

GK Bites - October 2016

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Editor

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- Gujarat has become the first Indian state to distribute two crore LED bulbs under the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for all (UJALA) scheme in 96 days
- Govt. approves 16 highway projects in 11 states at 7457 crore
- Majuli in Assam to become India's first island district on 8th September
- State Bank of Travancore appoints new Chief GM Ashok Kumar Pradhan
- India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA) has appointed Mukesh Mehta as the new President of IBJA.
- Sudarsan Pattnaik's sand art 'world peace' wins award in Russia (Peoples Choice Award) get 60 thousand votes out of 80 thousands
- Vice President to launch Vidyadhanam educational scholarship
- Bhutan set to host Asian Tennis Tour event next month
- England beat Pakistan in 3rd one-day after scoring record 444 in ODI
- BRICS Convention on Tourism begins in Madhya Pradesh in Khajurao .
- Railway launches insurance scheme for passengers traveling on e- ticket . To avail the facility, train passengers have to pay 92 paise premium. A person booking a train ticket through the IRCTC website will be eligible for the travel insurance and it is optional. The facility will be available only for confirmed and RAC ticket passengers.
- ISRO to launch Insat 3 D R satellite
- Anant Kumar inaugurates INDIA-CHEM 2016 International Conference in Mumbai
- India's economic growth for first quarter slows to 7.1 percent
- Anuradha Rao appointed as MD, CEO of SBI Mutual Fund
- Michel Temer sworn in as new Brazil president
- Ashok Chawla appointed as Chancellor of TERI University
- Jackie Chan to get lifetime achievement Oscar for Motion Picture Arts and Science
- Kiran M Shaw appointed 'Knight of Legion of Honour' by France
- Deep Kumar Upadhyay re-appointed as Nepal's envoy to India
- First BRICS film festival begins in New Delhi
- Govt. constitutes Sinha committee to study silt in Ganga in Bihar
- Veteran trade Union leader Sharad Rao passes away
- Indian Para athletes leave for Paralympic Games @ Rio de Janeiro
- SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket destroyed in explosion
- India and Vietnam sign 12 agreements to boost bilateral ties
- Dr. K K Aggarwal elected National President of IMA
- Kerala appoints Sachin as brand ambassador for anti-liquor campaign
- Maha Governor C V Rao sworn in as acting Governor of Tamil Nadu

- Odisha govt launches Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana for the development of girls in three districts . The Objective of the Yojana to improve sex ratio at birth and child sex ratio.
- Assamese poet Nalini Dhar Bhattacharyya passes away
- President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov passes away
- DCB Bank launches mobile payment service for retail outlets
- All India Police Athletics Championship begins in Hyderabad
- Mother Teresa is being declared saint by Pope Francis in Vatican City
- Gumthala Garhu becomes first Wifi hotspot village in Haryana by BSNL
- Mukund Choudhari assumes charge as CMD of MOIL , a Mini Ratna Company .
- Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao sworn in as acting Governor of Tamil Nadu
- India, Egypt sign agreement in area of Maritime Transport
- Union Government notifies National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme
- India A wins Quadrangular series; beat Australia by 57 runs
- Rajasthan launches e-stamping facility
- Haryana govt to develop 340 villages as Horticulture Villages
- Assam CM to inaugurate world class library in NIT Silchar
- Air India Express turns profitable for the first time
- Ecologist Bibhuti Lahkar bags Heritage Heroes Award of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- UK appoints ambassador to Iran for the first time since 2011
- WHO certifies Sri Lanka as a malaria free nation
- Meghalaya: Mother Teresa International Film Festival begins in Shillong
- The Karnataka State Wildlife Board chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has given its approval for declaring Ankasamudra Lake in Hagaribommanahalli taluk, Ballari district, a bird conservation reserve.
- Union Health Ministry launches campaign to eradicate leprosy - Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC)
- Indian film ‘Thithi’(Kannada) wins best film award at BRICS Film Festival
- K G George to be honoured with J C Daniel Award
- Maharashtra announces Rs 75 lakh cash reward to Lalita Babar (10th at Rio Olympics).
- India has received certificates from World Health Organisation (WHO) for recognising the elimination of Yaws ,Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus (MNT) from the country.
- Govt. approves Rs 450 cr for five states under Swadesh Darshan scheme - MP , UP , Uttrakhand , Sikkim , TN

