

QUICK REVIEW OF AUGUST 2015

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **1-7 August** - World Breastfeeding Week
- **2nd August** - Friendship Day
- **6th August** - 70th anniversary of Hiroshima Atomic bombing
- **7th August** - First National Handloom Day
- **8th August** - International Cat Day
- **9th August** - 73rd Anniversary of the Quit India Movement
- **9th August** - 70 years for Nagasaki Atomic Bombing
- **9th August** - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- **10th August** - World Bio-Fuel Day
- **12th August** - International Youth Day
- **12th August** - World Elephant Day
- **13th August** - Organ Donation Day
- **13th August** - International Left-handers Day
- **14th August** - Independence Day of Pakistan
- **15th August** - 69th Independence Day of India
- **17th August** - Independence Day of Indonesia
- **17th August** - Independence Day of Gabon (Gabonese Republic)
- **19th August** - World Photography Day
- **20th August** - World Mosquito Day
- **26th August** - Women's Equality Day
- **29th August** - National Sports Day
- **29th August** - Sanskrit Diwas
- **29th August** - Telugu Language Day (*Telugu Bhasha Dinotsavam*)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- **Acharya Dev Vrat** - Governor, Himachal Pradesh
- **Ajit Kumar Seth** - Chairman, Public Enterprises Selection Board(PESB)
- **Amitabh Bachchan** - Ambassador, Maharashtra's new Tiger Conservation
- **Amitabh Mattoo** - J& K CM (Mufti Mohammad Sayeed)
- **Amitava Ghosh** - Vice President (Engineering), Snapdeal

- **Amol Palekar** - Chairman, India's Oscar jury
- **Anindya Basu** - MD, Accenture India
- **Anjuly Chib Duggal** - Secretary, Financial Services
- **Anupam Kher** - Ambassador, HeforShe (UN's Gender Equality Campaign)
- **Arun Goel** - Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority (DDA)
- **Ashish Dasgupta** - ED, Air India Engineering services Ltd (AIESL)
- **Ashwani Lohani** - CMD, Air India
- **Atul Keshap** - U.S. Ambassador, Sri Lanka and Maldives
- **Francois Carrard** - Head, FIFA reform taskforce
- **Hasmukh Adhia** - Secretary, Revenue
- **J.L.N. Murthy** - Vice chairman, American Bar Association
- **Jayant Patel** - Acting Chief Justice, Gujarat High Court
- **Jethabhai Patel** - Chairman, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF)
- **Karnal Singh** - Director, Enforcement Directorate (ED)
- **Kishor Piraji Kharat** - MD & CEO, IDBI
- **Om Prakash Rawat** - New Election Commissioner [Note : With Rawat's appointment the **three-member ECI has been filled**, other two members are **Nasim Zaidi** (Chief Election Commissioner) and **A K Joti** (EC)]
- **Raghav Chandra** - Chairman, National Highways Authority of India
- **Rajiv Mangla** - CTO, Snapdeal
- **Ram Nath Kovind** - Governor, Bihar
- **Ranil Wickremesinghe** - Prime Minister, Sri Lanka
- **Rekha Menon** - First woman head in India, Accenture
- **Rohit Nandan** - Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- **Roland S. Folge** - MD & CEO, Mercedes India
- **Sachin Tendulkar** - Ambassador, Maharashtra's new Tiger Conservation
- **Sanjay Jalona** - MD and CEO, L&T (Larsen & Toubro) Infotech
- **Sebastian Coe** - President, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)

- **Shaktikanta Das** - Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs
- **Sunder Pichai** - CEO, Google
- **Sunil Arora** - Secretary, Information and Broadcasting
- **Tapan Ray** - Secretary, Corporate Affairs
- **Vassiliki Thanou** - Caretaker Prime Minister, Greece
- **Vinod Zutshi** - Secretary, Tourism
- **Recently appointed New Heads of Five Nationalized Banks**
 - **Bank of Baroda** - **P S Jayakumar**
 - **Bank of India** - M O Rego
 - **Canara Bank** - **Rakesh Sharma**
 - **IDBI Bank** - Kishore Piraji Kharat
 - **Punjab National Bank** - Usha Ananthasubramanian
- **Important Note** : For the First Time, the union government has appointed **TWO Private Sector Banking Professionals** (marked in red) to head the Public Sector Banks (BOB and Canara Bank)

