PART 1
Mercer 2017 Quality of Living index

Mercer’s Quality of Living rankings 2017: Hyderabad emerges as best city

However, Hyderabad fell by five places to 144 in this year’s rankings from 139th rank last year due to decreased power supply and water availability.

Austrian capital Vienna tops the list for the eighth consecutive year. Singapore is the top Asian city on the list, and is ranked 25.
Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be held in Hyderabad, November 28-30

the GES is the preeminent annual gathering of emerging entrepreneurs, investors, and business leaders from around the world, and Hyderabad is the ideal location for such a gathering. In addition to being a global IT center and India’s startup capital, Hyderabad – and the State of Telangana – has a long and proud history of fostering U.S.-India commercial and entrepreneurship partnerships.

This year’s theme, “Women First, Prosperity for All,”
India’s first private missile production facility unveiled

Hyderabad unit to supply anti-tank guided missiles to Army

India’s first private sector missile sub-systems manufacturing facility, a joint venture between the $2.5 billion Kalyani Group and Israel’s Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd., was inaugurated
‘Pralay Sahayam’ conducted to tackle urban flooding scenarios

The final event of Pralay Sahayam was conducted on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake in Hyderabad. A multi-agency exercise, National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) and the Armed Forces towards jointly tackled an urban flooding scenario.
Hyderabad Airport receives carbon neutrality status

The **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport** received the carbon neutrality status by Airports Council International

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd

The ACI Airport Carbon Accreditation programme was launched in June 2009, and comprises of four levels: 'mapping' (level 1), 'reduction' (level 2), 'optimisation' (level 3) and 'neutrality' (level 3+).

Hyderabad Airport progressively achieved levels one and two in 2012. The airport gained level 3 status in 2013. This year, GHIAL has achieved a level 3+ neutrality, which is the fourth and highest accreditation.
Gujarat has maximum of 12 cities among the top 50 cleanest, followed by Madhya Pradesh with 11 and Andhra Pradesh with eight.

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Swacch Sarveskshan 2017

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**AP Tourism Stands 3rd in India**

The bifurcated Andhra Pradesh has managed to beat its counterpart Telangana in tourism.

Amongst 35 states and Union Territories in India, AP Tourism stands third in attracting domestic tourists, but Telangana stands at 30.

The above statements are based on figures tabled at Rajya Sabha.

Andhra Pradesh has witnessed a 20% rise in domestic arrivals against the 71% rise in international arrivals between 2013 & 2015.

Telangana on the other hand is falling short on footfalls showing only a 1% rise in domestic arrivals and sadly a 19% decrease in international arrivals.

Hyderabad will also be hosting Skal World Congress, 2017 from October 5 to 9
BSNL to roll out 4G services in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh by March 2018

The tender formalities are complete and a total of 1,150 4G sites will be installed in both the states and the 4G services will be launched by March 2018.

For BSNL 4G project, 10,000 4G sites have been planned pan India while Telangana getting 550 sites and 600 in Andhra Pradesh.

The combined AP Circle (covering Andhra Pradesh and Telangana) has achieved the highest number of SIM activations in South Zone in the Q1 of current financial year with 4,27,209.

BSNL earned Rs 2,500 crore revenue for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during 2016-17.
Andhra Pradesh tops in solar power

Andhra Pradesh is at the top in India when it comes to solar power, with accumulative generation capacity of **1,867 MW**.

Telangana State, meanwhile, stands at **fourth position** with a generation capacity of **1,287 MW**.

Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu are at **second and third positions** with **1,812 MW** and **1,691 MW** respectively.

In **2016-17**, India added **5,525 MW solar power** generation capacity, taking the total to **12,288 MW**.
Andhra Pradesh rich in uranium.

The total uranium resources in the bifurcated Andhra Pradesh has crossed the one lakh tonnes mark.

The state now has 1.04 lakh tonnes of uranium.

Andhra Pradesh lost uranium rich regions in Nalgonda-Mahbubnagar to Telangana following the state bifurcation in 2014.

As of February 2017 Andhra Pradesh alone has 1.22 lakh tonnes of uranium oxide, which is equivalent to 1.04 lakh tonnes of uranium metal.

Telangana has 18,550 tonnes of uranium oxide or 15,731 tonnes of uranium metal
Andhra Pradesh cabinet nod for Sheela Bhide panel recommendations

The State Cabinet approved the recommendations of Dr. Sheela Bhide Committee on bifurcation of assets and liabilities relating to nine Backward Classes (BC) Corporations listed under Schedule IX of the AP Reorganisation Act.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said the Committee had recommended that the moveable properties, Personal Deposit (PD) accounts and bank balances should be divided in the ratio of 58% and 42% between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

AP would get ₹10.55 crore as its share in the bank balances.
Six states/UTs ink MoU with Centre on GeM.

Six states / Union Territories (UT) formally adopted the Centre’s Government e-Marketplace (GeM) initiative.

It aims to ensure that public procurement of goods and services in India worth over ₹5 lakh crore annually is carried out through the online platform for transparency.

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Telangana, Puducherry and Arunachal Pradesh will adopt the GeM.
Andhra, Telangana, Gujarat best in ease of doing business: Amitabh Kant

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Gujarat are the three best-performing states in "ease of doing business", NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant.

One the other hand, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam fare worst in the rankings.

Kant presented the rankings based on key development and social indicators across states and union territories during a national conference of Chief Secretaries.

Similarly, based on availability of electricity in rural households, the best-performing states are Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu, which have achieved 100 per cent penetration.
Andhra Pradesh and Telangana’s Banganapalle mango gets GI tag.

The Banganapalle mango has received the geographical indication (GI) tag, making Andhra Pradesh the owner of the variety that originates in its Kurnool district.

The Registrar of Geographical Indications Registry (RGIR) granted Banganapalle the GI status on a six-year-old application from Andhra Pradesh’s horticulture department.

The Banganapalle mango is one of the most preferred varieties of the fruit in both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

The application for the GI tag was made in 2011, prior to the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in 2014 to create Telangana.
Varanasi railway station, situated in Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Lok Sabha constituency, was placed 14th.

New Delhi station was ranked 39, while Nizamuddin and Old Delhi stations were placed at the 23th and 24th position respectively.

Railway stations are categorised — A1, A, B, C, D, E and F — based on their annual passenger revenue by the ministry.

The stations that contribute over Rs 50 crore annually are in the ‘A1’ category.

while those that contribute between Rs 6 crore and Rs 50 crore come under the ‘A’ category.

All suburban stations are in C category, while all halts are in F category.
There are 75 stations listed under the ‘A1’ category, while there are 332 under the ‘A’ category.

Among the ‘A’ category stations, Beas railway station in Punjab was rated the cleanest followed by Khammam located in Telangana.

Jogbani in Bihar was the dirtiest in the A category.
SWADESH DARSHAN, 100% funding will be done by the central government for strengthening infrastructure, capacity building of staff and locals, finding new avenues to connect people with tourism activities - Ministry of Tourism

Ministry of Tourism – PRASAD - Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive

Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) scheme - Urban Development Ministry
PRASAD Scheme was launched in 2014-15 with 12 identified sites namely Ajmer (Rajasthan), Amritsar (Punjab), Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Dwarka (Gujarat), Gaya (Bihar), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Puri (Odisha), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

During 2015-16, Patna (Bihar) and in 2016-17, 12 more sites were added in the scheme for development namely Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Badrinath (Uttarakhand), Belur (West Bengal), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Guruvayur (Kerala), Hazratbal and Katra (Jammu & Kashmir), Omkareshwar (Madhya Pradesh), Somnath (Gujarat), Srisailam and Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra).
HRIDAY SCHEME

Deadline
November, 2018

Outlay of INR 500 Crores
the Scheme is being implemented in 12 identified Cities
namely, Ajmer, Amaravati, Amritsar, Badami, Dwarka, Gaya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Velankanni and Warangal (Telangana)
For the first time in the world, Microsoft to deploy Azure Stack in Andhra Pradesh.

Government of Andhra has entered into an agreement with technology giant Microsoft to utilise Microsoft Azure Stack for AP government state data centre.

The chief minister Chandrababu Naidu and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella signed an MoU during an event called ‘Microsoft Future Decoded’ in Mumbai.

Under the MoU, Microsoft Azure Stack for the first time in the world will be used to migrate live applications currently hosted in Hyderabad State Data Centre (SDC) to Vizag data centre.
Government of India helped erstwhile Andhra Pradesh to build a state data centre in Hyderabad with the funding of Rs 400 crore.

