with Armenia on cooperation in field of Disaster Management.
   - Approval for hiving off mobile tower assets of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) into a separate company, fully owned by BSNL.
   - MoU with Japan for collaborative research in field of silkworm and silk industries.

18. Cabinet Approvals -
   - Approved enhancement of age of superannuation of doctors other than Central Health Service (CHS) doctors to 65 years.
   - MOU with Ethiopia in field of Information, Communication and Media.
   - MoU with Belarus in the oil and gas sector
   - MoU with Afghanistan on Technical Cooperation on Police Training and Development
   - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed a Letter of Intent with Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to extend cooperation in health sector.
   - Letter of Intent (LoI) with Norway to extend cooperation within health sector through Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) for 3 years starting from 2018.


20. China and Pakistan joint Air Exercise Shabaan VII has been organized.


22. China displayed its first unmanned combat helicopter AV500W for foreign buyers. The aircraft’s length is 7.2 meters.

23. China launched world’s fastest bullet train Fuxing between Beijing and Shanghai at 350 km per hour, covering 1,250 km in 4 hours and 30 minutes.

24. China opened a dual-use highway in Tibet to Nepal border which could be used for civilian and defense purposes in China.

25. Chinese authorities blocked Anti-Islam terms used by Chinese internet users to stigmatise Muslims, to prevent worsening online hatred towards Islam.

26. Cuba began a five-month political transition expected to end with Raul Castro’s departure from Presidency, due to his family’s dominance in country’s political system for 60 years.

27. Denmark launched USA based global alliance to manage Climate change in Copenhagen. It is called Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030 (P4G).

28. P4G is supported by China, Indonesia and C40 (group of more than 90 large cities of world that represent 25% of global economy).

29. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) of India launched UJALA (Uttam Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme in Melaka State of Malaysia. Malaysia became 2nd country after United Kingdom (UK) where EESL launched UJALA scheme. Under this, each household in Melaka will get 10 high quality 9-watt LED bulbs at a cost of only RM 10.

30. Fiji, Niger, Tuvalu and Seychelles ratified ISA Framework Agreement and became members of ISA framework agreement.

31. ISA will need the ratification of just 4 more countries to become a recognized inter-governmental body (Total 15 were needed). After this, ISA can embark on its task to channelise $300 billion in 10 years to promote renewable energy globally.

32. First project funded BRICS New Development Bank has started operations in Shanghai (China), that was set up with $76 million loan granted to Shanghai Lingang Distributed Solar Power Project from NDB.

33. Forbes Highest Paid TV Actresses 2017 -
   - Modern Family’s star Sofia Vergara earned USD 41.5 million (Rs 271 crore), topping the list for the sixth consecutive year.
   - India’s Priyanka Chopra ranked 8th, as she made USD 10 million (∅ 65 crore).

34. Force Motors signed agreement with Rolls-Royce Power Systems AG (UK) to produce engines for power generation and rail application and complete power generation systems.

35. Foreign ministers of India, US, and Japan held a trilateral meeting in New York on sidelines of 72nd annual session of UN General Assembly. It was attended by Sushma Swaraj on India’s behalf.