DEATHS

- **Arthur Morris** - Australian cricket legend
- **Bhalchandra Pendharkar** - Veteran Marathi stage actor
- **Colonel Harwant Singh** - World War II Hero
- **Dr.M. M. Kalburgi** - Senior Kannada Writer
- **George Cole** - Hollywood Actor
- **Jagannath Singh** - Former MP Minister
- **Julian Bond** - US civil rights activist
- **Kayyara Kinhanna Rai** - Kannada Poet, freedom fighter
- **Lynn Anderson (Rose Garden)** - Grammy Award Winning Singer
- **Niloy Neel** - Bangladeshi blogger
- **Om Prakash Munjal** - founder of Hero Cycle
- **Paravoor Bharathan** - Malayalam actor
- **Suvra Mukherjee** - 1st Lady of India (President Pranab Mukherjee's Wife)

AWARDS & HONORS

- **Amalendu Krishna** - Ramanujan Prize for 2015
- **Balwant Moreshwar Purandare** - Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2015
- **D Parulekar (Goa Tourism Minister)** - PATWA Award 2015
- **Dr Modadugu Vijay Gupta** - first Sunhak Peace Prize
- **Dr. M. Veerappa Moily** - Saraswati Sammaan 2014
- **Jot Singh** - Tenzing Norgay national adventure award
- **Kashinath Singh** - Bharat Bharti literary award 2014
- **Mustansir Barma** - 2015 Gujar Mal Modi Innovative Science and Technology Award
- **N. Valarmathi** - 1st APJ Abdul Kalam award
- **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)** - Esri Special Achievement in GIS Award 2015
- **Novak Djokovic** - Goodwill Ambassador, UNICEF
- **Queen Elizabeth** - Longest reigning monarch, Britain
- **Raghavendra Gadagkar** - Germany's Cross of Order of the Merit Award
- **Rajan Vishal** - Best Electoral Practices Award 2014 (EC)
- **Zaina Erhaim** - 2015 Peter Mackler Award
- **Zhanna Nemtsova** - Poland's Solidarity Prize 2015
- **Zia Haider Rahman** - James Tait Black Award 2015

Kirthi Charka Awardees

- Shri Nectar Sanjenbam
- Shri Rajesh Kumar (Posthumous)

Shaurya Chakra Awardees

- Shri Munindra Nath Rai(Posthumous)
- Shri Maj Tanuj Grover
- Shri Varun Kumar Singh
- Shri Man bahadur Chhetri
- Shri Milind Mohan Mokashi
- Shri Sandeep Singh
- Shri Mohd Shafi Sheikh (Posthumous)
- Shri Reyaz Ahmad (Posthumous)
- Shri Hira Kumar Jha (Posthumous)

Kerala film awards 2014 for Malayalam movies

- **Best actor:** Nivin Pauly (Bangalore Days and 1983), Sudev Nair (My Life Partner).
- **Best actress:** Nasriya Naseem (Om Shanthi Hosana and Bangalore Days).
- **Best child actor:** Master Adwaith.
- **Best child actress:** Anna Fathima.
- **Best male playback singer:** K.J. Yesudas
- **Best female playback singer:** Shreya Ghoshaal.
- **Best Director:** Sanalkumar Sasidharan (OraalPokkam)

National Sports Awards 2014-15

- **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** - Sania Mirza
- **Dronacharya Awards**
 - **Naval Singh** - Athletics (Javelin throw) Para-sports coach.
 - **Anoop Singh** - Wrestling coach
 - **Harbans Singh** - Athletics coach
 - **Swatantar Raj Singh** - Boxing coach
 - **Nihar Ameen** - Swimming coach
- **Arjuna Awards**
 - **Sandeep Kumar**- Archery
 - **M R Poovamma**- Athletics (4X400 metres relay)
 - **Kidambi Srikanth**- Badminton
 - **Mandeep Jangra**- Boxing
 - **Rohit Sharma**- Cricket
 - **Dipa Karmakar**- Gymnastics
 - **Sreejesh P R**- Hockey
 - **Manjeet Chhillar**- Kabaddi
 - **Abhilasha Mhatre**- Kabaddi
 - **Swaran Singh**- Rowing
 - **Anup Kumar Yama**- Roller Skating
 - **Jitu Rai**- Shooting
 - **Sathish Kumar**- Weightlifting
 - **Bajrang**- Wrestling
 - **Babita Kumari**- Wrestling
 - **Y Sanathoi Devi**- Wushu
 - **Sharath M Gayakwad**- Para-Swimming
- **Dhyan Chand Award**
 - **Romeo James**- Hockey
 - **Shiv Prakash Mishra**- Tennis
 - **P Nair**- Volleyball