However, after bifurcation of the state into residual Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, both the states have bifurcated servers and data but they are using the same data centre in Hyderabad.

As per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, AP has 10 years rights on the data centre but state is gradually planning to move all applications hosted in Hyderabad SDC to Vizag and Vijayawada data centres.
Telangana budget 2017-2018

Finance Minister Etala Rajender presented the budget of the Telangana government for 2017-18 to the Assembly with an estimated total expenditure of Rs 1.49 lakh crore which is Rs 19,000 crore more than the estimates for 2016-17.

The Gross State Domestic Product of Telangana for 2017-18 at current prices is estimated to be Rs 7,49,893 crore. This is 14.6% higher than the revised estimate for 2016-17.

Total expenditure for 2017-18 is estimated to be Rs 1,49,646 crore, a 33.4% increase over the revised estimate of 2016-17. In 2016-17, there was a decrease of Rs 18,225 crore (14%) in the revised estimate over the budget estimate.
Total receipts (excluding borrowings) for 2017-18 are estimated to be Rs 1,19,940 crore, an increase of 36% over the revised estimates of 2016-17. In 2016-17, total receipts fell short of the budgeted target by Rs 16,661 crore (15.9%).

Revenue surplus for the next financial year is targeted at Rs 4,571 crore, or 0.61% of the state Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Fiscal deficit is targeted at Rs 26,096 crore (3.49% of state GDP).

Departments of Panchayat Raj, Major and Medium Irrigation and Social Welfare saw increases in allocations for the year 2017-18. On the other hand, Departments Agriculture witnessed a decrease in its allocation in 2017-18.

Scheme for sheep rearing for Yadava community has been proposed to be implemented. Sheep will be provided at 75% subsidy rate to eligible members.
For the welfare of **Navi-brahmins and Washermen** communities, Rs 500 crore is proposed to be allocated. To modernize their occupations, it is proposed to provide washing machines, driers and iron-boxes to eligible members. Similarly, dhobi ghats are proposed to be constructed on tanks.

**An amount of Rs 1,200 crore** has been proposed towards assistance to weavers. To promote handloom industry, the government proposes to procure cloth only from the handloom industry. This includes construction of a **textile park at Warangal** and an **apparel park at Sircilla**. In addition, financial support will be provided to handloom weavers to take up alternative professions.

Financial assistance under the **Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak Schemes** is proposed to be **increased from Rs 51,000 to Rs 75,116**
Welfare of backward classes: The Government proposes to establish residential schools in each of the 119 Assembly constituencies.

An expenditure of Rs.1.05 lakh to Rs.1.25 lakh will be incurred on each student towards provision of infrastructure, nutritious food, text books, uniform and other facilities.

The government proposed to provide Rs 12,000 for pregnant women. Rs 4,000 will be provided upon admission to a government hospital, followed by another Rs 4,000 during discharge from the hospital, and another Rs 4000 will at the time of vaccination of the child. An additional Rs 1,000 will be provided for the birth of a girl child.
KCR Kit is proposed to be provided to new born children. The kit will consist of **16 essential things** needed for a new born baby for the first three months, such as soaps, baby oil, baby bed, mosquito net, dresses, napkins, etc. The amount proposed under this scheme is Rs 605 crore.

**Two Bedroom Housing Scheme:** To encourage the implementation of the Two Bedroom Housing Scheme, the government is providing sand for free of cost. In addition, the government has entered MoU with 31 cement companies to provide cement at Rs 230 per bag, as opposed to a market rate of Rs 320 per bag.
PFC to provide Rs 4,000 crore for 4 GW power plant in Telangana.

State-run Power Finance Corp (PFC) has sanctioned a term loan of Rs 4,009 crore to TSGENCO (Telangana Power Generation Corporation Ltd) for setting up 5X800 MW, coal based Yadadri Thermal Power Plant using super-critical technology in Nalgonda district of Telangana.

The Yadadri Thermal Power Plant will generate approximately 29,784 million units of energy to meet the future power requirement of Telangana.

PFC has a long standing relationship with Telangana with a cumulative sanction of Rs 28,210 crore and disbursement of Rs 16,156 crore towards various projects in generation, transmission and distribution sector in Telangana.

PFC chairman and managing director: Rajeev Sharma
Saubhagya to light over 4 lakh homes in Telangana

The ‘Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana’ (Saubhagya) scheme announced by the Prime Minister is likely to benefit some 4.32 lakh households in Telangana including over 4.12 lakh in the rural areas.

Under the scheme, un-electrified households would be provided with free electricity connections based on the Socio-Economic and Caste Census-2011 (SECC) data.

The households that are not covered under SECC would also be given electricity connections with the facility of paying the connectivity charges of ₹500 in 10 installments along with their monthly energy consumption bills.
No free power.

The Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), the nodal agency for implementation of the scheme, has already made it clear that there would be no free power supply under the scheme.

According to SECC data, there are 4,12,725 rural households in Telangana without electricity connection and another 19,235 in urban areas.

The Saubhagya scheme would benefit the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district the most followed by Warangal, Medak and Nalgonda districts, where the number of un-electrified households is high.

Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Ranga Reddy districts have the least number of un-electrified households.
Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana – “Saubhagya” a new scheme was launched by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to ensure electrification of all willing households in the country in rural as well as urban areas.

It was launched on the occasion of the birth centenary celebration of Bharatiya Jana Sangh politician and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) ideologue Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on 25th September.

The total outlay of the project is Rs. 16,320 crore while the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) is Rs. 12,320 crore.

The outlay for the rural households is Rs. 14,025 crore while the GBS is Rs. 10,587.50 crore.
For the urban households the outlay is Rs. 2,295 crore while GBS is Rs. 1,732.50 crore.

The Government of India will provide largely funds for the Scheme to all States/UTs.

The States and Union Territories are required to complete the works of household electrification by the 31st of December 2018.

The beneficiaries for free electricity connections would be identified using Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 data.

However, un-electrified households not covered under the SECC data would also be provided electricity connections under the scheme on payment of Rs. 500 which shall be recovered by DISCOMs in 10 installments through electricity bill.
The solar power packs of 200 to 300 Watt peak capacity with battery bank for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible areas, comprises of Five LED lights, One DC fan, One DC power plug. It also includes the Repair and Maintenance (R&M) for 5 years.

The Gram Panchayat/Public institutions in the rural areas may be authorised to collect application forms along with complete documentation, distribute bills and collect revenue in consultation with the Panchayat Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies.

The Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC) will remain the nodal agency for the operationalisation of the scheme throughout the country.
The Prime Minister had in 2015 said that the government has set a 1,000-day target to electrify over 18,000 villages that don't have access to electricity at all.

And today less than 3000 villages are now left to be electrified.

Despite the government’s aggressive village electrification programme, the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana launched in July 2015, under which 78% of 18,000 villages have been electrified, it was realised that the problem of electricity ‘access’ wasn’t resolved.

A village is declared to be electrified if 10% of the households are given electricity along with public places such as schools, panchayat office, health centres, dispensaries and community centres.

With a large number of households still remaining without access to electricity, the scheme aims at ensuring the coverage of households as opposed to only villages.
Telangana govt offers sops to help start a milk revolution.

Telangana chief minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao announced that the government, through dairy development societies, would provide 50% subsidy to farmers who buy buffalos and a 75% subsidy to farmers from the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe communities.

Rao also said a comprehensive scheme for the development of the dairy sector will be launched in the state to start a “Ksheera Viplavam” (Milk Revolution).

The announcements were made during a meeting with members of the Vijaya, Mulkanur, Nalgonda and Ranga Reddy district dairy development societies.
Chief minister also accepted the demand of other dairy farmers to give them Rs 4 per litre as incentive, which is done in the case of Vijaya Dairy in the state.

Govt has also launched sheep distribution schemes for Yadavs and Kurumas (shepherd community) at a cost of Rs 4,000 crore

**Sheep distribution schemes**

The scheme was launched to transform livestock economy and allied traditional occupations in the state, and 'make the Yadavs of Telangana the richest Yadavs in the country.

Under this scheme 20 sheep and a ram to every Yadav and Golla Kuruma family in the state would be given.
It would mean distributing 15 million sheep in two years for Rs 10,000 crore so as to bring every Golla - Kuruma community under the scheme.