36. Miroslav Lajcak (Slovakia) is president of 72nd UN General Assembly.

37. Fortune Most Powerful Women in Business List -
   - USA - Indian Origin PepsiCo chairman Indra Nooyi ranked at 2nd, led by General Motors chairman and CEO Mary Barra.
   - Outside USA - Chanda Kochhar (ICICI Bank CEO) ranked 5th and Axis Bank CEO Shikha Sharma ranked 21st. List is topped by Banco Santander group executive chairman Ana Botin.
36. French anti-doping laboratory of Chatenay-Malabry provisionally suspended by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), upon self-reported analytical issues to WADA by laboratory.
37. Google acquired a part of electronics company HTC Corporation’s engineering and design teams for $1.1 billion. Bought team of approx 2000 engineers are the ones that worked on Pixel smartphones.
38. Gulf airline Etihad Airways appointed former Abu Dhabi airport chief Tony Douglas as its Group Chief Executive Officer. Etihad also launched Fly Now Pay Later Scheme, allowing fare repayment in EMIs.
39. HP (Hewlett-Packard) launched its new all-in-one point-of-sale (POS) system ElitePOS at India Retail Forum 2017 in Mumbai, priced at Rs.59,999.
40. Hinduja Group’s Ashok Leyland signed MoU with Russian firm Rosoboronexport for supplying tracked vehicle solutions to armed forces.
41. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd partnered with Hyundai Heavy Industries Co Ltd of South Korea for construction of fleet support ships (FSS) for Navy in both countries.
42. India & Sri Lanka signed MoU to upgrade Thondaman Vocational Training Centre in Srilanka. India would provide LKR 199 million to upgrade training facility.
43. India announced collaboration with Russia to build a nuclear plant in Bangladesh, as first initiative under joint deal to undertake atomic energy projects in third-world nations. It is also India’s first atomic energy venture abroad.
44. Roooppur Nuclear project (capacity of 2*1200 MWS) is Bangladesh’s first atomic energy project.
45. India handed over Varuna off-shore patrol vessel to Sri Lanka as a part of stepping up co-operation between coast guards of 2 nations.
46. India is planning to launch major connectivity initiative, connecting Chennai with Russian port Vladivostok via sea route with an aim to harness natural resources from Northeast Asia and Western Pacific region. It will enable transfer cargo between Chennai and Vladivostok in 24 days in comparison to over 40 days currently taken to transport goods from India to Far East Russia via Europe.
47. India launched Incredible India campaign in Cairo (Egypt Capital) to woo Egyptian travellers and make them aware of magnificent holiday options in India.
48. India opened 2nd second Indian Workers’ Resource Centre (IWRC) in Sharjah (UAE). To provide support and counseling to Indians in distress. It will help overseas Indian community in any matter. Indians may call 800 463 463 from anywhere in UAE to get help.
49. India received its first High Horsepower Locomotive with bodyshell of 12000 HP loco from Alstom France at Kolkata port, to be used to haul freight trains at twice the existing speed by 2018 (120 KM/1).
50. It is first major FDI project in rail sector and each such locomotive costs approx INR 30 crores.
51. India refused to be a part of Bali Declaration adopted at conclusion of World Parliamentary Forum on Sustainable Development held in Bali (Indonesia), to show solidarity with Myanmar. It was not adopted because it carried inappropriate reference to violence in Rakhine State from where 1,25,000 Rohingya Muslims fled to Bangladesh.
52. India replaced China as the top retail destination in 2017 as part of global retail development index. Change in ranking was an outcome of four factors increased consumer spending beyond essentials, rising mobile and internet penetration, favorable foreign investment climate and bold action on cashless transaction and GST.
53. India’s Numaligarh Refinery that supplies High Speed Diesel to Bangladesh, dispatched first diesel consignment of 30 MT to Myanmar through NH 37. It is to enhance hydrocarbon synergy with neighbouring countries as well as promoting India’s Act East Policy.
54. India’s TCS (Tata Consultancy Services) ranked 30th in Fortune’s annual list of Top 50 companies that are changing the world. TCS’s mKRISHI@App is one of important reasons that got TCS into list. That lets farmers to access customised expert advice, market information and weather data. Top 3 - IP Morgan Chase, DSM, Applic.
55. Indian Firm Mahindra & Mahindra entered into strategic alliance with US car major Ford Motor Company to explore cooperation in products, technologies, and distribution.
56. Indian IT Major HCL acquired automation driven data management platform Datawave (UK) to accelerate data integration and migration for clients.
57. Indian startup Khetyi won prestigious award in Israel for developing an affordable modular greenhouse that aims to give farmers steady and dependable income. It was chosen in MassChallenge Israel contest that saw participation from over 500 companies.
58. Japanese PM Shinzo Abe visited India, arriving in Ahmedabad (Gujarat).
   - He participated in 12th India - Japan Annual Meeting.
   - 15 MOUs signed during Mr. Abe’s visit to India. Including:
     1. Disaster Risk Management
     2. Japanese Language Skills Development
     3. India Japan Act East Forum will be established to enhance connectivity and promote developmental projects in northeastern region of India.
     4. Arrangement between Postal departments for implementation of cool EMS service, through which fresh food can be sent from Japan to India in cool boxes for Japanese expatriates in India.
     5. India-Japan Investment Promotion Road map to facilitate Japanese investments in India.
     6. MoC between Japanese Trade Ministry and Gujarat State on Japan-India special programme for Make In India in Mandal Becharaj-Khoraj.
     7. Civil Aviation
     8. Science and technology
     9. Life sciences and biotechnology.
     10. Sports
      11. India and Japan signed open sky arrangement to allow airlines from both countries to operate unlimited number of flights.
      12. Foundation stone of India’s first high-speed rail project (bullet train) project has been laid. This 508km-long Mumbai to Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project will be built at cost of Rs. 1.10 lakh crore. It is expected to be completed by 2022. (It was recently advanced by year from earlier deadline of 2023). An INR 600 Crores high-speed rail training centre for first bullet train project will be set up in Vadodara (Gujarat), to become operational by December 2020.
59. Japanese postal department released postage stamps on Indian Yoga Expert Mr.Bishnu Charan Ghosh and his family members.
60. Lebanon approved country’s first animal welfare bill into law, to ensure that domestic and wild animals will be legally protected from abuse.
62. Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. signed MoU with Turkey’s Armagan family for acquiring 100% of Erkurt Traktor Sanayi (4th largest tractor manufacturer in Turkey) for approx $70 Million.
63. Mahindra & Mahindra and USA Based Ford Motor Company signed a MoU that ensures an alliance to explore electric vehicles, for three years.
64. Middle asean Nation Tajikistan banned women from wearing veils and asked women to stick to traditional national clothes and culture.
65. Ministry of External Affairs started Operation Insaanay to provided assistance to Bangladesh in response to humanitarian crisis being faced by it due Coaching For: BANK PO / CLERK, NEET, JEE, TNPSC Gr.II, IV, V & VI, VAO, SSC, RRB, TET, TRB, MAT, POLICE, SI, NIC-AO, LIC-ADO & AO, TANCET AND ENTRANCE EXAMS.
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June to September-2017

64. National Highway Authority of India awarded its first international project in Myanmar to a joint venture of Punj Lloyd-Varaha, for upgradation of Yagyi-Kalewa section in Myanmar.

