

# Current Affairs: 17th Jan, 2025

## National News

### 1. Empowering Women and Startups



On the 9th Foundation Day of Startup India, Piyush Goyal launched the PRABHAAV Factbook and Bharat Startup Challenge. These initiatives aim to encourage women entrepreneurs and support startups in smaller cities to drive innovation and economic growth.

### 2. Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025



**Beyond Boundaries: Co-creating  
Future Automotive Value Chain**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Bharat Mobility Global Expo, India's largest mobility event. This expo focuses on sustainable transportation, innovation in mobility solutions, and collaboration among global stakeholders.

### 3. RSS Launches 'One Plate, One Bag' Campaign



Ahead of Maha Kumbh 2025, the RSS introduced an eco-friendly campaign to reduce plastic use. This initiative promotes the use of sustainable alternatives like biodegradable plates and cloth bags during the grand religious gathering.

#### 4. Mahamrityunjaya Yantra Installed in Prayagraj



The world's tallest Mahamrityunjaya Yantra, standing at 52 feet, was unveiled at Tapovan Ashram in Prayagraj. It symbolizes spiritual harmony and is part of preparations for the upcoming Maha Kumbh 2025.

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## State News

#### 5. Archaeological Experiential Museum Opens in Gujarat



Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a museum in Vadnagar, Gujarat, showcasing 2,500 years of the city's archaeological and cultural history. This museum uses advanced technology to create an immersive experience for visitors.

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## Banking News

### 6. Shriram Housing Finance Rebrands as Truhome Finance



Shriram Housing Finance, now renamed Truhome Finance after its acquisition by Warburg Pincus, aims to focus on innovative and customer-centric housing finance solutions.

### 7. PNB MetLife and Saraswat Bank Join Hands



*Mitkar life aage badhain*



PNB MetLife collaborated with Saraswat Bank, offering its 30 lakh customers access to a range of life insurance products. This partnership strengthens financial inclusion in the insurance sector.

#### 8. New Leadership in Public Sector Banks



Ashok Chandra has been appointed as MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank, while Binod Kumar has taken over as the head of Indian Bank. These appointments are expected to enhance leadership in the banking sector.

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## Economy News

#### 9. FICCI Revises India's GDP Growth Forecast



FICCI has projected India's GDP to grow by 6.4% in FY 2024-25, with inflation estimated at 4.8%. This optimistic forecast is based on strong domestic demand and favorable economic policies.

#### 10. World Bank Predicts India's Economic Growth



The World Bank forecasts India's economy will grow at 6.7% annually in FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27. This growth is attributed to robust economic fundamentals and structural reforms.

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## Agreements News

#### 11. C-DOT and IIT Bombay Partner for 6G Development



C-DOT has joined forces with IIT Bombay to create an affordable 6G optical chipset. This collaboration aims to develop high-speed, low-cost, and energy-efficient wireless communication technologies.

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## Appointments News

### 12. Justice Krishnan Vinod Chandran Joins Supreme Court



Justice Krishnan Vinod Chandran's appointment as a Supreme Court judge brings the total number of judges to 33. His inclusion is expected to expedite pending cases and strengthen the judiciary.

### 13. Vineet Joshi Becomes Higher Education Secretary



Renowned bureaucrat Vineet Joshi has been appointed as the Secretary of Higher Education. He is known for his reforms in education and is expected to focus on implementing the National Education Policy (NEP).

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## Science & Technology News

### 14. ISRO to Build Third Launchpad at Sriharikota



ISRO has received approval to establish its third launch pad at Sriharikota. This facility will support advanced space missions, including human spaceflights and lunar explorations.

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## Sports News

### 15. PV Sindhu Signs Deal with PUMA India





Indian badminton star PV Sindhu has partnered with PUMA India in a multi-year deal. This collaboration aims to promote badminton and enhance the sports brand's visibility in India.

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## Awards News

### 16. T.V. Gopalakrishnan Receives RK Srikantan Trust Award



Veteran musician T.V. Gopalakrishnan has been honored with the prestigious RK Srikantan Trust Award for his exceptional contribution to Indian classical music and cultural preservation.