Not only is the stock being sourced from other states, but grass is being planted on 46 lakh acres of land to ensure enough fodder and 100 mobile veterinary clinics are set up.

A toll free number (1962) for the shepherds was also inaugurated on the occasion by CM while distributing the sheep to 825 beneficiaries in his Gajwel Assembly constituency.
Telangana wins 8 national awards for tourism.

TS secured the top place in eight categories at the National Tourism Awards.

The awards were announced for Telangana in the categories of heritage structures, cleanliness in tourist places and tourist guides.

Mr. Ram Nath Kovind presented awards to various segments of the travel, tourism and hospitality industry at a function organised by the tourism ministry at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, to mark World Tourism Day.

World Tourism Day : 27th September

Theme : Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development
The Telangana Government has decided to make all educational institutions, both in private and public, teach Telugu as a compulsory subject from 1st to 12th standards.

Only those educational institutions teaching Telugu as a compulsory subject would be given recognition and permissions to function.

For those opting for Urdu, it should be offered as an optional.

The Chief Minister asked the Telugu Sahitya Academy to prepare syllabus for the Telugu subject to be taught to primary, secondary and higher secondary and Intermediate classes for textbooks to be printed at the earliest.

The Academy was also asked to finalise construction of Dr C Narayan Reddy memorial in the city by finalising the site.
Gayatri Projects bags Rs 1,483-crore order in Telangana

Gayatri Projects has won a **Rs 1,483-crore irrigation project** for the formation of **Sri Komaravelli Mallanna Sagar Reservoir** with a capacity of 50 TMC (thousand million cubic feet).

The order is part of **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation project**.

This project is set to irrigate **18.47 lakh acres of land** in various districts of Telangana and provide major boost to water **intensive crops** such as **sugarcane and banana**.
Telangana dance performed at British Parliament

The British Parliament reverberated with the beats of Telangana folk songs with the **Gond Gussadi** dancers showcasing Telangana’s rich culture in the House of Commons as part of the **World Tourism Day celebrations**.

**The Sanskruti Centre** organised the event in association with the **Department of Culture, Government of Assam and Tripura**.

This year was being celebrated as **U.K.-India Year of Culture** and a variety of tribal dances were presented, including Bagurumba of Assam, Pawara dance of Maharashtra, Gondu Gussadi and Lambadi of Telangana, Santhali of West Bengal, Hojagiri of Tripura, and Peacock dance.
Tamil Nadu is powering up households in Telangana

Tamil Nadu is set to power 300 households in Telangana using solar energy developed by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras.

It is being distributed by Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TSSPDCL) and Rural Electrification Corporation.

The solar powered system was transferred to and commercialized by Cygni Energy, an IIT Madras-incubated firm.

It has already been installed in all the houses by June this year and the performance and health of all the installed systems are being monitored remotely, with data being collected via mobile phones and synchronized to a central server.
The inverterless system, comprising a 125Wp Solar Panel, a 1kWh battery, an Inverterless controller unit and DC loads operating on a 48V DC internal distribution line, were installed in all houses.

It powers a DC fan, a DC tube light, two DC bulbs, a DC mobile charger, a DC power socket and a remote controller to operate the fan and tube light.

The entire project was funded by Verizon Data Services which invested Rs 75 lakh in it.

Ramunigundla Thanda, Kesya Thanda, Jogi Thanda and Mantriya Thanda are the four rural hamlets of Devarakonda Mandal in Nalgonda district of Telangana, about 100 km from Hyderabad which will be illuminated under this proposal.
Telangana installs pre-paid energy meters in govt offices

In a pilot initiative, the energy distribution companies in Telangana have launched a project to install pre-paid energy meters in government offices, local bodies and some commercial establishments.

The move is aimed at ensuring better compliance and to avoid defaults by government agencies that are known for delayed payments to utilities.

The Telangana Southern Distribution Company Ltd, which has installed pre-paid electric meters in some government offices, is now eyeing industrial consumers and some domestic users. Pre-paid meters function in dual mode, both as pre-paid and as normal post-paid meters.
As per estimates, the total dues of government offices and some commercial establishments put together is estimated to be in the range of ₹1,400 crore to ₹1,500 crore.

The pre-paid meters are aimed at addressing the problem of delayed payments and to keep the records of payment up-to-date.

Several States, including Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka among others are seeking to work on this model as an option to ensure there is no delay in payment of dues at least by government offices and local bodies.
59 more cotton procurement centres set up in Telangana

With cotton being sowed in 1.86 million hectares of land for the first time in the history of Telangana, the Cotton Corp. of India has set up 59 additional centres (84 already existing) across the state this year.

According to data from the agricultural marketing department, an estimated cotton produce of 2.81 million metric tonnes is expected to reach market yards in Telangana in 2017-18, from 1.86 million hectares of land sowed.

In 2016-17, the area sowed was 1.24 million hectares, which yielded 2.47 million metric tonnes of produce.

Although cotton enjoys a minimum support price (MSP), officials are still wary that excess production might cause some unrest among farmers in case they do not get the price they are expecting.
Earlier in May, chilli farmers ransacked the agricultural market yard in Khammam district as excess production caused a price crash.

The violence at Khammam was a result of chilli production touching nearly 700,000 tonnes in 2016-17, compared to the 615,100 tonnes in 2015-16.

The price per quintal (100kg) of produce dipped to Rs3,000 to 5,000, in comparison to Rs10,000 to 12,000 in 2015, due to over-production.

The official informed that the MSP for cotton this year is Rs 4,320 per quintal, and was Rs 4,160 last year.

According to data from the department, the highest sowing of cotton was recorded in Nalgonda district where it was sown on 2,24,955 lakh hectares of land, followed by Adilabad and Khammam districts where the sown area was recorded at 1,40,119 and 1,08,974 lakh hectares.
21st GST council held in Hyderabad on 9th September, 2017.
Telangana cotton farmers to flaunt ID cards with QR code

Cotton farmers in Telangana will soon be getting identity cards with a QR (Quick Response) code from the next procurement season.

These ID cards will be accepted at the procurement centres of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) when the farmers go there for selling their produce.

A QR code captures unique information of an individual that can be read electronically by imaging devices like cameras and smartphones. This will enable timely procurement of cotton in a transparent manner and help farmers avoid middlemen in the procurement process.

The data of cotton farmers will be uploaded in Mana Bhoomi Mana Panta (Our Land Our Crop) portal.

Hareon Solar Technology Company Limited, one of China's largest solar energy companies, and ReNew Power Ventures Pvt. Ltd., India's leading renewable energy Independent Power Producer, announced the commissioning of their 172 MW (143 MWAC) solar project in Dichipally, Telangana, India.

The 172 MW solar power plant is spread over approximately 1100 acres of land, and is connected to the Dichipally substation in Telangana via a 220 kV transmission line.

Hareon Solar supplied more than 520,000 high efficiency multi-crystalline silicon solar modules for this project and the energy generated from this project, will be sold under a 25-year power purchase agreement (PPA) to the Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana.

ReNew Power and Hareon Solar have collaborated to jointly develop, build and operate solar projects of approximately 300 MW generation capacity over the last two years in Adoni, Cumbum, Mandamarri, and now in Dichipally.
Telangana Home Minister inaugurates water ATMs

Safe Water Network, an international NGO has partnered with Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to launch water ATMs, providing affordable, 24x7 safe water access in Hyderabad.

The first of the ATMs was inaugurated by Telangana State Home Minister N Narasimha Reddy at Nalgonda X Roads.

A total of 200 ATMs will be set up to reach a targeted 150,000 people.

In the first phase 50 water ATMs will be operationalised by next year.

The initiative is supported by USAID under the Urban WaSH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Alliance Partnership and funded by Honeywell India.
Cloud based monitoring

These water ATMs use a seven step treatment process to purify water that adheres to national norms.

They are connected via cloud-based technology for real-time monitoring and analyses operational parameters, thereby minimising downtime.

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is supplying raw water for these ATMs.

Consumers can collect water that is affordably priced at ₹1 per glass, ₹2 per litre, ₹5 per 10 litres, and ₹10 per 20 litres.

Honeywell India, which is engaged in water projects in Telangana for the past couple of years with investments, has already committed funding for 100 safe water stations benefiting more than 300,000 people.
Political parties celebrate Telangana Liberation Day

Political parties across the state today celebrated the Telangana Liberation Day by *unfurling the national flag* at their respective party offices here.

