

CURRENT AFFAIRS JUNE 2016 - REPORTS

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News 1 - Two Indian Origin Women in Forbes 'Richest Self-Made American Women' List



India-born Neerja Sethi (61), co-founder of Syntel, and London-born Jayshree Ullal (55), president and CEO of Arista Networks have been featured on the Forbes' Annual List of America's 60 Wealthiest and most successful self-made women entrepreneurs. These women have "crashed ceilings through invention and innovation".

Neerja Sethi is ranked 16th while Jayshree Ullal (55) is ranked 30th. The first in the list is Diane Hendricks, the owner of ABC Supply, the largest wholesale distributor of roofing and siding in the country with a net worth \$4.9 billion. TV empress Oprah Winfrey moved up three spots to number two.

News 2 - India ranks 70th on the Good Country Index



According to the 'Good Country' 2015 index, Sweden has been voted as the best country in the world while India figured low at the 70th position. The report ranked a total of 163 countries taking 35 different UN and World Bank indices into account. It seeks to measure how countries contribute to the global good.

The Top 10 Best Countries included Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, the UK, Germany, Finland, Canada, France, Austria and New Zealand. Libya was ranked as the least "Good" country in the world. China was ranked 27th.

News 3 - GRD Index topped by China, India at second position





The 2016 Global Retail Development Index (GRDI) unveiled the list of 30 developing countries this year on ease of doing business, where China topped the list and India stood at rank second among 30 developing countries for retail investment globally, GDP growth and better clarity regarding FDI regulations.

India has revised Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) regulations in single-brand retail and this has paved the way for multinational firms to enter the market. India's retail sector has expanded at a compound annual growth rate of 8.8%.

News 4 - Walmart maintains topmost position in Fortune 500



It has been for the 4th consecutive time that Walmart topped the Fortune 500 list. It was based on total revenues for their fiscal years. Other companies among the list were ExxonMobil, Apple, Berkshire Hathaway, McKesson, UnitedHealth Group, CVS Health, General Motors, Ford Motor and AT&T.

More than half of Fortune 500 companies saw sales drop, including Walmart, which had a sales decline of 0.7% in 2015. For the entire list, revenues were down 4.2% from 2015. Overall, Fortune 500 profits fell by 11%.

News 5 - Serena replaced Sharapova as the World's Highest-paid Sportswoman

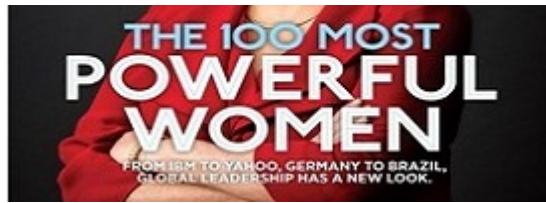


The Forbes Magazine recently reported that Serena Williams has replaced Maria Sharapova as the world's highest-paid sportswoman. Williams earned \$28.9 million over the past 12 months. Williams's career prize money of \$77.6 million amounts to more than twice as much as any other sportswoman's.

Sharapova earned \$21.9 million over the past 12 months, down almost \$8 million from the previous year. American mixed martial arts sports icon Ronda Rousey was third on the list with \$14 million, just ahead of NASCAR stock car driver Danica Patrick, who earned \$13.9 million.

News 6 - Forbes released the World's 100 Most Powerful Women 2016 list; 4 Indian Women feature in the list





Forbes released the ranking of 'The 100 Most Powerful Women in the World'. The world's most powerful woman in the list is German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who fetched the first spot for the sixth consecutive year. The list includes four Indian women: Arundhati Bhattacharya (30), Chairperson of SBI bank; Chanda Kochhar (40), MD and CEO of the ICICI Bank; Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (77), Chairman and MD of Biocon; and Shobhana Bhartia (93), Chairperson and Editorial Director of HT Media Ltd.

The Top 10 powerful women in the list are:

- Angela Merkel
- Hillary Clinton
- Janet Yellen
- Melinda Gates
- Mary Barra
- Christine Lagarde
- Sheryl Sandberg
- Susan Wojcicki
- Meg Whitman
- Ana Patricia Botín

News 7 - India ranked 141 out of 163 countries in the Global Peace Index 2016



India has been ranked 141 out of 163 countries in the recently released 10th edition of the Global Peace Index 2016 with violence taking a 679.80-billion-dollar toll on its economy in 2015 or 9% of India's GDP. It has been ranked fifth out of the seven countries in the South Asia region. The report was released by Institute for Economics and Peace. Iceland was ranked as the world's most peaceful country, followed by Denmark and Austria. Syria has been named the least peaceful, followed by South Sudan, Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia.

According to the report, India has deteriorated in peace by 5% in the last decade. The report also highlights the growing inequality in global levels of peacefulness between the most and least peaceful countries.

News 8 - India Rises as the Third Largest Oil Consumer





India has become the World's Third Largest Oil Consumer according to a report released by the BP Statistical Review of World Energy. India has surpassed Japan with its oil demand rising 8.1% in 2015. India accounted for 4.5% of world oil consumption in 2015.

The top three countries in terms of oil consumption are USA, China and India respectively. Oil accounted for 32.9% of global energy consumption while coal and natural gas accounted for 29.2% and 23.8% respectively.

