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**T Suvarna Raju is the new chairman of HAL**

T Suvarna Raju has taken over the new chairman of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited from February 2015.

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**Zoe Konstantopoulou, Youngest President of Greek Parliament**

Zoe Konstantopoulou will be the new President of the Greek Parliament after receiving a record 235 votes. Konstantopoulou will be the second woman to preside over the Greek House after Anna Psarouda-Benaki in 2004.

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**FreeCharge raised \$80 million in Series-C funding.**

The fresh round of funding was led by investors such as Valiant Capital Management and Tybourne Capital Management. The Series C round also saw participation from existing investors, Sequoia Capital, RuNet and Sofina.

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**Micromax launches Rs. 699-phone**

Micromax has unveiled two new low-cost devices, with prices starting at Rs. 699, as it targets consumers looking for affordable devices as back-ups to their smartphones. The devices are called Joy X-1800 and Joy X-1850.

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**Tata Communications signs \$20 mn deal with KION Group**

Tata Communications signed a \$20 million multi-year deal with Germany-based KION Group to provide global WAN services.

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**MO Garg appointed as the new Director General of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research**

The director of Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, Dr MO Garg takes charge as the new Director General of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR).

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**Telecom subscriber base reaches all-time high at 97 crore**

Telecom subscriber base of the country reached all-time high of 97 crore at the end of December 2014, as per the latest report by regulator TRAI.

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### **Reliance Jio president Sumit Chowdhury resigns**

Telecom operator Reliance Jio Infocomm President Sumit D. Chowdhury has resigned from the company to start his own venture.

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### **10th India-Mongolia joint training exercise concludes in Gwalior.**

The tenth India Mongolia Joint Training Exercise culminated on 06 February 2015 with a grand closing ceremony held at Gwalior Military Cantonment. The exercise had commenced on 23 Jan 15.

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### **Indian Golfer Anirban Lahiri seals maiden European Tour Win**

India's Anirban Lahiri claimed a maiden European Tour victory with a one-stroke victory at the Malaysian Open.

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### **Maharashtra Govt. signs Rs. 949-crore deal with L&T to install 6,000 CCTVs in Mumbai.**

The Maharashtra Government signed a deal worth Rs. 949 crore with Larsen & Turbo to cover the entire Mumbai city under the CCTV surveillance. As per the project, 6000 CCTVs will be installed across the city and suburbs by September 2016.

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### **HSBC admits Swiss bank failings over client taxes**

HSBC Holdings Plc admitted failings by its Swiss subsidiary, in response to media reports that it helped wealthy customers dodge taxes and conceal millions of dollars of assets.

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### **Google acquires iOS, Android app Odysee**

Google has announced its acquisition of Odysee, an iOS and Android app that helps automatic back up of photos and videos taken on cameras or tablets to their home computers.

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### **Vodafone India appoints Naveen Chopra as Chief Operating Officer**

Naveen Chopra has been appointed Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Vodafone India with effect from April 1, 2015.

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### **Ratan Tata invests in car website CarDekho.com**

This is Mr. Ratan Tata's 4th investment in online e-commerce following Snapdeal, Urban Ladder and BlueStone. CarDekho.com is an online auto classified services provider.

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### **Adani to develop 10,000 MW solar parks in Rajasthan**

Adani signed a pact with the Rajasthan government to develop the country's largest solar park in the state with 10,000 MW capacity over the next 10 years at an estimated investment of about Rs 40,000 crore.

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### **MRPL raises stake in OMPL**

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL) has increased its stake in ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Ltd. (OMPL) to 46 per cent from 3 per cent.

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### **Sukanya Samridhi Yojna started in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign.**

The scheme launched by the PM in Jan 2015 is being started in UP.

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### **Patrolling ship "Amogh" commissioned in Coast Guard**

Indian Coast Guard today commissioned a high-speed patrolling ship "Amogh"™ into its fleet which will be stationed off Paradip coast.