The *Telangana Liberation Day* is celebrated on *September 17*, as on that day the erstwhile *Nizam state merged with the Indian Union in 1948*. 
Telangana Information Commission formed

Following directives from the High Court, the State government has created Telangana State Information Commission under RTI Act 2005 (Central act 22 of 2005).

A separate Information Commission for Telangana has been pending ever since the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.

On the recent instructions from the High Court, State government initiated the process for the constitution of the commission.

The government also constituted a three-member committee to recommend the candidates for the appointment as State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners.

The committee comprising the Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, Deputy Chief Minister Mohammed Mahmood Ali and Leader of the Opposition K Jana Reddy would finalise the commission members soon.
Telangana Government on the way to make Hyderabad a Global city.

The Telangana government will take up various development works in Hyderabad at a cost of Rs 20,146 crore, as part of its plans to make it a global city.

The government has decided to focus on improving infrastructure to make Hyderabad a "lovable" city and a "city of lights.

The government will spend Rs 6,700 crore on road development, Rs 2,962 crore on drinking water supply, Rs 1,665 crore on development and beautification of Musi river and Rs 400 crore on LED lights.

Drainage system will be improved at a cost of Rs 230 crore, while double bed room houses for poor will be constructed at a cost of Rs 8,225 crore.
Telangana grows the fastest in the South

Telangana state has surpassed all southern states and outperformed the national average in attracting investments, according to a report released by the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Assocham).

In 2011-12, the region attracted investments worth Rs 3.30 lakh-crore from domestic and foreign sources, which went up to Rs 5.90 lakh-crore by 2016-17, the study, ‘Telangana: Analysis of economic growth and investment performance’, said.

TS has also outperformed the national average in economic growth.

“TS economy grew from 2.7 per cent in FY12 to 8.5 per cent in FY17.

The all-India average growth increased from 5.4 per cent to 6.6 per cent,” the study said.
Telangana and the rest

79% TS average growth rate from financial year (FY) 2012 against the national average of 27%

3.3% TS share of total investments worth over Rs 177 lakh crore attracted by top industrial states in FY17.

68.5% TS investment growth rate over three years from FY15 against the national average of 20.8%

4% Telangana state share for gross value addition (GVA) across India as of FY17.
Telangana surpasses Gujarat to become top producer of solar energy in the country

Data from September shows that Telangana generates 2,792 MW of solar power, followed by Rajasthan at 2,219 MW.

Gujarat has slipped to sixth position, and produces 1,384 MW of solar power.

The total solar generating capacity in Telangana will cross 3,000 MW mark in six months.

Telangana State Power Generation Chairperson and Managing Director D Prabhakar Rao said the administration was planning on harnessing 4,500 MW wind power.

Government plans on producing 5,000 MW solar power in next two to three years.
Telangana launches mobile vet clinics

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao flagged off a hundred mobile veterinary clinics for as many Assembly constituencies in the State at People’s Plaza on the Necklace road.

The clinics, like 108 for people which are serviced by GVK-EMRI (Emergency Management and Research Institute), will also be aided by the same combination on toll free number 1962.

The call centre of GVK-EMRI will work on all days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The mobile service for livestock was an offshoot of the government’s sheep distribution programme which was one of the initiatives to stir up rural economy.
9-day Bathukamma celebrations begin

The nine-day long Bathukamma festival began with the Petramavasya or Mahalaya Amavasya, the no-moon day in the month of Bhadrapadam.

Women across Telangana observed Engilipoola Bathukamma.

BBC News is producing a documentary on Bathukamma for the first time and would be shooting in Velimela village of Armur.

On September 26, celebrated Maha Bathukamma, and on September 28, the government organized Pedda Bathukamma
Bathukamma

Bathukamma is floral festival celebrated predominantly by the Hindu women of Telangana as well as Andhra Pradesh.

Every year this festival is celebrated as per Shalivahana calendar for nine days starting Bhadrapada Amavasya (also known as Mahalaya Amavasya or Pitru Amavasya) till Durgashtami, usually in September–October of Gregorian calendar.

Bathukamma is a beautiful flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values, in seven concentric layers in the shape of temple gopuram.

In Telugu, ‘Bathukamma' means ‘Mother Goddess come Alive’ and Goddess Maha Gauri- ‘Life Giver’ is worshipped in the form of Bathukamma – the patron goddess of womanhood, Maha Gauri Devi
Telangana government orders wine shops to install CCTV cameras

The state government announced a new excise policy for 2017-19, that came into force on October 1.

**Under this policy:**

It is mandatory for retail liquor shops to install at least two CCTV cameras on the licensed premises. The cameras will be linked to the excise control room located in the excise department.

Application for retail liquor shop was open from Sept 13 – 19.

If there was more than one application for one shop, the selection was through a lottery.

The application fee was increased from Rs 50,000 to Rs 1 lakh, and is not refundable.
The application fee earned the state government Rs 155 crore in the previous time, and this is expected to increase to Rs 250 crore in the course of the next two years.

The license is for two years and the population slab has been reduced from 6 to 4.

For a population of upto 50,000, the retail shop excise tax is Rs 45 lakh, for 50,001 to 5 lakh population it is Rs 55 lakh, and for 5,00,001 to 1 lakh population it is Rs 85 lakh. Above 20 lakh population, the licence fee is Rs 1.10 crore.

In Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits liquor shops can be open from 11 am to 11 pm as earlier.

The state government earned Rs 1260 crore in excise revenue in the current excise year, and expects Rs 1360 crore in the ensuing excise year. The number of retail shops will remain the same at 2216.
Telangana youth receives Young Achiever Award

Narasimha Donthineni, a student of IIM Rohtak and a graduate from CBIT Hyderabad, received Indian Young Achiever award for his work on modernising public libraries in the limits of GHMC.

Narasimha had fought for the efficient functioning of Public Libraries in Hyderabad.
Indian Young Achievers Award had been instituted to recognise and encourage young talent.

He is the only person from Telangana State to receive the award. He co-founded and led YBI (Youth for Better India), involving youth in the anti-corruption movement.

He also worked for introduction of combination tickets in RTC buses.

The award was presented at "12th National Quality Conclave" by Baba Ramdev and Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman of Quality Council Of India, and Dr RP Singh, Secretary of Quality council of India.
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PART 2
Telangana tribal incubation centre

Christened the 'Chief Minister Scheduled Tribe Entrepreneurship and Innovation Scheme, it will be implemented from 2017-2018.

For promoting industrialisation and entrepreneurship among Scheduled Tribes (STs) at the primary level and economic growth of the state at the larger level through financial inclusion of the under-served sections.

State government would extend a maximum subsidy of up to Rs 50 lakh on projects that will be set up by tribal entrepreneurs.

The tribal welfare department is inclined to encourage women entrepreneurs in a big way by providing at least 33% women coverage.
Centre sanctions Rs. 1594 Cr for housing scheme in Telangana

The Central Government on Wednesday sanctioned an amount of Rs. 1594.57 Crores for construction of 1,06,305 new houses in Telangana State.

The Government of Telangana has designated MEPMA (Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas) as State Level Nodal agency for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yozana (PMAY) under Housing for All Mission for providing houses to all eligible urban poor families in Telangana State.
Amazon India launches largest fulfilment centre in Telangana

Online marketplace Amazon announced the expansion of its infrastructure footprint by opening its largest fulfilment center of 400,000 square feet in Shamsabad in Telangana with the view to enhance customer experience just ahead of the festive season.

The fifth fulfilment centre in the state has a storage space of 2.1 million cubic feet taking the total storage space in Telangana to 3.2 million cubic feet.

With more than 10,000 sellers in Telangana, the selection offered by sellers in the state for immediate delivery has grown more than 120% this year as compared to last year,
Blood on road: Telangana 9th in national toll

Telangana was ninth in terms of road accidents among all states in the country in 2016. During that year, over 22,000 road accidents took place, killing 7,219 persons.

According to `Road Accidents in India 2016,' a report released by the Transport Research Wing of the Union ministry of road transport and highways recently, of 29 states, 13 accounted for 86.5 % of the total 4.8 lakh road accidents recorded last year in the country.

Telangana contributed 4.7% of the total road accidents, logging 22,811 road accidents in 2016.

The report claimed that the number of road accidents, persons killed and injured in 2016 in Telangana were more than those recorded in 2015.
According to the report, Hyderabad was at the 17th position in the Million Plus Cities that witness road accidents in the highest number.

