

Sri Maheshwari CCE Persons in News-2015

- **Jaishankar:** S Jaishankar, India's Ambassador to the US, has been appointed Foreign Secretary, replacing Sujatha Singh
- **Shekhar Sen:** Eminent singer, actor, theatre director, composer and lyricist ShekharSen has been appointed as the Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA)
- **Arundhati Subramaniam:** Poet Arundhati Subramaniam on 24th January won the inaugural Khushwant Singh Memorial Prize for Poetry for her work When God is a Traveller.
- **Saraswathi Menon:** United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has appointed Indian sociologist Saraswathi Menon to a panel that will review peace building activities.
- **Anupam Shrivastava:** BSNL said on 16th January that Anupam Shrivastava has taken charge as the company's new Chairman and Managing Director.
- **Arvind Panagariya:** Economist Arvind Panagariya will be the first vice-chairman of the **National Institution for Transforming India (Niti) Aayog**, which will have two full-time members -- economist **Bibek Debroy** and former **DRDO chief VK Saraswat**
- **Sathiyavathy:** The Centre has appointed M. Sathiyavathy as the director-general of civil aviation.
- **Mittal:** A.K. Mittal was appointed as the new Chairman of Railway Board succeeding Arunendra Kumar
- **Kshatrapati shivaji:** Kshatrapati Shivaji, a 1986 batch IAS officer, has taken over as the Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- **Deepika Misra and Sandeep Singh:** Deepika Misra, a pilot and Flight Lieutenant Sandeep Singh, an engineering officer, have become the first women to join the **IAF's helicopter display team Sarang**.
- **Tapan Misra:** Eminent scientist **Tapan Misra** has been appointed the chief of Isro's Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad.
- **Vikas Swarup:** Senior Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer and noted novelist Vikas Swarup of Slumdog Millionaire-fame will be the new spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs
- **M.O. Garg:** The director of Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun, Dr. M.O. Garg takes charge as the new Director General of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)
- **K.M. Mani:** Kerala Finance Minister K.M. Mani was selected by the Union government to head the Empowered **Committee of State Finance Ministers on Goods and Services Tax (GST)**.
- **Aditi Arya:** Gurgaon girl Aditi Arya was crowned Femina Miss India 2015 at the 52nd edition of the beauty pageant.
- **Ramachandran:** Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president N. Ramachandran has been appointed vice-chair of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) international relations commission
- **Ratan Tata:** Noted industrialist Ratan Tata will head a new innovative council of Indian Railways, called 'Kaya Kalp'.
- **Draupadi Murmu** on 18th May took oath as the ninth Governor of Jharkhand, the first tribal woman to occupy the position in the State.
- **AK Singh:** Arun Kumar Singh, currently India's envoy to France, has been appointed the next ambassador to the US
- **Ahluwalia :** Former Union Minister and BJP MP S.S. Ahluwalia was appointed chairman of a Joint Committee of Parliament that will go into the provisions of the controversial land acquisition Bill
- **Christopher:** Eminent scientist S Christopher was appointed as Director General of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for a two-year term.
- **Nasim Zaidi:** Nasim Zaidi has taken over as the Chief Election Commissioner of India on 19th April.
- **Ravi Narain:** The RBI has appointed Ravi Narain, Vice-Chairman, National Stock Exchange of India Limited, as a member of the External Advisory Committee (EAC) for evaluating applications of Small Finance Banks