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### **AAP wins Delhi Elections**

Aam Aadmi Party wins 67 of 70 seats in the Delhi Elections, and will form the Government for the 2nd time.

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### **Indian Economy Grows by 7.5% in the 4th quarter of 2014**

India grew 7.5 per cent in the October-December quarter, according to the estimates released, overtaking China's 7.3 per cent growth in the same quarter, to become the fastest growing major economy in the world.

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### **Amartya Sen wins Charleston-EFG John Maynard Keynes Prize.**

Economist and Nobel laureate Amartya Sen has won the newly instituted Charleston-EFG John Maynard Keynes Prize.

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### **ICICI Bank launches India's First digital Bank "POCKETS"**

ICICI Bank launched first digital Bank in the country, Pockets, on a mobile phone.

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### **Canon to buy video surveillance leader Axis for \$2.8 billion**

Canon Inc plans to buy network video surveillance leader Axis AB for about \$2.8 billion.

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### **Facebook launches Internet.org in India**

Facebook announced a tie-up with Reliance Communications to launch Internet.org in India.

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### **Star India to acquire four Telugu Maa TV channels**

Star India will acquire four Telugu channels of Maa Television network for an undisclosed sum.

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### **ICC Cricket World cup will begin on 14th Feb, 2015.**

Defending Champions India will take on Pakistan in their 1st game on 15th Feb.

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### **MTS enters home Wi-Fi segment**

MTS entered into the home Wi-Fi segment through their product "Homespot Instant Wi-Fi".

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### **Spicejet sells air tickets starting from Rs. 599**

Spicejet airlines launched "Cheaper than train fares" sale with tickets starting from Rs. 599.

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### **Jonty Rhodes joins Yahoo as analyst for ICC Cricket World Cup**

Yahoo India has signed up South African cricketer Jonty Rhodes for the up coming World Cup 2015 coverage on Yahoo Cricket.

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### **Power Grid to raise Rs.1,500 crore**

Power Grid Corporation of India will raise Rs.1,500 crore to meet the capital its expenditure plans for this year through capital bonds.

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### **India ranked 136 in Press freedom**

India was ranked 136 out of 180 nations in a report produced by Reporters Without Border.

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**Gold demand drops by 14% in 2014.**

Demand for gold declined by 14 per cent to 842.7 tonnes from 974. 8 tonnes in 2014 calendar year.

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**Reliance power signs MoU to set up Solar power in Rajasthan**

Reliance power and the Govt. of Rajasthan signed a MoU to set up 6000 MW of solar power projects in the state over the next 10 years.

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**Cipla awarded Global Fund for AIDS drugs**

Indian pharmaceutical major Cipla has been awarded \$188.95 million by Global Fund ARV.

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**ITC to acquire 2 Johnson & Johnson Brands**

Fast moving Consumer goods Major ITC has entered an agreement with Johnson & Johnson to acquire "Savlon" and "Shower To Shower", in India.

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**SpaceX launches "Falcon 9" rocket**

Experimental aerospace firm SpaceX successfully launched its Falcon 9 rocket from Florida in its 3rd attempt.

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**Tarun Kanti Mishra resigns as Chief Information Commissioner of Odisha**

A 1975 batch IAS officer, Tarun Kanti Mishra resigned as the Chief Information Commissioner of Odisha.

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**UAE Exchange ties up with ICICI Bank for "FLASHremit"**

UAE Exchange has tied up with ICICI Bank to offer an instant bank transfer service, "FLASHremit".

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**India defeats Pakistan in ICC Cricket World Cup.**

India continues its unbeaten streak against Pakistan in the world cup after defeating them at Adelaide.

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### **Hindalco bags Kathautia coal mine**

Hindalco Industries walked away with a coal mine in Jharkhand at a price of Rs. 2,860 per tonne.

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### **293 companies commit to generate 266 GW of renewable energy**

293 companies have committed to 266GW generate renewable energy under the "RE-Invest programme" unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

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### **Airbus to step up sourcing from India**

Airbus plans to increase its sourcing base from India for the manufacture of its planes.