In Hyderabad police commissionerate in 2016, 444 fatal accidents took place, killing 448 persons and injuring another 2,469
Telangana to draw up its own Aadhaar Act

Telangana state will join the list of states which have enacted their own law to make the Aadhaar card mandatory to avail benefits from government schemes.

The Centre had asked states to bring their own Aadhaar Act to cut down on leakages in welfare schemes as per Section 57 of the Central Aadhaar Act or by issuing a GO.

Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana and Rajasthan have enacted their own Acts, while Bihar had issued a GO.

The central Act makes Aadhaar mandatory for any “subsidy, benefit or service” for which the expenditure is borne fully or shared partially by the Consolidated Fund of India.

This means that every welfare subsidy or benefit, from fully-funded or centrally-sponsored schemes (where states share part of the burden), is conditional on Aadhaar verification.
First Edition of ABU International Television Dance Festival Held in Hyderabad

The Prasar Bharati, India's public service broadcaster, is hosting the first edition of this mega event.

The first edition of the **ABU International Television Dance Festival (AIDF)** organized by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) was held in Hyderabad from January 13 to January 15, 2017.

**Objective:** To create a bridge between young people from different parts of the world through dance.

The festival was **inaugurated** by the Then Union Information & Broadcasting Minister M Venkaiah Naidu while the **Chief Minister of Telangana, K. Chandrashekar Rao** was the guest of honour.
T-Hub Collaborates with Esri India for GIS Innovation Hub

Telangana based India’s largest incubator for start-ups, T-Hub has launched a ‘GIS Innovation Hub’ (GIH) in collaboration with Esri India for the start-ups belonging to the capital Hyderabad.

Esri India is country’s leading Geographic Information System (GIS) software and solutions provider.

The facility was inaugurated by Jack Dangermond, co-founder, president and CEO of Esri Inc.

As a part of the partnership, Esri India will be inducting the start-ups into a three-year ‘Start-up’ program’ where they would get free access to Esri’s ArcGIS, a cloud-based mapping platform, software development tools and ready-to-use content.
UberMOTO launches service in Hyderabad

American worldwide online transportation network company Uber has launched two-wheeler aggregation service UberMOTO by then Uber Founder and CEO Travis Kalanick in Hyderabad.

Now it is – dara khosrowshahi

UberMOTO can hire two-wheelers for short-distance commute at cheaper rates to provide the last-mile connectivity from and to the upcoming Metro railway stations.

Uber inducts two-wheeler owners into the network, the same way it ropes in cabs for the main service.

It said the owners would be sensitised on safety aspects before being hired.
The Telangana government has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) for air connectivity by developing small airports and airstrips in the state.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was between Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju and Telangana Minister for IT and industries K T Rama Rao in New Delhi.

This would be achieved through a financial stimulus in the form of Central and State government concessions, as well as Viability Gap Funding to the interested airlines to kick-off operations from such airports, so that the passenger fares are kept affordable.
The fare for a one hour journey of approximately 500 km on a fixed wing aircraft or for a 30 minute journey on a helicopter would now be capped at Rs 2,500, with proportionate pricing for routes of different lengths / duration.

To reduce the cost of operations, the Central Government would be providing concessions in the form of reduced excise on VAT, service tax and flexibility of code sharing at the RCS airports.

Similarly, the State governments would have to lower the VAT on ATF to 1 per cent or less, besides other concessions.
Telangana Government signs MoU to set up Aero Skill Academy

The Telangana government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with French Aero campus Aquitaine to set up a world-class aero skills academy in the city in collaboration with academia and industry of the state.

The MoU was signed between Jerome Verschave, General Manager, Aerocampus and Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary IT, Telangana

The project deliverables include identifying skill gaps, designing courses and enabling EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency) and DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation) certifications for the academy and its courses.
Telangana and Assam Joins UDAY Scheme

Assam and Telangana signed a pact with the Then Power Minister, Piyush Goyal to join the UDAY scheme in New Delhi in a bid to improve the performance of state run power distribution companies (DISCOM).

An overall net benefit of approximately Rs 6,116 crore to Telangana and Rs 1,663 crore to Assam will come from joining the scheme.

Jharkhand was the first state to join.
Under the UDAY scheme, while Telangana would take over Rs 8,923 crore of the total Rs 11,897 crore of discom debt, Assam would take over Rs 928 crore out of total Rs 1,510 crore

The scheme provides that the state government are required to take over 75 per cent of their respective discom debt outstanding as on September 30, 2015.

UDAY mandates that the balance debt (25 per cent) would be re-priced or issued as state guaranteed discom bonds.

The official said that this would amount to annual saving in interest cost of Rs 387 crore for Telangana and Rs 37 crore for Assam.

In case of Telangana, the reduction in aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses and transmission losses to 9.95 per cent and 3 per cent respectively is likely to bring additional revenue of around Rs 1,476 crore during the period of turnaround.
National Career Services (NCS) and Jeevan Praman Facility for EPFO Pensioners Launched in Hyderabad Post Office

The Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment the then Bandaru Dattatreya launched the National Career Service (NCS) for youths and Jeevan Praman facility to EPFO pensioners through Post Offices at DakSadan in Hyderabad.

The Post Offices will serve as an Employment Registration Centres for Unemployed rural youth on behalf of the “National Career Service” Portal where youths can register themselves for employment in 1,55,000 post offices established across the country for over 3000 occupations offered under 52 sectors in NCS.

It would build a bridge between the net connected urban areas and non connected rural areas and help the youth to avail facility to register for employment at their doorstep hassle-free and have access to a rich repository of career content.
Rajasthan, Telangana bag eGov awards

Rajasthan and Telangana have bagged the eGovernance awards for Excellence under the state category at the CSI -NihilenteGovernance Awards held in Coimbatore.

Odisha and Nagaland bagged the Award of Recognition for the year 2016.

e-Governance Awards are Instituted by the Computer Society of India’s (CSI) Special Interest Group with sponsorship from Nihilent Technologies.

Under the Projects category, 34 projects were from government departments and organisations across the country for their innovative and inclusive eGovernance initiatives.

“There were over 180 nominations for projects this year.”
India’s first social innovation centre Launched in Nizamabad by Telanagana Government.

The Telangana government launched India’s first social innovation centre the ‘Kakatiya Hub For Social Innovation’ in Nizamabad.

The launch was announced at the one-day Development Dialogue, an international social entrepreneurship ecosystem conference hosted by Kakatiya Sandbox.

Kakatiya Hub For Social Innovation’ funded by the Telangana government and implemented through Kakatiya Sandbox will function like a rural incubator to encourage entrepreneurship at the grassroots level.

Government will make sure that the rural incubator in Telangana will be run exactly in the same as any other high-end incubator like the T-Hub, the country’s biggest, located in Hyderabad.

The move is expected to create a model for promoting entrepreneurs in rural and semi-urban areas in the country.
GMR Hyderabad Airport Receives CAPA Order of Merit

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL), which operates Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, has been honored with the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation (CAPA) Chairman’s Order of Merit for its focus on environmental sustainability.

Rajiv Gandhi International Airport was also awarded for becoming the first airport in Asia Pacific to become carbon neutral.

GHIAL received the award during the CAPA 12 Annual India Aviation Summit held in Mumbai.
Airbus signs MoU for setting up centre of excellence in Hyderabad

The multinational Airbus Group division Airbus joined hand with Telangana government, National Skill Development Corporation India and AEROCAMPUS France for establishing a Centre of Excellence at Begumpet Airport for aerospace skill development in Hyderabad.

The Centre will train candidates ranging from high school graduates to experienced aviation personnel on aircraft manufacturing, logistics, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), ground handling and special aviation processes.

The Centre will offer short-term refresher modules as well as long-term certificate and diploma courses that will find acceptability within the industry.
Noted bureaucrat V. K. Srinivasan passes away

Noted bureaucrat, columnist and director of the Institute of Economic Studies, V. K. Srinivasan was passed away in Hyderabad.

He was a 1963-batch IAS officer and had played in league division in Cricket in Chennai, the then Madras State.

He served as Collector of Karimnagar and Anantapur districts and also served in Ministry of Finance
Ninth Gurkhas Observes its 200 years of Raising in Secunderabad

The Ninth Gorkhas celebrated 200-years of its raising in Secunderabad, Telangana.

The first battalion of the Ninth Gorkhas was raised by the British government in 1817 as the ‘Fatehgarh Levy’.