- Karnataka releases Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu
- Summer Paralympic Games 2016 has begun in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro with an opening ceremony at the Maracana Stadium.
- ISRO successfully launches advanced weather satellite INSAT-3DR
- Government appoints J. Satyanarayana as the chairperson of UIDAI
- Union Govt. announces financial package for Andhra Pradesh
- Railways to implement Flexi Fare system in Rajdhani, Shatabdi & Duronto trains . It increase 10 % fair
- DoT unveils new norms on SIM up gradation
- Bengaluru hosts the first edition of IoT(Internet of Things) India Congress
- Gujarat CM dedicates 2 Mbps connectivity to 6,000 villages
- O.P. Kohli sworn in as MP Governor
- Syndicate bank has nominated Jayant Purushottam Gokhale as the part-time non-official director for 3 years
- ASEAN Summit 2016 concludes in Vientiane, Laos
- Govt. approves subsidized chopper service for JK, Himachal
- Mehbooba launches “CM Scooty Scheme” for girls in J&K
- Govt launches registration module for Indian students studying abroad
- NASA launches first mission to collect samples from asteroid
- A book, which tells the story of the Apatani tribe of Arunachal Pradesh during British India, has bagged the MM Bennetts Award for Historical Fiction 2016
- T R Zeliang (Nagaland CM) receives Pangkor Dialogue Award in Malaysia
- Haryana wins Best Horticulture State award
- Indian Coast Guard commissions offshore patrolling vessel ‘Sarathi’ in Goa
- BRICS Wellness Workshop begins in Bengaluru
- Odisha Govt. launches pension scheme for construction workers
- MEA launches online module for Indian students studying abroad
- Odisha bags 9th Global Agriculture Leadership Award 2016
- First LIGO lab outside U.S. may come up in Maharashtra’s Hingoli
- Dilip Kumar Mandal has been appointed managing director & chief executive officer of IDBI Asset Management Company (AMC).
- HDFC Ergo completes acquisition of L&T Insurance
- NHPC, BHEL ink pact for renovation of Baira Siul power plant
- Indo-US Economic Summit from September 13
- Bakytzhan Sagintayev appointed as the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan
- Qatar National Bank soon to open branch in India

- World's 1st robotic eye operation performed in Britain
- Vietnam wins 1st Paralympic gold with world record
- US Navy reveals interior of \$4.4 bn Zumwalt destroyer
- Yoga guru Ramdev sets up mega food park in Nagpur
- Subramanian Swamy awarded 'Tamil Ratna' in United States
- Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Award 2016 awarded to Jharana Das
- Pakistan appoints Wasim Bari as manager of national cricket team
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has launched "e-nivaran" (electronic resolution) facility for online redressal of taxpayers' grievances related to refunds, ITRs and PAN issues.
- Govt. launches toll-free number for postal complaints . Toll free no - 1924
- All India Football Federation (AIFF)- Sports Authority of India (SAI) launch online portal for Global Scouting Programme
- Union Cabinet approves establishment of Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA)
- Punjab govt. abolishes stamp duty of 2% levied on immovable property
- Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa removed as Arunachal Pradesh governor
- Andhra Pradesh becomes second state to achieve 100% electrification
- BRICS urbanisation forum meet begins in Vishakhapatnam
- Anoop K Sharma new CMD of Shipping Corporation of India
- Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to be awarded by Jewish rights group
- Indian-origin scientist bags Lemelson-MIT Prize
- Gautam Gambhir-led India Blue has won the day/night Duleep Trophy Cricket tournament (55th season) played with a pink ball (5-day) in Greater Noida.
- Hiroshi Nakagawa takes over as Chairman of Isuzu Motors India
- Nawazuddin appointed brand ambassador of UP farmers' scheme
- Axis Bank, BHU team up for banking courses
- Vice-President to represent India at 17th NAM Summit
- Defence Minister launches re-designed website of Department of Defence Production (DDP)
- 196% growth registers in tourist arrival in August 2016
- Indian-American Abraham Verghese to receive National Humanities Medal
- Tourism Ministry approves Rs. 500 Crore for integrated development of tourism in J&K
- Commerce & Industry Ministry sets up task force on Innovation
- Centre bans sharing of individual's Aadhaar details publicly