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### **Infosys acquires Panaya for \$200 million**

Infosys has an agreement in place to acquire U.S.-based automation technology provider Panaya for a value of \$200 million.

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### **Yes Bank to raise Rs. 500 crore through Green Infrastructure Bonds**

Yes Bank plans to raise Rs. 500 Crore through "India's first ever green infrastructure bonds" with a tenor of 10 years.

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### **Deloitte appoints Punit Renjen as CEO**

India-born Punit Renjen has been appointed as the global CEO of Deloitte.

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### **Usain Bolt confirms he will retire after 2017 World Championship.**

The Jamaican sprint star, who has won 6 Olympic gold medals and is the reigning world record holder over of 100m and 200m disciplines will retire after the 2017 World Championships.

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### **Reliance partners with Twitter for cricketing action**

Reliance Communications, one of the global sponsors of the ICC World Cup 2015, has partnered with Twitter. This will enable all Reliance Customers to follow the latest news from the ICC Cricket world cup without any data charges.

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### **Mahindra to launch electric car in Europe**

Mahindra and Mahindra will launch its electric car in Europe in August to tap into the rising demand of eco friendly cars in the continent.

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### **Nokia ties up with HCL to distribute Windows Phones**

Nokia India has signed a 3 year sales contract with HCL Infosystems to sell its mobile phones through its 1 lakh retail outlets and 800 direct distributors across 15,000+ towns.

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### **MTV Executive exiting**

Veteran MTV executive Van Toffler who has been with the network for close to 28 years has said that he's exiting the network.

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### **India inks Nuclear pact with Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka President Maithripala Sirisena and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded a civil nuclear cooperation agreement, which is Sri Lanka's first nuclear partnership with any country.

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### **Sourav Ganguly awarded Honorary life membership at Marylebone Cricket Club**

Ganguly was awarded Honorary life membership to MCC in London.

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### **Sundaram Finance to buy out its partner in Insurance Joint Venture**

Sundaram Finance will buy out the 26% stake held by RSA Group of the U.K in Royal Sundaram Alliance Insurance Company Limited for Rs. 420 Crore.

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### **Axis Bank raises \$55 million**

Axis Bank has raised \$55 million through issuance of debt securities in the overseas market.

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### **Infosys bags ABN-AMRO deal**

Infosys has bagged a multi year, multi million dollar deal from ABN AMRO for its retail and commercial banking.

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### **SBI launches Tech Learning Centers across the country**

State Bank of India has launched tech learning centers to empower its customers through technology and awareness.

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### **Veteran cartoonist Rajinder Puri passes away**

Veteran cartoonist, columnist and political activist Rajinder Puri died on 15th Feb, 2015 night after a brief illness.

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### **Kalyani Group and Rafael Defense systems in Joint Venture**

Kalyani group has joined hands with Rafael Advanced Defense Systems of Israel to develop and manufacture a wide range of defense equipment.

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### **Videocon launches Wi-Fi enabled ACs**

Videocon has unveiled a range of Wi-Fi enabled ACs. This will let you control AC through your smartphone by connecting to a home wifi network.

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### **Minimum export price on Potato removed**

The Government removed the minimum export price on Potato to help farmers get a better price in the export market.

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### **Godrej Properties and Snapdeal enter into partnership**

Godrej Properties has joined hands with Snapdeal to book its real estate properties online.

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### **Samsung buys startup LoopPay**

Samsung has bought US based mobile wallet company LoopPay which will help it launch its own smartphone payments service.

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### **Airtel, UNICEF to provide education content in Africa**

Bharti Airtel entered into a partnership with UNICEF to provide health, education and youth-focussed content to its customers in 17 African countries.

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### **Lupin and Celon Pharma agree to manufacture generic Asthma drug**

Lupin has joined hands with Polish firm Celon Pharma to jointly develop Advair Diskus, a drug used to treat asthma, in global markets.