Ninth Gorkha Rifles has a unique honour that all its battalions have been awarded the Chief of Army Staff’s Citation for exceptional performance in the line of duty.

Currently there are about 30,000 Nepalese Gorkhas serving in the seven Gorkha regiments of the Indian Army with their motto being: “Kafar hunu bhanda marnu ramro! (It's better to die than be a coward!)”.
ESIC launched Mobile Clinic Services in AP, Telangana

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana get India’s first Mobile Clinic Service which is launched by Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

This service is flagged off by The Union Minister for Labor and Employment, Bandaru Dattareya.

Each clinic will have a vehicle with a Doctor, pharmacist, attendant, driver and the necessary equipment and medicines.

The vehicle will visit two locations in a day for three hours each and conduct basic investigations.

ESI services cover 48 lakh beneficiaries through 12 lakh insured persons in Telangana. There are six ESI hospitals, 70 dispensaries, 149 panel clinics and two diagnostic centres.
Indian Science Congress To Be Held At Osmania University, Hyderabad

As per the information given by the officials of Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), 105\textsuperscript{th} Indian Science Congress is to be hosted by Osmania University (OU), Hyderabad from January 3 to 7 next year.

This is the sixth time; Osmania University (OU) will be hosting this congress. In the mean time, University is celebrating its centenary (100th) this year.

The conference will be on the theme ‘Science and Technology - Reaching the Unreached’.
Hyderabad Airport Gains 1\textsuperscript{st} Rank Worldwide in Airport Service Quality Survey

GMR led Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has secured first position in the world in the prestigious Airports Council International (ACI)-Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey in the 5-15 million passengers per annum (MPPA) category for the year 2016.

Hyderabad Airport has steadily improved its score from 4.4 in 2009 to 4.9 in 2016 measured on scale of 1 to 5.

Hyderabad Airport, running in to its 9\textsuperscript{th} year of operations, is designed to cater to 12MPPA.

It has witnessed a growth of more than 20\% in the last year with a passenger throughput of close to 15MPPA in calendar year 2016.
Besides, the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in Delhi has been ranked world’s second best airport in the category of passenger handling capacity of more than 40 million passengers annually.

The ASQ award ceremony will be held at the 27th ACI Africa/World Annual General Assembly, Conference & Exhibition in Port Louis, Mauritius from 16-18 October.
Water sharing between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana – KRMB to look after the issue

The issue in sharing of water from river Krishna between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is to be looked after by Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)

The Central government has constituted the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) to look into the issue.
Role of Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)

The main role of KRMB will be issuing water release orders from time to time based on ad-hoc arrangement.

The order must be accepted by Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for sharing Krishna river water.

The final allocation is to be made by the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal -II.

S.K.Srivastava as the chairman of Krishna River Management Board (KRMB)
Telangana Archaeologists Find World's Largest Capstone

The world's largest capstone has been discovered by the Archaeology Department of Telangana after excavating an ancient human burial site in Narmeta village, Siddipet district.

The capstone weighing 40 tonnes was so huge that required large crane to lift it.

The department is all set to undertake DNA testing of various artefacts that have been discovered at this site which will help in tracing the lineage of pre-historic humans, their food habits, lifestyle and how their population later became extinct.
Telangana passes bill to hike reservations for Muslim and STs

The Telangana legislature has passed the Telangana Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Services under the State) Bill, 2017

The bill seeks to raise substantially the reservation for backward Muslims and scheduled tribes.

The new legislation will increase the reservation for socially and educationally backward Muslims from the existing 4% to 12% and for Scheduled Tribes from 6% to 10% taking the total quotas in government jobs and educational institutions in the state much beyond the 50 % ceiling set by the Supreme Court.

The total quota in the state will now increase to 62%.
Since the reservation goes beyond the 50% ceiling set by the Supreme Court, the state government wants the centre to include the bill in the 9th schedule of the Constitution which will preclude a judicial review.

States like Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand already have reservations totalling more than 50 percent.

Reservation bills included in 9th Schedule of the Constitution protects it from judicial review.
Cabinet approves signing of Agreement for CIRDAP establishment Centre in Hyderabad

The Agreement was signed between Indian Ministry of Rural Development and Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP).

The CIRDAP centre will be setup at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad.

CIRDAP Centre in NIRD&PR premises would give NIRD&PR an advantage of having first-hand knowledge of networking with organizations specialized in rural development programmes which in turn would help in building a repository of institutional knowledge for NIRD&PR.
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad to go 100 per cent LED-lit

The Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad has become South India’s first airport and India’s second airport to convert the entire taxiway edge lights from halogen lamps to energy efficient LEDs.

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd. (GHIAL), which operates the airport, announced that it has converted the entire taxiway edge lights from halogen lamps to energy efficient LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes).

The airport currently caters to more than 15 Million Passengers annually with close to 400 daily air traffic movements.

Out of the 26,000 conventional lamps, more than 19,500 have been converted into LED, saving 2.2 Million Units of electricity per annum.
Jaitley inaugurates Telangana solar plant, Karna windmill

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has inaugurated a solar power plant of 16 MW capacity at the Ordinance Factory in Telangana’s Medak.

He also dedicated a 9 MW capacity windmill project installed at Dammur in Karnataka at a cost of Rs 53 crore by BEML.

The solar power plant at Medak has been set up at a cost of Rs 105 crore by Bharat Electronics Limited.

The plant has been set up for captive consumption of the factory, on 80 acres of spare land available with it, making it self-sufficient not only for its power requirement but also reduced carbon footprint.

With commissioning of 9MW windmill project at Dammur, BEML would be able to meet 68 per cent of its energy requirement through it.
Jaitley presented an excellence awards to various defence PSUs

The excellence award in the institutional category for 2014-15 was given to Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad.

The award for 2015-16 was conferred on Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru.

The best performance award in exports for 2014-15 was given to Goa Shipyard Limited.

The award for 2015-16 was conferred on Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru.
Telangana is the first state to have logo for vehicles driven by persons with hearing impairment

The logo is designed by the Hyderabad-based graphic designer Manikanta Annapragada.

He is the first person to obtain a driving license in the hearing impaired category.

The logo consists of a hearing impaired mark along with text saying, “Driver is deaf — Please watch out.”

The Road Transport Authority has also issued specifications for two-wheelers and four-wheelers.

The logo should be four inches tall and three inches width on the rear side, and three inches tall and two inches wide on the front of two-wheelers.
TELANGANA TRANSPORT

FOLLOW RADIUM STICKER SIZE OF BELOW DETAILS FOR VEHICLES FOR HEARING IMPAIRED (DEAF) PERSON.

1) TWO WHEELERS.
(A) HEIGHT 4 INCHES & WIDTH 3 INCHES FOR REAR SIDE.
(B) HEIGHT 3 INCHES & WIDTH 2 INCHES FOR FRONT SIDE.

2) FOUR WHEELERS.
A) HEIGHT 6 INCHES & WIDTH 5 INCHES FOR REAR SIDE.
B) HEIGHT 4 INCHES & WIDTH 3 INCHES FOR FRONT SIDE.

NOTE: COMPULSORY USE SIDE MIRRORS ON YOUR VEHICLES.
International Permaculture conference to be held in Hyderabad

Aranya Agricultural Alternatives, a Hyderabad-based non-governmental organisation, International Permaculture Convergence Council (IPCC) and Friends of IPC (FIPC) will organise International Permaculture Convergence (IPC) here from November 27 to December 2.

The 13th edition of IPC India will be held with the theme ‘Towards Healthy Societies’.

The five-day residential, experiential learning forum will be attended by those who have completed their Permaculture Design Course or have been referred by a Permaculture practitioner.
First Videsh Sampark held in Telangana

First outreach programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, ‘Videsh Sampark’ was hosted in Telangana.

The conference was held on May 13, 2017 in Hyderabad.

It was inaugurated by Gen. V.K. Singh - Minister of State for External Affairs.

The objective of ‘Videsh Sampark’ conference is to involve State Governments in creating awareness on the schemes and initiatives launched by Ministry of External Affairs pertaining to consular and passport services, engagement with overseas Indians, and welfare and protection of overseas Indians.

During this Videsh Sampark conference, Telangana also became first state in India where Ministry of External Affairs’ pilot 'e-Sanad' project for online attestation of documents was rolled out.
The Telangana Government has launched a digital wallet, named T-Wallet, which doesn’t charge transaction fee from consumers.

The government is planning to use the wallet, available in Google Play, for remittances under job guarantee scheme MNREGA and scholarships for students.