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- **Joseph:** The government appointed M. J. Joseph as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA)
- **Vivek Priyadarshi:** The Supreme Court appointed CBI SP Vivek Priyadarshi to head a new investigating team to further probe the IPL-6 spot-fixing and betting scandal.
- **V. Shanmuganthan:** V. Shanmuganthan was sworn-in as the Governor of Meghalaya
- **Ashok Lahiri:** The Finance Ministry has constituted a committee headed by Justice AP Shah to look into the issue of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) on Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs). Apart from Justice Shah, Girish Ahuja and Ashok Lahiri are members of the panel.
- **K.V. Kamath:** Eminent banker K.V. Kamath was on 11th May appointed as head of the 50 billion dollars New Development Bank being set up by the five emerging economies of BRICS
- **Cyriac Joseph:** National Human Rights Commission chairman Justice K G Balakrishnan completed his tenure as the longest serving chief of the rights body on 10th May. NHRC member Justice Cyriac Joseph has been authorised by President Pranab Mukherjee to act as the Chairperson of the Commission
- **President Pranab Mukherjee on 12th May appointed Governors in six states.**
 - Former Odisha Minister **Droupadi Murmu** will be the new Governor of Jharkhand. She will replace **Dr. Syed Ahmed** who has been transferred to Manipur for remaining period of his term.
 - **J. P. Rajkhowa** has been appointed as the new Governor of Arunachal Pradesh
 - **Nirbhay Sharma** has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Mizoram for the remainder of his term.
 - **Tathagata Roy** will be the Governor of Tripura
 - **V. Shanmuganthan** has been appointed as Meghalaya Governor
- **Achal Kumar Jyoti:** Former Chief Secretary of Gujarat Achal Kumar Jyoti has been appointed as the Election Commissioner
- **Tayal:** Senior IPS officer RC Tayal has been appointed as the new chief of the elite counter-terror force National Security Guard (NSG)
- **Tendulkar:** Indian batting legend Sachin Tendulkar has been voted the "best Test player" of the 21st century in an online poll conducted by Cricket Australia.
- **Chetan Bhagat:** Famous Author. The book titled Making India Awesome authored by him was released on 19th August 2015
- **Jayant Krishna:** Jayant Krishna, principal consultant at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), has been appointed interim managing director and chief executive officer of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- **Dilip Chenoy and Atul Bhatnagar:** The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), a body promoting skill development. Its managing director and CEO Dilip Chenoy and COO Atul Bhatnagar resigned.
- **Shekhar Basu:** Renowned scientist Shekhar Basu has been appointed as the Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission
- **Rakesh Sharma:** Rakesh Sharma took over as Managing Director and CEO of Canara Bank
- **Anjuly Duggal:** The government has nominated Anjuly Chib Duggal, a secretary in the department of financial services, to the board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- **E Sreedharan:** 'Metro Man' E Sreedharan has been invited to the United Nations' High Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport (HLAG-ST).
- **J Manjula:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation, India's top defence technology research and development centre, for the first time in its history has appointed a woman as the Director General, Electronics and Communication Systems cluster.
- **Justice T S Thakur:** Justice Tirath Singh Thakur was on 3rd December sworn in as 43rd Chief Justice of India.

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- **Narendra Modi:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the 10th most admired personality globally, as per a new survey by the World Economic Forum (WEF) that has ranked the late South African President Nelson Mandela on the top.
- **Seven Indians on BBC 100 Women list :** Making a mark on the global map, seven Indian personalities have made it to BBC's list of 100 most aspirational women. They are singer Asha Bhosle, tennis star Sania Mirza, veteran actor Kamini Kaushal, Rimppi Kumari, farmer, Smriti Nagpal, entrepreneur, Mumtaz Shaikh, campaigner, and Kanika Tekriwal, entrepreneur. Each year, BBC names 100 women — a mix of influential personalities who are world leaders in politics, science and entertainment, as well as less popular but inspirational women from all over the world.