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### **Vistara launches maiden flight service to Goa**

Vistara, Tata's full service passenger carrier launched its maiden flight between New Delhi and Goa on Friday (Feb 20, 2015). The company will expand its fleet over the coming weeks to service more routes.

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### **ITD gets contract worth Rs. 2168 Crores**

ITD cementation has received the contract for work on the container terminal at the country's largest port Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).

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### **Soil Health Card scheme launched**

PM launches 'Soil Health Card scheme' in Rajasthan and called for focus on the health of soil in agricultural areas to improve productivity.

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### **eBiz portal launched**

To improve India's ranking in "Ease of doing business", the government today launched ebiz.gov.in

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### **Cyclones Marcia and Lam hit Australia**

2 cyclones have barreled into Australia. Marcia hit areas of Queensland, Yeppoon and Rockhampton. Lam largely affected Northern Territory.

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### **Maheshwar Sahu appointed as independent director of RIL**

Maheshwar Sahu was appointed as the 8th independent director on the RIL board.

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### **Tapan Misra is the new head of ISRO Application center**

Scientist Tapan Misra has taken over as the new head of ISRO application center located at Ahmedabad.

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### **Westindies defeats Pakistan in ICC world cup**

Westindies had a convincing win of 150 runs over Pakistan in the ICC world cup.

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### **3 Indians shortlisted for one way trip to mars.**

Shradha Prasad, Ritika Singh and Taranjeet Singh Bhatia are 3 Indians shortlisted for the one-way trip to Mars under Mars One mission.

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### **Nitish Kumar takes oath as Chief Minister of Bihar**

Nitish Kumar was sworn in as the CM of Bihar for the 4th time yesterday.

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### **Import ban on Gold coins and Medallions lifted by RBI**

RBI lifted the ban on Gold coins and Medallions by Banks and trading houses.

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### **Dhawan and Rahane power India to Victory over South Africa**

Dhawan(137) and Rahane(79) helped set up India's victory over South Africa at Melbourne in the ICC World cup.

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### **Sanjeev Kaushik takes over as Executive Director of IIFCL**

Sanjeev Kaushik, from the 1992 batch IAS Cadre, will take over as the Executive Director of India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL).

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### **Kotak Mahindra-ING Vyasa merger gets go ahead from CCI**

Competition Commission of India(CCI) has given the nod for the merger between Kotak Mahindra Bank and ING Vyasa Bank to create India's 4th Largest Private Bank.

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### **Tata Power to partner Russia's SEUK**

Tata Power has signed an MoU with Siberian Coal Energy Company(SEUK) to explore and develop oppurtunities in the energy sector.

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### **FabFurnish to raise \$50 million**

Online furniture store FabFurnish is in talks to raise \$50 million to expand its warehouses and logistics.

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### **ITC wins bid to acquire Park Hyatt Hotel in Goa**

The bid to take over Park Hyatt Hotel, owned by Blue coast hotels, has been won by ITC for 515.44 Crores.

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### **IBA and Bank Union talks**

The talks between India Bank Association and Bank Union ended with 15% raise in payslip. A pact was also signed for 2nd and 4th Saturday to be holidays, while other Saturday's would be full working days.

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### **Anil Kumble inducted to ICC Hall of fame**

Anil Kumble and Australian cricketer Betty Wilson were inducted to the cricket hall of fame at Melbourne Cricket ground on 22nd Feb.

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### **Toshiba set to deliver indigenous generator**

The delivery of the first indigenous super critical steam turbine generator produced at the Chennai plant by Toshiba JSW Power Systems will happen in a couple of weeks.

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### **PE investments in real estate double in 2014**

In a sign of interest again in the real estate sector, Private Equity investment in real estates doubled in 2014 to 15,410 crore from Rs.7,360 crore in 2013.

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### **SBI led consortium takes over Kingfisher House**

The 17 bank consortium led by SBI took over possession of Kingfisher House in Vile Parle as part of the efforts to recover the bad loans given to the Airline.