‘T-Wallet’, the official digital wallet of Telangana State was launched by Telangana IT Minister K.T. Rama Rao.

T-Wallet is a bi-directional. While consumers use it for public and private transactions, the government can use it to make payments to various beneficiaries.

The state has over 4,000 MeeSeva (e-governance centres) in the State and those without phones can also have wallets using these centres.
A two-factor authentication to ensure security of the wallet.

The two-factor authentication happens with Aadhaar with biometrics or Aadhaar with OTP (one-time password) to Aadhaar-linked phone number.

It also can be used over the web version. One can top up the wallet using credit or debit cards, Internet banking or through cash at MeeSeva centres.

It allows a maximum transaction of ₹1 lakh for e-KYC (know your customer) users.

For non-KYC users, the limit is set to ₹20,000.

The government has picked Transaction Analysts (TA), which secured an RBI licence to run mobile wallets, to run the wallet.
Vijaya Bank, a banking partner for the initiative, will provide an escrow account facility for Transaction Analysts.

The settlement process and merchant settlement of T-Wallet will also be handled by the bank.

The wallet supports, presently available in Android version, supports English, Telugu and Urdu.
Telangana CM announces 6-point comprehensive plan for farmers

During the occasion of State Formation Day, Telangana Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao has announced 6-point comprehensive plan for farmers on June 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2017 in Secunderabad.

The plans include the following points

1. 1.8 thousand rupees cash assistance per acre
2. 1.8 thousand rupees cash assistance per acre per annum to each farmer in the state.
3. 24*7 continuous electricity supply.
4. Formation of crop colonies and support price for their yield.
5. He also announced other welfares such as thousand rupees social security pension for single destitute women.
Incubation centre for biotech start-ups to be set up at CCMB, Hyderabad

An incubation centre for biotechnology start-ups is to be set up at the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology in Hyderabad, Telangana.

It will be supported by the NITI Aayog and will create facilities and bring in stakeholders to ensure the success of innovative ideas.

The Centre has set up the Atal Incubation Centre in the NITI Aayog to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

The CCMB is one of the 10 organisations identified to host the ‘Atal Incubation Centre’. Under this, the government will release funds of Rs 10 crore in the coming five years.

The incubation centre would engage with all the stakeholders of a biotechnology translational journey, including intellectual property agencies, regulators, seed funders, business developers, successful businessmen and research institutions.
Telangana launches single-woman pension scheme, first in India

Telangana State Government launched single-woman pension scheme across the state, thereby becoming the first state in India to launch such scheme.

Under this scheme, Telangana State Govt. will provide 1,000 financial assistance per month to single women.

The beneficiaries would get the pension in their bank accounts every month.

The government had also increased the Kalyana Laxmi and Shaadi Mubarak scheme amount from ₹50,116 to ₹75,116.
Eligibility for Single Women Pension Scheme

As per the new guidelines, the single women beneficiary should not be earning more than Rs. 1.5 Lakh annually in rural areas and Rs. 2.0 Lakh in urban areas.

The “single women” is referred to married women of at least 18 years of age who is separated from her husband.

The separation period should be at least one year.

If the women does not have proof of separation period then the details could be ascertained by a local tehsildar.

Unmarried women whose age is above 30 years in rural areas and 35 years in urban areas are also eligible to avail the benefits of single women pension scheme.
Other women who are eligible for the single women pension scheme are:

Whose husband’s are stuck in gulf countries and now in jails

Those whose families have abandoned them

Widows of farmers, handloom workers, bread earners who committed suicide or died in accidents.

There are about 2.4 Lakh single women in the state who would be benefited by the scheme as per the survey conducted by the PR & RD Department. The scheme would cost the state government approximately Rs. 34 Crore per month.

In case the single women remarries and or gets the permanent employment or economic stability, the scheme benefits would be discontinued
Telangana launches Pashu Bazar website for online Cattle sale

The farmers of Telangana will soon be able to sell and purchase cattle online.

The website is called pashubazar.telangana.gov.in and has been developed by the Animal Husbandry department of the Telangana government.

The sellers can post a picture of the animal along with basic details. A maximum of five animals can be registered for sale at any given time. If he wants to add another, he has to cancel one registration.

The site will keep each registration for 30 days after which the registration will be removed automatically.

The farmers have the option of selling buffaloes, bullocks, cows, dogs, goats and sheep.
Veteran Telugu Poet, Writer C Narayana Reddy Passes Away

Legendary Telugu poet and writer C Narayana Reddy passed away in Hyderabad. He was 85.

He had several publications to his credit which include poems, songs, lyrical dramas, ballets, essays, travelogues, ghazals - original and in translation - and literary criticism.

He was honoured with Padma Shri in 1977 and Padma Bhushan in 1992 by Government of India.

He had received the Jnanpith Award for the year 1988.

He was also the president of the Telangana Saraswatha Parishath.

He was also a former Rajya Sabha MP.
Congress MP Palvai Govardhan Reddy dies

Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member from Telangana Palvai Govardhan Reddy passed away at age of 80.

He was suffering from a cardiac arrest near Kullu in Himachal Pradesh.

A five-time MLA in Andhra Pradesh before the bifurcation of the state, Reddy, elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2012, was a member of several committees.
Janahitha grievance redressal system launched in Telangana

Telangana government has launched a portal “Janahitha” grievance redressal system. This portal will receive complaints from the public.

The programme was inaugurated in Suryapet district by Telangana Energy minister G Jagadish Reddy.

Developed by the State Information Technology, E&C department, ‘Janahitha’, an integrated grievance redressal management system aims at expediting complaint resolution through continuous monitoring at a centralised cell.

The portal also serves information on the various schemes the users could avail.

A call centre set up for the purpose will act as the support station and receives grievances from complainants in simpler forms – an SMS, e-mail or a call after the user completes a one-time registration.
The users also have an option to send photos through WhatsApp supporting their grievances, and their complaints can be tracked using a Grievance Unique Number (GUN) till its resolution.

Complainants can reach the call centre everyday, Monday to Saturdays (excepting 2nd and 4th) between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. at 9494181920 and by e-mail on janahitha@telangana.gov.in

The one-time registration can be done on the portal www.janahitha.telangana.gov.in
Telangana reduces 'education burden', caps school bag weight

According to the Government Order, the maximum weight of a school bag with textbooks and notebooks should not exceed 1.5 kg for Class I and II and 2 to 3 kg for Classes III to V.

The Telangana government has capped the weight of their school bags between 1.5 kg and 5 kg.

According to some estimates, schoolchildren currently carry bags weighing anywhere between 6 kg and 12 kg at primary level and up to 17 kg at high school level.

Government has also barred schools from assigning homework to students of primary grades--I to V.

For Classes VI and VII, the weight should not exceed 4 kg and for Classes VIII and IX
Back-breaking regimen

- School bags should not weigh more than: Class I & II - 1.5 kg, Class III to V - 3 kg, Class VI to VII - 4 kg, Class VII to IX - 4.5 kg, and Class X - 5 kg.

- Number of textbooks should not exceed the number prescribed by SCERT.

- Schools should not prescribe additional textbooks.

- Bags must be checked to ensure students are not carrying unnecessary material.

- Recreation and physical activity is the right of the children.

- No homework for students in Class I to V.
India's first university only for Dalit students to come up in Hyderabad by 2018

Telangana is the first state to build India’s first university for Dalit students by 2018.

The university will be a part of the government’s policy of providing education free of cost to students from weaker sections from kindergarten to post-graduation (KG to PG) level.

The objective of establishing an university for Dalit students is to provide them a comprehensive education, so that they would come out as complete and knowledgeable citizens.

The proposal was bring up by a government arm – Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS).

The medium of instruction in all our institutions from schooling to graduation is English.
Telangana IPS officer Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat gets award from US state department

Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat, an IPS Officer from Telangana has been conferred with the 2017 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report Heroes Award by the US state department.

Mr. Bhagwat, the current Rachakonda Police Commissioner is the third IPS officer to get the honour.

Mr Bhagwat was recognised for his vital role in elevating human trafficking as a government priority, and his innovative approach to investigating cases and dismantling trafficking operations.
Under his command, Rachakonda police closed 25 brothels-five hotels and 20 residential apartments-in less than a year and participated in one of the largest crackdowns on labor trafficking in the country, which led to the identification and removal of more than 350 children forced to work in brick kilns.