65. National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog and International Road Federation (Geneva) signed Statement of Intent (S0I) to cooperate in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). ITS Policy will be covering Traffic Management, Parking Management, Electronic Enforcement of Traffic Rules and Regulations, Fleet Management and Monitoring, Innovation in field of ITS.

66. Nepal began its first-ever survey to remeasure Mount Everest to check if its height was altered by 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck in 2015.
   - Official Height of Mt. Everest is 8,848 metres (29,029 feet), first recorded by an Indian survey in 1954.
   - Nepal signed USD 635 million UN assistance package for 2018-2022 to lay out country’s development strategy for next 5 years. The package involves 26 individual UN agencies.

67. New York Department of Financial Services (DFS) imposed fine of USD 225 million on Pakistan’s Habib Bank Limited (HBL) for failure to comply with New York laws and regulations designed illicit financial transactions.

68. North African country Tunisia abolished decades-old ban on Muslim women marrying non-Muslims.

69. North Korea successfully tested a hydrogen bomb, placed on an intercontinental ballistic missile. It triggered a 6.3 magnitude earthquake in area, marking it biggest test so far.
   - In Response, United Nations Security Council (UNSC) passed new sanctions against North Korea over its sixth and most powerful nuclear test. It was 2nd sanctions resolution adopted by UNSC since 2006 over North Korea’s missile programs.

71. Norway’s sovereign wealth fund (Largest in world) just reached value of $1 trillion for the first time. It means $189,000 for everyone of 5.3 million Norwegians. With stakes in over 9,000 companies, it owns 1.3% of world’s market capitalization and 3.3% in Europe.

72. Pakistan inaugurated its 5th nuclear power plant (C-4 plant) in Mianwali (Punjab). This 340 MW Chasma - IV (C - 4) nuclear power plant is developed in collaboration with China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC).

73. People’s Bank of China (PBC) banned raising funds through initial coin offerings (ICO), where unregulated means of crowd funding for project are used via use of cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin etc. Ownership or royalties of project is offered to investors in form of digital coins. It allows entrepreneurs create their own digital currencies and selling “coins” on web under ICO route, allowing them to raise millions of dollars quickly.

74. President Rahul Gandhi will make his first foreign trip to African Nations Ethiopia and Djibouti in October 2017.

75. Qatar Airways became first in world to launch double beds in business class sections of Flights from London to Doha in Qatar, called Qsuites.

76. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) is world’s 3rd biggest energy company behind Russian gas firm Gazprom and German Utility E.ON, according to Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings.
   - Indian Oil Corp (IOC) climbed to 7th position, Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) placed 11th and Coal India Ltd ranked 45.

77. Russia and Iraq restored commercial airline services for first time since 2004.
   - Russia had suspended flights to Iraq after 2003 US-led invasion pushed Iraq into war.

78. Russia and USA space agencies (Roscosmos and NASA) will jointly build a deep space gateway as first astronaut-tended space station around Moon. It would help prepare for manned missions to deep space destinations including Mars.

79. Russia launched world’s largest and most powerful icebreaker ship, Sibir. It is designed to transport cargo via Northern Sea Route in Arctic Ocean.

80. Russia liquidated last arsenal of its chemical weapons, 3 years ahead of schedule (2020).

81. Saudi Arabia and Britain signed framework deal for military cooperation, to Britain seeks to explore lucrative trade deals outside Europe after leaving European Union.

82. Saudi Arabia issued a decree that allows women to drive cars. Women are now also allowed to enter national stadiums in national sports events.

83. Saudi Arabia lifted ban on voice and video calling apps such as WhatsApp and Skype and will make them widely available to users, to improve business confidence as reduce dependence on oil revenues.

84. Sweden hosted large scale war exercise named Aurora, with NATO.

85. Tata Steel and ThyssenKrupp of Germany signed MoU for creating 50:50 Joint Venture as one of Europe’s largest steel companies.

86. Telecom service provider Bharti Airtel and SK Telecom of Korea partnered for leveraging the SK Telecom’s expertise to build advanced telecom network in India.

87. Three Indian entrepreneurs - Ratan Tata, Lakshmi Mittal and Vinod Khosla have been included in Forbes’s special list of world’s ‘100 Greatest Living Business Minds.’