Persons of International eminence

- **Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic:** she became Croatia's first female president
- **Rashad Hussain:** Rashad Hussain, an Indian-American has been appointed as Special Envoy and Coordinator for strategic Counter terrorism Communication in the US
- **David Beckham:** Football legend and male model David Beckham launched a new fund for the UN children's organization UNICEF named "7" - the number on the jersey he wore when he played for Manchester United.
- **Fonseka:** Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena on 22nd March conferred the highest military rank of Field Marshal on retired army chief and politician Sarath Fonseka.
- **Venkatraman Ramakrishnan:** Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, the Indian-American scientist whose pioneering work in molecular biology won him the 2009 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, will head Britain's prestigious Royal Society
- **Paulina:** Miss Colombia Paulina Vega has been crowned as Miss Universe 2015
- **Iqbal Singh Singha:** UN chief Ban Ki-moon has praised India's Lieutenant **General Iqbal Singh Singha** on the conclusion of his assignment as **force commander of the UN mission in the Golan**
- **Sergio Mattarella:** Italian lawmakers elected Sergio Mattarella, a constitutional court judge and veteran center-left politician, as president on 31st January.
- **SK Sinha:** Justice S K Sinha was on 12th January appointed chief justice of Bangladesh to become the first Hindu to hold the highest judicial post in the Muslim-majority country.
- **Rana Bhagwandas:** Rana Bhagwandas, the first Hindu to serve as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan,, died in Karachi on 23rd February.
- **Pachauri:** RK Pachauri has stepped down as Chairperson of the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** with immediate effect, following sexual harassment allegations against him by a junior colleague in The Energy and Research Institute (TERI).
- **Nazarbayev:** Energy-rich Kazakhstan's incumbent President Nursultan Nazarbayev scored a crushing victory in one-sided presidential ballot, taking 97.5 percent of the vote to win a fifth consecutive term
- **Guenter Grass:** German Nobel laureate Guenter Grass died at Berlin on 13th April
- **Rajarajeshwari:** Raja Rajeswari has been sworn-in as a criminal court judge here by Mayor Bill de Blasio, becoming the first India-born woman to be appointed a judge in the New York City
- **Vivek Murthy:** Indian-American Vivek Murthy was sworn-in as the US Surgeon General by Vice President Joe Biden at a ceremony held at Fort Myer in Virginia
- **Narendra Modi:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been ranked as the world's ninth most powerful person by Forbes magazine in a 2015 list which is topped by Russian President Vladimir Putin.
- **Niloy Neel:** A Bangladeshi blogger known for his atheist views has been hacked to death by a gang armed with machetes in the capital Dhaka

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- **Ram Nath Kovind and Acharya Dev Vrat:** President appoints Ram Nath Kovind as Governor of Bihar and Acharya Dev Vrat as Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Ameenah Gurib-Fakim :** The government of Mauritius 1st June designated Ameenah Gurib-Fakim as the Indian Ocean Island nation's new president, making her the first woman to hold the ceremonial position
- **Shamina Singh:** President Barack Obama has named yet another Indian-American as member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service
- **Mukesh Ambani:** Industrialist Mukesh Ambani was named India's richest for ninth year in a row with a net worth of USD 18.9 billion
- **Surya Bahadur Thapa:** Former Nepal Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa passed
- **Ana Jara:** Peruvian Prime Minister Ana Jara was forced to step down after losing a vote of confidence in Congress on 30th April.
- **Klaus Tschira:** Klaus Tschira, one of the co-founders of European software giant SAP, has died.
- **Tanishq Abraham:** An Indian-American home- schooled boy has surprised one and all by graduating from a US college at the age of 11 with three associate degrees in maths, science and foreign language studies
- **Buhari:** Muhammadu Buhari formally takes over as Nigeria's President
- **Four Indians among world's 100 most powerful women:** Four Indians are among the world's 100 most powerful women who are "transforming the world", according to the Forbes' 12th annual list, which is topped by German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Among Indians-
 - ▶ SBI Chief Arundhati Bhattacharya (30),
 - ▶ ICICI bank head Chanda Kochhar (35),
 - ▶ Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (85) and
 - ▶ HT Media Chair Shobhana Bhartia (93), and two women of Indian-origin —
 - ▶ PepsiCo Chief Indra Nooyi (15) and
 - ▶ Cisco Chief Technology and Strategy Officer Padmasree Warrior (84) — make the list.
- **Neeraja Sethi and Jayshree Ullal:** Two Indian-origin women find place in Forbes' inaugural list of America's 50 richest self made women. India-born Neerja Sethi, with a net worth of 1.1 billion US Dollar, ranked 14th while London born Jayshree Ullal with 470 million US Dollar net worth comes at the 30th spot on the list
- **Priti Patel:** Prime Minister David Cameron has promoted one of Britain's most prominent Indian-origin MP Priti Patel by making her the new Employment Minister
- **Morsi:** An Egyptian court has sentenced ousted president Mohammed Morsi to death over a mass prison break in 2011.
- **Omar al-Bashir:** Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, who is wanted for war crimes, has left South Africa, pre-empting a court ruling over an international warrant for his arrest
- **George Yeo :** Former Foreign Minister of Singapore George Yeo will be the new Chancellor of the Nalanda University
- **Bashir :** Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir was sworn in on 2nd June for another five years after he swept elections
- **Sunita Williams:** A Indian-origin Sunita Williams is among four "veteran" astronauts picked by NASA to fly the first commercial space vehicles, a part of the space agency's ambitious plan of human landing on Mars by 2030.
- **Novak Djokovic:** Novak Djokovic, the world's top ranked tennis player, was appointed Goodwill Ambassador by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- **R Sampanthan:** Tamil National Alliance (TNA) leader R Sampanthan on 3 September 2015 became the first tamilian to lead the opposition of in the Sri Lankan parliament after a gap of 32 years