News 9 - Forbes releases 2016 World's 100 Highest Paid Athletes list



The Forbes Magazine has released the list of top 100 highest paid athletes for year 2016. The list has been topped by Soccer Icon Cristiano Ronaldo with earnings of 88 million US dollars. This is the first time since 2000 that someone besides Mayweather or Tiger Woods has held the top spot.

The top 100 athletes earned a total of \$3.15 billion over the last 12 months.

The World's Top 10 Highest-Paid Athletes:

Rank	Athlete	Sport	Salary (\$mil)	Endorsements (\$mil)	Total Earnings (\$mil)
1	Cristiano Ronaldo	Soccer	\$56	\$32	\$88.0
2	Lionel Messi	Soccer	53.4	28	81.4
3	LeBron James	Basketball	23.2	54	77.2
4	Roger Federer	Tennis	7.8	60	67.8
5	Kevin Durant	Basketball	20.2	36	56.2
6	Novak Djokovic	Tennis	21.8	34	55.8
7	Cam Newton	Football	41.1	12	53.1
8	Phil Mickelson	Golf	2.9	50	52.9
9	Jordan Spieth	Golf	20.8	32	52.8
10	Kobe Bryant	Basketball	25	25	50.0

News 10 - UNEP and INTERPOL release "The Rise of Environmental Crime" report





The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and INTERPOL released a rapid response report, "The Rise of Environmental Crime" on the eve of World Environment Day. According to the report, the value of environmental crime is 26 per cent larger than previous estimates, at \$91-258 billion today compared to \$70-213 billion in 2014.

The environmental crime includes the illegal trade in wildlife, corporate crime in the forestry sector, the illegal exploitation and sale of gold and other minerals, illegal fisheries, the trafficking of hazardous waste and carbon credit fraud.

News 11 - India ranks 10th in the FDI inflows as per the UNCTAD released World Investment Report 2016



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published its annual report titled The World Investment Report 2016 – Investor Nationality: Policy Challenges. According to this report, India ranks 10th in the FDI inflows which increased to 44 billion dollars in 2015 as compared to the 35 billion dollars in 2014.

The Top 10 countries in terms of FDI inflows in decreasing order is: The USA, China, Hong Kong, Ireland, Netherlands, Switzerland, Singapore, Brazil, Canada and India. The Global foreign direct investment (FDI) jumped to \$1.76 trillion in 2015.

News 12 - World Bank Releases India Development Update 2016



The World Bank released the India Development Update. This Update expects India's economic growth to be at 7.6% in 2016-2017, followed by a modest acceleration to 7.7% in 2017-2018 and 7.8% in 2018-2019. The GDP has accelerated to 7.6% in 2015-16 from an average of 6.5% during the three-year period 2012-13 to 2014-15.

This Update also reviews the current challenges in India's financial sector and analyzes some of the impacts of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission on Indian states.

News 13 - Mercer's Cost of Living Survey 2016 released; Mumbai costliest in India



According to the Mercer's 2016 Cost of Living Survey, Hong Kong tops the list of most expensive cities for expatriates. The survey is one of the world's most comprehensive, and is designed to help multinational companies and governments determine compensation strategies for their expatriate employees. New York City is used as the base city for all comparisons and currency movements are measured against the US dollar.

Other cities appearing in the top 10 of Mercer's costliest cities for expatriates are Luanda (2), Zurich (3), Singapore (4), Tokyo (5), Kinshasa (6), Shanghai (7), Geneva (8), N'Djamena (9), and Beijing (10). The world's least expensive cities are Windhoek (209), Cape Town (208), and Bishkek (207). Five Indian cities were also ranked in the list. They are – Mumbai – Rank 82, New Delhi – Rank 130, Chennai – Rank 158, Kolkata – 194, Bangalore – Rank 180.

News 14 - Asian Millionaires now control more wealth in the World



According to a new World Wealth Report from Capgemini, Millionaires in Asia are wealthier than their peers in North America, Europe and other regions. The Asian Millionaires saw their wealth jump by 9.9% in 2015, while North America witnessed a sluggish 2.3%. Latin America suffered a decline in net worth of 3.7%. Europe's growth was steady, with a 4.8% increase.

The total wealth of Asia's Richest Residents totaled \$17.4 trillion in 2015, up from \$8.4 trillion in 2006. According to the report, there were 5.1 million Asian millionaires in 2015, the majority, 2.7 million coming from Japan and another one million from China.

News 15: India ranked 105th out of 150 countries on the Human Capital Index



India was today ranked at 105th position globally on a worldwide Human Capital Index released by Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF) at its Annual Meeting of New Champions — also known as 'Summer Davos' summit. The index measures countries' ability to nurture, develop and deploy talent for economic growth.

Finland, Norway and Switzerland hold the top three positions. Japan and Sweden have moved up to 4th and 5th places and are followed by New Zealand, Denmark, the Netherlands, Canada and Belgium in top ten. Mauritania, Yemen, Chad, Nigeria and Mali are placed in the bottom-five. Among BRICS countries, Russia is ranked 28th, China 71st, Brazil 83rd and South Africa 88th. Pakistan has been ranked 118th in the list.