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### **Samsung continues to lead Indian Smartphone Market**

In a survey released by research firm IDC for 4th quarter of 2014, Samsung with 22% market share continued to lead the Indian Market. Micromax at 18% was 2nd.

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### **ABB India reaches cumulative sales of 1GW of Solar power**

ABB India said that it has become the 1st company reach sales of a cumulative capacity of 1 Gigawatt solar inverters.

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### **TRAI slashes rate of STD calls**

TRAI has reduced the ceiling of the domestic carriage charge to 35 paise from existing 65 paise per minute.

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### **BSNL to invest 11,000 Crores to improve services**

State run BSNL will be investing 11,000 Crores towards strengthening network, modernising telephone exchanges and installing new mobile towers in naxal areas.

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### **Pan India mobile number portability from May 3**

From May 3rd, Mobile phone subscribers will be able to retain their number relocating to anywhere in India. TRAI amended Mobile number portability regulations to allow users to change their service provider in any part of the country while retaining the number.

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### **Dalmia cements hikes stakes in OCL India to 74.6%**

Dalmia cements has hiked its stakes in OCL, a building material maker in Eastern India, to 74.6% to consolidate its cement operations.

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### **Adlabs entertainment IPO on March 10**

Adlabs entertainment plans to issue 2.03 Crore shares during the IPO. The money raised will be used towards payment of loans and general corporate purposes.

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### **Export earnings from tea drop by 9.8%**

Export earnings during the calendar year of 2014 dropped by 9.8% to Rs.3928 Crores compared to Rs. 4355 Crores in 2013.

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### **IBM - Tech Mahindra enter into a partnership**

IBM and Tech Mahindra have signed a strategic agreement to develop applications for clients of IBM.

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### **Ravi Chaudhary appointed as Executive Director of FAA**

Indian-American expert in Aviation has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Federal Aviation Administration in US.

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### **Rs.86 Crore penalty on DLF**

Securities and Exchange board of India (SEBI) handed a 86 Crore penalty to DLF for violating capital market regulations.

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### **Government looking at Private Sector boss heads to run Public Sector banks**

The Government is looking for new heads of Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank and IDBI Bank. For the first time, it has indicated that it is willing to accept candidature from Private sector banks for these posts.

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### **NSE to set up exchange in Gujarat**

The National Stock Exchange(NSE) will set up an International exchange in Gujarat. It has signed a MoU with Gujarat International Finance Tec-City to establish the exchange.

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### **BEL India and Rolta India bag 50,000 Crore Army Project**

The Ministry of Defence has awarded the Army's Battlefield management systems contract to Bharat Electronics Ltd and Rolta India for Rs. 50,000 Crore.

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### **Apple ordered to pay \$533 million for patent infringement**

Apple's iTunes software infringed three patents belonging to licensing firm Smartflash and has been ordered to pay \$533 million.

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### **Economic Survey Projects over 8% growth.**

The Economic Survey 2014-15 presented by the Union Finance Minister on Feb 27 projected a 8.1 to 8.5% economy growth.

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### **Cafe Coffee Day IPO to be valued at almost \$1 billion.**

Cafe Coffee Day plans to list a 20% stake sale through stocks for close to \$200 million within the next quarter.

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### **India ranks below most BRICS nations in Innovation.**

The Economic Survey listed India behind Brazil, China, and South Africa in Innovation. India was ahead of only Russia from BRICS(Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa).

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### **India ranked 4th largest startup hub.**

The Economic Survey listed India as the 4th largest startup hub in the world.

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### **4D solution for Banking Sector**

Government proposed a 4D solution for the banking sector which include Deregulation, Differentiation, Diversification and Disinterring.

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### **Biggest and Brightest Quasar discovered**

Chinese astronomers from Peking University have discovered the the most luminous super massive quasar ever found in the distant Universe.

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### **Honorary doctorate to Ratan Tata**

Clemson University presented an Honorary doctorate in Automotive Engineering to Ratan Tata.