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- **Jimmy Morales elected as president of In Guatemala**
- **Ashok Sridharan:** Ashok Sridharan, a mayoral candidate of Chancellor Angela Merkel-led Christian Democratic Union (CDU), has comprehensively won the election in Bonn, becoming the first person of Indian-origin to occupy the mayor's office in a major German city.
- **Malcolm Turnbull:** Malcolm Turnbull was on 15th September sworn-in as Australia's new Prime Minister; becoming the country's fifth premier in eight years after an internal revolt in the ruling Liberal Party forced Tony Abbott to quit.
- **Otto Perez:** Guatemalan President Otto Perez has resigned, he is due to appear in court over a corruption scandal
- **Justin Trudeau:** Justin Trudeau has been elected as Canada's new Prime Minister.
- **Brett McGurk:** U.S. President Barack Obama appointed Brett McGurk as his new envoy to the coalition fighting Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq.
- **K P Sharma Oli elected Prime Minister of Nepal**
- In Nepal, K P Sharma Oli was on 11th October elected as the next Prime Minister of the country. He defeated incumbent Sushil Koirala.
- **Vidya Devi Bhandari:** In Nepal, Vidya Devi Bhandari from the ruling CPN-UML was on 28th October elected as country's first woman President
- **Kundhavi Kadiresan:** Kundhavi Kadiresan has been appointed as the Assistant Director-General of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific.
- **Chandrika and Ranjan Tandon:** In one of the largest philanthropic gifts by a member of the Indian-American community, a couple has donated \$100 million to New York University's engineering school, which will now be renamed after them in recognition of their gift.
- **Kalyani Kaul:** Kalyani Kaul, a prominent barrister of Indian-origin who has handled high-profile cases, has been sworn in as a Circuit Judge in the UK.
- **Anup Chetia:** Bangladesh on 11th November handed over to India Anup Chetia, a top leader of the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), 18 years after his arrest in Dhaka.
- **Hoesung Lee:** Hoesung Lee, 69, a Korean professor of economics of climate change, energy and sustainable development, was on 6th October elected as head of the Inter-governmental Panel for Climate Change at its 42nd session in Dubrovnik, Croatia. He succeeds R.K. Pachauri, of India, who stepped down in February after a female researcher accused him of sexual harassment.
- **A.R. Rahman:** Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman has been named the Cultural Ambassador for Seychelles.
- **Mauricio Macri:** Conservative Mauricio Macri has been confirmed as the winner in Argentina's presidential elections
- **Baroness Patricia:** Baroness Patricia Scotland, the first woman to be appointed Commonwealth secretary-general. Commonwealth leaders meeting in Malta chose Scotland on 27th November after a fraught and extended meeting to choose between three candidates. **She is to take over from Kamallesh Sharma, who has served in the role for eight years.**
- **Akbaruddin:** Diplomat and former spokesperson of the external affairs ministry, Syed Akbaruddin has been appointed as India's permanent representative to the United Nations
- **Marzieh Af-kham:** Iran has appointed its first woman ambassador since the 1979 Islamic revolution, naming foreign ministry spokeswoman Marzieh Af-kham as the head of its embassy in Malaysia.
- **Raghuram Rajan:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Raghuram Rajan has been appointed as vice-chairman of the **Bank for International Settlements (BIS) at basel city Switzerland.**
- **Gokaran:** Former RBI Deputy Governor Subir Gokaran was on 12th November appointed as an Executive Director on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