- World Bank chief Jim Yong Kim heads for 2nd 5-year term
- EU leaders to meet in Slovakia to chart post-Brexit future
- India's foreign exchange reserves up at \$371 Bn
- Andhra Pradesh tops in attracting industrial investment
- India, African Development Bank (AfDB) ink MoU for hosting bank's annual meetings at Ahmedabad
- Tata AIG, Paytm to offer health insurance to cab drivers
- Malayalam critic M Leelavathi bags Mohanan Suvarna Mudra Award
- VK Sharma replaces SK Roy as LIC chairman
- Indian Navy launches missile destroyer 'Mormugao'
- US playwright Edward Albee dies at the age of 88
- Italy's Former President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi dies
- Punjab National Bank appointed Virat Kohli as its new brand ambassador
- Abhishek Bachchan Holds a Guinness World Record
- 'Sunrise', 'Parched' scripts archived at Oscar library
- China successfully launches Tiangong-2 space lab
- Guided missile destroyer 'Mormugao' launched in Mumbai
- World Bank will invest nearly 1,000 crore rupees in Assam for the betterment of the inland waterways.
- Prabhu launches cleanliness drive at railway premises
- ISRO, Katrina, Juhi Chawla will get Priyadarshini Global Awards
- Alka Sirohi appointed as new UPSC chairman
- United Russia party wins parliamentary election
- Angela Merkel's party CDU losses in Berlin state elections
- First Indian music & dance festival starts in Sydney
- HRD Minister inaugurates Super Computer PARAM-ISHAN at IIT Guwahati
- Malayalam critic M Leelavathi bags Mohanan Suvarna Mudra Award
- The Rio 2016 Paralympic Games 2016 (15th) have ended in Rio with a colourful closing ceremony at Maracana Stadium in Brazilian City, Rio de Janeiro.
- India Successfully test-fires Barak 8 Surface-to-Air Missile
- Union govt. announces the third list of smart cities
- Govt notifies new import policy for Marble & Travertine Blocks
- Indian Railways launches Yatri Mitra Sewa to help elderly, differently-abled
- Two-day national labour meet kicks off in Odisha
- 12% growth in foreign tourist arrivals in August

- Chief Minister of Haryana Manohar Lal Khattar has announced “Charkhi Dadri” as the 22nd district of Haryana.
- Monika Kapil Mohta appointed Ambassador to Sweden
- S S Mallikarjuna Rao has taken charge as executive director (ED) of Manipal-based Syndicate Bank
- Junaid Ahmad is World Bank Country Director for India
- India stands at 112th spot on World Economic Freedom Index
- Govt. approves nine highway projects in 5 states
- Cabinet approves merging of Rail budget with Union Budget
- Vadodara to host Power Ministers’ conference on October 7
- PM’s Race Course Road will now be known as Lok Kalyan Marg
- Oxford tops world university rankings
- Niti Aayog chalks up plan to secure 50 medals in 2024 Olympics
- Girish Chandra Gupta sworn-in as Calcutta HC chief justice
- Anandi Ramalingam assumes charge as BEL’s marketing director
- Adi Godrej conferred Clinton Global Citizen Award
- Dhoni named captain of India’s all-time Test XI by Wisden
- BPCL lifts title of Obaidullah Khan Heritage Cup Hockey Tournament
- US Fedral Reserve keeps its federal fund rate unchanged
- President, PM launch VP’s book titled “Citizen and Society”
- Playwright Reoti Saran Sharma (Hindi & Urdu Writer) passes away
- Childhood cancer awareness exhibition to be held at Taj Mahal
- India, France ink deal for 36 Rafale fighter jets
- Navtej Sarna appointed Ambassador to the US
- Misbah-ul-Haq becomes first Pakistani to receive Test mace from ICC
- Sanjiv Singh is new Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation
- International airport to come up at Purandar, Pune
- Delhi Government to have state-level bravery awards
- Govt. to launch Mission Parivar Vikas for improved family planning services
- Delhi government raises Doctors retirement age to 65
- Sanjay Dutta, Ritesh Sarothiya selected for wildlife awards
- India and Russia joint military exercise Indra 2016 begins
- IAF successfully test fires long range air-to-air MICA missile
- Race Course Road renamed as Lok Kalyan Marg
- Arun Goyal appointed Additional Secretary in GST Council
- Five Indian cities in the top 100 Mastercard Global Destinations Cities Index