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2015

- Directorate General of Military Training (DGMT)
- Coal India Limited (CIL)
- Haryana State Police
- Sports Coaching Foundation (SCF)

Ramon Magsaysay Awardees 2015

- **Anshu Gupta** - India
- **Sanjeev Chaturvedi** - India
- **Kommaly Chanthavong** - Laos
- **Ligaya Fernando** - Philippines
- **Kyaw Thu** - Myanmar

Forbes Richest Tech Billionaires

- **1st** - Bill Gates (Microsoft)
- **2nd** - Ellison (Oracle)
- **3rd** - Jeff Bezos (Amazon)
- **4th** - Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook)
- **5th** - Larry Page (Google)
- **13th** - Azim Premji (Wipro)
- **14th** - Shiv Nadar (HCL)

Census 2011 data on Population by Religious Communities released by Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India (RGI)

- **Population Of religious communities: Total Population in 2011 is 121.09 crores**
 - Hindu 96.63 crores (79.8%)
 - Muslim 17.22 crores (14.2%)
 - Christian 2.78 crores (2.3%)
 - Sikh 2.08 crores (1.7%)
 - Buddhist 0.84 crores (0.7%)
 - Jain 0.45 crores (0.4%)
 - Other Religions & Persuasions (ORP) 0.79 crores (0.7%)
 - Religion Not Stated 0.29 crores (0.2%)
- **Growth rate of population of the different religious communities in the same period was :**
 - Hindus-- 16.8%
 - Muslim-- 24.6%
 - Christian-- 15.5%
 - Sikh- 8.4%
 - Buddhist-- 6.1% / Jain – 5.4%

AUGUST 2015 – HIGHLIGHTS (ONE-LINERS)

- 10th World Hindi Conference (WHC) will be held from 10th to 12th September 2015.
- A global satellite for earth observation and disaster risk reduction — GlobalSat for DRR — proposed under the UN framework is to be renamed as UN Kalam GlobalSat in the memory of to A.P.J. Abdul Kalam who died on July 27th.
- Ace Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar clinched the women's vault bronze medal at the 6th Senior ART Gymnastics Asian Championships in Hiroshima.
- Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal regains the No. 1 spot in World Badminton Rankings.
- After 36 years, the Indian Women Hockey Team Makes History by getting into 2016 Rio Olympics.
- Archer Abhishek Verma clinches Gold medal in Archery World Cup.
- As a consumer friendly initiative, the Petroleum Ministry launched a scheme SAHAJ for online release of new LPG connections for the consumers.
- Asia's biggest telescope MAST was inaugurated at Udaipur Solar Observatory in Rajasthan.
- Bangladesh wins Under-16 SAFF Championship for the first time.
- China has successfully tested the power system of a Long March-5 carrier, stated to be the largest space launch vehicle that will be used in the Chang'e-5 lunar mission around 2017.
- China reduces interest rates by 0.25 percent to calm stock markets and boost growth.
- Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has launched a Mobile App named flyDel to serve the passengers by providing real-time flight information and access to all passengers' facilities available at the airport in Delhi.
- Google has unveiled a surprise restructuring, creating a new parent company called Alphabet Inc.
- Government identifies 305 cities and towns across nine states for implementation of Housing for All Scheme with total investment of over two Lakh crore rupees.
- Gujarat becomes the first state in the country to launch 'Agro-Solar Policy' to encourage the farmers to tap the solar energy.
- Gujarat has announced a ban on the use of plastic in the state.
- ICICI Bank has announced a new home loan proposition, 'ICICI Bank Saral-Rural Housing Loan', with a special interest rate.
- India gets its first private bank in 11 years with Finance Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurating "Bandhan Bank" as a full-fledged scheduled commercial bank.
- India retains its top spot as the world's largest exporter of beef, according to data released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and has extended its lead over the next highest exporter, Brazil.
- India successfully places its latest communication satellite GSAT-6 in the orbit.
- India's third largest private sector lender, Axis Bank has launched the first Contactless Debit, Credit and Multi-Currency Forex Card in association with VISA the payments gateway company in the country.
- Indian squash player Joshna Chinappa wins Victorian Open Squash title in Melbourne.
- Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj was on a two-day visit to Egypt.
- Indian Golfer Aditi Ashok made history by becoming the first Indian to win the Ladies British Amateur stroke play golf championship at the Moortown Golf Club, Leeds (UK).
- Indian golfer Anirban Lahiri has created history after he finished tied Fifth at the PGA Championships.
- India's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a mobile wallet app, SBI Buddy, in collaboration with Accenture and MasterCard.
- Iran unveiled Fateh-313, a short-range solid fuel Surface-to-Surface ballistic missile.

- Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif was on a visit to India.
- Japan has restarted its controversial nuclear power program after a shutdown triggered by the 2011 Fukushima crisis, as the government pushes to return to a cheaper energy source despite widespread public opposition.
- Kerala government declared the state as Complete Digital State.
- Kerala's First IIT Started Functioning at Palakkad
- Micro-blogging platform Twitter has announced that it has increased the Direct Message (DM) limit to 10,000 characters from the existing 140, enabling the users to send longer private messages to friends.
- Modi announced a "Special Package" of Rs 1,25,000 crore for Bihar.
- Mysore (Karnataka) has topped the Swachh Bharat rankings among 476 cities in the country with three more places from Karnataka figuring in the top 10.
- Nepal has started issuing passports to sexual minorities, adding a third-gender category in the passports.
- NITI Aayog launched the second version of the India Energy Security Scenarios 2047 calculator (IESS 2047), an open source web based tool.
- Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan was on a three-day visit to Khatmandu (Nepal).
- Pakistan has banned the Islamic State militant group that has overrun vast stretches of Iraq and Syria after repeatedly denying the dreaded outfit's presence within its territory.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Two-Day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- Punjabi University of Patiala has clinched the prestigious sports award Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) trophy for year 2014.
- Ranveer Singh Saini created history by becoming the first Indian to win a gold medal at the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles.
- Republic of the Seychelles President James Alix Michel was on three-day visit to India.
- Saina Nehwal has signed a two-year deal with leading sports management group, IOS Sports & Entertainment.
- Scottish professional tennis player Andy Murray has won Rogers Cup Masters Tournament 2015 by beating Novak Djokovic.
- Singapore commemorates 50 years since it became an independent state.
- South Sudan becomes Olympic movement's 206th member
- Sri Lankan cricketer Kumara Sangakkara bids farewell to International cricket.
- Swiss professional tennis player Roger Federer beat world number one Novak Djokovic to win his seventh Cincinnati Masters title.
- The 'nendran' banana variety, 'Chengalikodan', has been accorded the Geographical Indication (GI) status.
- The Assam Assembly has unanimously passed the Assam Witch Hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill, 2015 making any offence under the Act as non-bailable, cognizable and non-compoundable to eliminate the superstition from society.
- The Centre has declared Second and Fourth Saturdays of a month as holidays for the bank employees.
- The Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL) has become the first airport in the country to be fully powered by solar power.
- The Employment Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) marked its stock market debut through Exchange Traded Funds of SBI Mutual Fund.
- The Haryana Government has inaugurated Women Police Stations in all the 21 districts on the eve of Rakshabandhan.
- The Indian women's recurve archery team of Deepika Kumari, Laxmirani Majhi and Rimil Buriuly won Silver in World Archery Championship.

- The Rajasthan High Court today banned Jain ritual of 'Santhara' making it punishable under section 306 and 309 IPC (Abetment of Suicide).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to extend repayment period of farm loan upto 5 years in case 50% crop is damaged due to natural calamities like drought and flood.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed the banks to shift, merge or close all their branches except rural branches and sole semi-urban branches at their own discretion.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) names country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) and biggest private lender ICICIBank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).
- The Second Summit of FIPIC (Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation) began in Jaipur.
- The Taj Mahal has made it to the top five of a prestigious new list of the World's Best tourist attractions.
- The tallest mountain in North America, Mount McKinley (20,000 feet), is to be renamed as Denali.
- The Union Cabinet extended the deadline for the 7th Commission to submit its recommendations by four months.
- To provide healthcare facilities in rural areas, the government launched "Sehat", a telemedicine initiative in collaboration with Apollo Hospitals.

The Reserve Bank of India has kept its key policy rates unchanged in its third bi-monthly monetary policy review on 4th August 2015

Current RBI Rates 2015 (As on 4th August 2015)

S. No	Rates / Reserve Ratios	%	W.e.f
1	Bank Rate	8.25%	2 nd June 2015
2	Repo Rate	7.25%	2 nd June 2015
3	Reverse Repo Rate	6.25%	2 nd June 2015
4	Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4.00%	9 th February 2013
5	Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	21.50%	3 rd February 2015
6	Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)	8.25%	2 nd June 2015

All the Best 😊