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Notable Deaths

- **RK Laxman:** Famous cartoonist RK Laxman passed away on 26th January
- **Subhash Ghisingh:** Subhash Ghisingh, the founder-leader of the movement for a separate homeland for the Gorkhas in northern Bengal, passed away on 29th January
- **Meera Kosambi:** Noted sociologist Meera Kosambi died in Pune.
- **Mrinalini Mukherjee:** Noted sculptor Mrinalini Mukherjee passed away in New Delhi.
- **Naeem Ali Khan:** Famous Ghazal Singer Naeem Ali Khan passed away
- **Saeef Jaffery:** Veteran Bollywood actor Saeed Jaffery, who appeared in several British and Indian movies, passed away at the age of 86.
- **Bindumadhav Joshi:** The Pioneer of Indian Consumer Movement and founder of Akhil Bhartiya Grahak Panchayat Shri Bindumadhav Joshi has passed away
- **Abdul Kalam:** Former President Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, the '**missile man**' who became popular as '**People's President**' died after he suffered a massive cardiac arrest and collapsed during a lecture at the **IIM Shillong on 27th July**. United Nations Organisation(U.N.O) declared **October 15th, Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's Birthday as the "WORLD STUDENTS DAY"**
- **Nek Chand:** Rock Garden creator and Padma awardee Nek Chand Saini passed away on 11th June
- **Charles Correa:** Charles Correa, the face of modern architecture in India, passed away in Mumbai. Correa played a defining role in developing architecture of post-Independence India and has designed some of the most outstanding structures. He was the man behind the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial in Ahmedabad and Madhya Pradesh assembly building.
- **Ravindra Jain:** Veteran music director and lyricist Ravindra Jain passed away on 9th October.
- **MM Kalburg:** In Karnataka, senior Kannada writer and former vice-chancellor of Kannada University Dr. M. M. Kalburgi was shot dead in Dharwad in the morning on 30th August.
- **Ashwani Lohani:** Ashwani Lohani took over as Air India's Chairman and Managing Director
- **Aadesh Shrivastava:** Bollywood singer-composer Aadesh Shrivastava who was battling cancer passed away on 4th September.
- **OP Munjal:** Om Prakash Munjal, the founder of hero cycles passed away on 13th August.
- **Lee Kuan Yew:** Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's first prime minister passed away
- **Michele Ferrero:** Italy's richest man and the owner of a global chocolate and confectionery empire, Michele Ferrero has died.
- **Syed Ahmed:** Manipur Governor Syed Ahmed died at a private hospital in Mumbai.
- **Kallen Pokkudan:** Noted environmentalist Kallen Pokkudan, known for his crusade against destruction of mangroves, died on 27th September.
- **Jagmohan Dalmiya:** Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Jagmohan Dalmiya, passed away
- **Sadhan Gupta:** Independent India's first visually-challenged MP Sadhan Gupta has died
- **Satyabhama:** Kalamandalam Satyabhama, a pioneer who accorded Mohiniyattam a **well-knit structure for the first time**, passed away
- **Bashar Navaaz:** Notable Urdu poet Bashar Navaaz Passed away. Bashar navaaz was known as an Indo Pak shayar. His gazals are popular in India as well as Pakistan. His books 'Rayagan', 'Ajanabee samandar' was very appreciated by gazal lovers