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### **38 Pilatus basic trainer aircraft for the Air Force**

The Defence minister Manohar Parrikar cleared an order for 38 more Pilatus basic trainer aircraft for the Air Force.

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### **18 new members inducted to ICHR**

The Union Ministry of Health has added 18 new inductees to the Indian Council for Historical Research.

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### **Dalmiya to become BCCI chief**

Jagmohan Dalmiya is set to return as president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

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### **10 berth's for PDP, 6 for BJP**

Of the 16 cabinet ministers joining the CM Mufti Mohammad Sayeed in Jammu and Kashmir, 10 will be from PDP, and 6 from BJP.

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### **Bharat Puri is the new MD of Pidilite**

Former Cadbury South Asia head Bharat Puri has been appointed as the new MD of Pidilite. This is the first time a non-family member has been promoted to this post.

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**The Railway Budget was presented on Feb 26, 2015 in the Parliament. Here are a few questions that might be asked in the upcoming IBPS PO, IBPS Clerical, SBI PO and SBI Clerical Exams:**

1. Who presented the Railway Budget in Feb 2015?
2. By what percentage was passenger fare hiked in the Railway Budget?
3. How much money will be invested in Railways over the next 5 years by the Government?
4. What is the "Operation 5 Minutes" program launched in the Railway Budget?
5. What are the new type of toilets that will be made available in trains?
6. How many days in advance can rail tickets be booked now?
7. The railways has approved speed limit increase in Metro corridors. The new maximum speed in these corridors will be?
8. Toll free number 182 will be launched by the railways. What will this number be used for?
9. How many Railway Research Centres will be set up?
10. How many kilometers of Railway lines will be converted to electric lines in 2015-16?

**Answers:**

1. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu
2. 0% -- Passenger Fares remain unchanged.
3. Rs. 8.5 Lakh Crores will be invested.
4. This program aims to ensure Passengers traveling unreserved can purchase a ticket in 5 minutes.
5. Bio toilets and airplane-type vacuum toilets.
6. 120 Days.
7. 200 kmph
8. 182 will be used for toll free security related issues.
9. 4 Railway Research Centres
10. 6608 route kilometers sanctioned for Railway electrification.



**The Union Budget for 2015 was presented on Feb 28, 2015 in the Parliament. Here are a few questions that might be asked in the upcoming IBPS PO, IBPS Clerical, SBI PO and SBI Clerical Exams:**

1. Who presented the Union Budget 2015?
2. Which tax was abolished in the Union Budget?
3. What is the additional surcharge on people with income more than 1 crore?
4. What is the new percentage of Service tax?
5. How much money has been allocated to Rural Infrastructure Development Bank?
6. How much money has been allocated for Micro Irrigation Programme?
7. The union budget proposed setting up of 5 Ultra Mega Power Projects of what capacity?
8. How much money has been allocated for the Infrastructure sector?
9. How many new AIIMS will be set up?
10. How many new IIMs will be set up?
11. What is the percentage increase in allocation for Defence sector?
12. How many toilets will be set up under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan?
13. Micro Units Development Refinance Agency(MUDRA) has been proposed to refinance Micro-Finance Institutions with a initial corpus of?
14. How much money has been set aside for electric cars production?
15. The Budget presented the development on an Indian gold coin to reduce the demand for foreign coins and recycle the gold available in the country. What will be embedded in the gold coin?

**Answers:**

1. Arun Jaitley
2. Wealth Tax
3. 2%
4. 14%
5. Rs. 25,000 Crores
6. Rs. 5,300 Crores
7. 4,000 MW
8. Rs. 70,000 Crores
9. 6 new AIIMS in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar and Assam.
10. 2 new IIMs in Andhra Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.
11. Defence sector gets 9.87% increase -- total of Rs. 2,46,726 crore towards a "Make in India" initiative.
12. 6 Crore
13. Initial corpus of Rs. 20,000 Crores.
14. Rs. 75 Crores
15. Ashoka Chakra