He has demonstrated remarkable commitment to the fight against organised human trafficking for the last 13 years
Hyderabad-headquartered Water Health wins Unilever Global Development Award

Water Health International (WHI), a US-based company with operating headquarters in Hyderabad, has been awarded the Unilever Global Development Award at the 20th Responsible Business Awards ceremony, held in London.

WHI has been awarded for its endeavours in providing clean, safe and affordable drinking water to marginalised communities in India, Ghana and Nigeria.

The Unilever Global Development Award recognises companies that demonstrate positive impact in one or more of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Initiatives for tackling poverty, climate change and inequality.

The award is an annual event organised by the Business in the Community (BITC), a part of the Prince of Wales' Responsible Business Network.
In a first, Telangana to have eco-friendly bridges for movement of tigers

The Indian state of Telangana will have eco-friendly bridges for easy movement of tigers.

The Telangana Irrigation Department has already given permit for the construction of the eco-bridges.

The recommendations on the size and locations of the bridges are awaited from the National Board of Wildlife.

Telangana will have eco-friendly bridges over a canal cutting across the tiger corridor linking the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) in the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra with the forests in Telangana's Kumram Bheem Asifabad district.

The eco-bridges will be constructed at key spots along the 72 km-long right flank canal of the Pranahita barrage in the Bejjur and Dahegaon mandals.
Telangana government launches 181 helpline for distressed women

Department of Women Development and Child Welfare in collaboration with Hyderabad District Collectorate launched a Women Helpline 181 to help and assist women in distress.

A budget of Rs 35 lakh has been sanctioned by the ministry of women development and child welfare in this regard.

The helpline will support women affected by harassment, trauma and violence both in private and public spaces such as family, community and workplace.

The helpline will function 24*7 and provide service to women affected by violence, women seeking emotional support and also provide information about women welfare schemes introduced by the State and Central government.

Women Helpline is being launched with the technical support of GVK-EMRI and it is financially supported by Union government.
India’s first private missile sub systems production facility inaugurated at Hyderabad

India’s first private sector missile sub-systems manufacturing facility, a joint venture between the $2.5 billion Kalyani Group and Israel’s Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd., was inaugurated near Hyderabad, Telangana.

The Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems (KRAS) plant will make anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) Spike

KRAS is a 24,000-sq ft facility, located about 40 km from Hyderabad and is close to the new international airport.

The project has been set up in a record time, and is considered first such facility which makes missile systems by a private player in India.
Telangana CM chosen for agriculture leadership award

According to a statement from the Chief Minister’s Office the Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao has been selected for the prestigious Agriculture Leadership Award-2017

The Chief Minister has been selected for the award for his innovative services rendered to the welfare of farmers and the farm sector.

The award, instituted by Indian Council of Food and Agriculture in 2008, is presented every year since then.
Amazon India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Telangana Department of Handloom and Textiles.

It was signed to educate, train and enable weavers and artisans to directly sell their products to Amazon customers across the country.

This association will help to elevate popular handloom products from clusters such as are Pochampally, Warangal, Gadwal, Narayanpet and Siddipet which have a tremendous potential and demand in urban areas.

Its aim is to transform the lives of weavers and artisans and raise their standard of living.
Spanish pharma MNC to invest 500 cr in Telangana State.

Chemo Group, a multinational pharma company from Spain announced plans for investing about Rs 500 crore in phases on setting up formulations and R&D facility in Telangana.

The Madrid-based MNC opened a new formulations facility established with an investment of Rs 100 crore at Genome Valley on the city outskirts.

The new facility has both formulations manufacturing as well as research and development.

This is the first phase development from our company. It will invest about Rs 500 crore in three phases over next four to five years.
Telangana is second in farmer’s suicide

As many as 1,990 farmers have committed suicide in Telangana state during the last two years, the government admitted in a report submitted to the Rajya Sabha Committee on Government Assurances.

The NCRB data showed that the highest number of farmer suicides occurred in Maharashtra (3,030), Telangana state (1,358), Karnataka (1,197), Chhattisgarh (854) and Madhya Pradesh (516).

Countrywide, bankruptcy and indebtedness were the major causes of these suicides in 2015, registering an almost three-fold increase (3,097), compared to 2014 (1,163).
Karimnagar set to be irrigation hub of Telangana

The erstwhile Karimnagar district, which was the epi-centre of Telangana movement, is now likely to be emerge as the irrigation hub of State with the existing irrigation projects and the ongoing new irrigation projects, including the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project.

Karimnagar district is called the North Godavari district in terms of production of paddy with the availability of water from the Godavari through the existing Sriramsagar Project, Lower Manair Dam, Upper Manair Dam, SSRSP flood flow canal, Sripada Yellampalli project major irrigation projects.
Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme Telangana for SC/ST/BC Girl’s Marriage.

Telangana govt. is implementing Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme in the state since 2014 to provide financial assistance to SC/ST girl’s marriage.

The state govt. is offering around Rs. 75000 cheque on girl marriage who belongs to SC/ST family and minority communities.

Previously, the amount under the Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme was Rs. 50000 but recently, this amount has been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 75,000 by the State government.

The state government has now included brides from backward classes (BC) and economically backward sections to provide scheme benefits at par with the brides belonging to SC, ST and minority communities.
In the last fiscal year, Over 40,000 young girls from the backward classes and economically backward sections have taken the benefit of the scheme.

**Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme Highlights**

The applicant should have permanent residence in the state.

The minimum age of the scheme beneficiary must be **18 years**.

Annual household income should be **less than Rs. 2 lakh in urban areas**.

In rural areas annual household income **should be less than Rs. 1.5 lakh**.

In the budget, the state government has already made an announcement of around 400 crores for the Kalyana Lakshmi Scheme.
Driver Empowerment Programme in Telangana

Telangana state government has launched a new programme for the empowerment of drivers in the state.

Under the scheme, SC/ST/BC and minority drivers would be provided skill enhancement training, assistance for placement and financial help for the purchase of vehicle.

The state government is inviting online applications for the scheme through its official website at tsobmms.cgg.gov.in

To apply online for driver enhancement programme, the candidates should have minimum qualification of class VIII (8th) pass.
The annual household income of the candidate should not exceed Rs. 1.5 Lakh in rural areas and Rs. 2 Lakh in urban areas.

The applicants who have appeared in SSC exams (Pass or Fail) will be given preferences under the scheme.

The applicants should also have a valid driving LMV license issued by RTA on or before 31st December 2015.

Candidates having licence with transport badge will be given preference.
Free Lunch Scheme for Intermediate Students in Telangana.

As per the announcement, the intermediate students in the state would be provided free lunch starting from the coming academic year under the scheme.

The students studying in 444 government junior colleges would be served free lunch under the scheme.

There are about 2 Lakh intermediate students which will be benefited by the scheme

The scheme will help the poor students get a healthy lunch for free and contribute to their overall development.

The scheme will also encourage more students getting enrolled in the government junior colleges across the state.
2BHK Housing Scheme Telangana

2 BHK Housing scheme is a flagship scheme of Telangana Government to provide affordable 2BHK houses to eligible beneficiaries in the state.

The state government has already completed the construction of about 80,000 homes in the financial year 2015-16 under the 2BHK housing scheme.

In the year 2016-17, the state government has set a target of building 1.4 Crore 2BHK homes under the scheme.

Each house being constructed under the 2BHK housing scheme will consist of 2 Bedrooms, 1 Hall, One Kitchen and Two toilets with a plinth area of 560 Sq.ft.
The estimated cost of the house is Rs. 5.30 Lakh in urban area excluding the infrastructure cost.

The pattern of the housing units construction would be G+1 to G+9 based upon the type of land at site of construction.
Telangana announces welfare fund for armed forces

Telangana government announced setting up of an Army Welfare Fund for the benefit of families of serving, retired and martyred soldiers.

CM unveiled several measures including setting up of a Rs 80 crore Army welfare fund, massive increase in cash awards for Army personnel winning gallantry medals and a host of other concessions.

Cabinet colleagues would make an annual contribution of Rs 25,000 each for the fund, while legislators from the state would contribute Rs 10,000 each.

The CM also announced massive increase in cash rewards for Army personnel from the state who win gallantry medals. Army personnel from the state winning Param Vir Chakra and Ashok Chakra will get Rs 2.25 crore (Punjab pays the highest at Rs 2 crore), Mahavir Chakra and Kirti Chakra Rs 1.25 crore (Punjab Rs 1 crore).
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