- Govt appoints ICICI Prudential Assets Management Company to manage new CPSE ETF
- ftCash, ICICI Bank team up to launch UPI for micro-merchants
- Chandigarh Administration and French Development Agency (AFD) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoUs) on Chandigarh Smart City Project and 'Technical Cooperation' in the field of Sustainable Urban Mobility.
- Rajasthan replaces 5 lakh streetlights with LED bulbs
- Lopamudra Raut , the second runner-up at Miss United Continents 2016
- ISRO successfully launches weather satellite SCATSAT-1
- Swiss voters have given a approval to a law on new surveillance powers for the intelligence agencies. The new law will allow the authorities to tap phones, snoop on email and deploy hidden cameras and bugs.
- Golf legend Arnold Palmer passes away
- Film Certification Appellate Tribunal chairman Mahajan passes away
- Agriculture Minister inaugurates Krishi Unnati Mela in Mathura
- Govt sets target of toilets in every household by 2019: Tomar
- Ajay Singh elected Boxing Federation of India(BFI) president
- R Ashwin becomes fastest Indian & second overall to take 200 Test wickets
- O.P. Singh takes charge as DG of CISF
- Dr Vijay Kelkar is new President of Indian Statistical Institute
- RBI approves Rs 26,000 crore Cash Credit Limit (CCL) for paddy procurement in Punjab
- Google launches instant messaging mobile app Allo
- Kerala travel mart (KTM - 2016) begins at Kochi

Sports & Awards

- Nico Rosberg wins 2016 Italian Grand Prix
- Serena Williams sets women's record of 307 victories in grand slams
- The top-seeded Indian mixed doubles pair of Sikki Reddy and Pranaav Jerry Chopra clinched their maiden Grand Prix title in the Brazil Open Grand Prix.
- Sakshi Malik appointed Wrestling Director of Rohtak University
- Abhinav Bindra announces retirement from shooting
- World's oldest living cricketer Lindsay Tuckett passes away
- Shahan Ali Mohsin wins the Asian Karting Championship
- Sushil Kumar nominated for Padma Bhushan

- Anjum Chopra becomes first Indian woman to be honoured with Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) life membership
- Mariyappan Thangavelu Wins India's first Gold Medal at Rio Paralympic Games
- Pankaj Advani Wins Historic Bronze at 6 Red Snooker World Championship
- Jamie Murray-Bruno Soares win US Open doubles title
- Real Madrid secures 15th straight La Liga win
- Angelique Kerber wins US Open Tennis tournament
- Stan Wawrinka wins 2016 US Open men's title.
- Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares win 2016 US Open Men's Doubles title
- Army Green beat Neroca FC 6-5 to lift Durand Cup
- India wins 4 golds in ITTF junior championships . International Table Tennis Federation Junior and Cadet Open Championships (ITTF)-2016 at Indore(Madhya Pradesh).
- Deepa Malik first Indian woman to win Paralympics medal
- Sushmita wins bronze at World Martial Arts Masterships.
- Devendra Jhajharia wins 2nd gold medal for the country at 2016 Rio Paralympics
- Track Asia Cup cycling to begin in New Delhi
- Graeme Hick signs deal to become Australia's batting coach
- Indian football team jumps four places in latest FIFA rankings
- Ajinkya Rahane and Rohit Sharma honored with Arjuna Award
- Subhankar Pramanick wins gold at ISSF Junior World Cup
- Davis Cup: Spain beat India 5-0
- Ritu Rani retires from international hockey
- Velavan Senthilkumar wins squash U-19 Asian title in Kuala Lumpur
- Sania Mirza & Barbora Strycova lift Toray Pan Pacific Open tennis trophy
- Sania Mirza-Barbora Strycova crowned women's doubles champions at Pan Pacific Open
- 50th State Athletics Championship 2016 starts in Agartala
- India wins historic 500th Test by 197 runs against NZ
- Japan to host 2026 Asian Games
- Sathiyam Gnanasekaran wins Belgium Open
- India wins silver in Asian Beach Games