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| **Current Event National, 2010** |

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| **9-Jan** | **The Centre approves the proposal of the US-based soft drinks major PepsiCo to inject additional equity of $200 million (around Rs. 930 crore) into its Indian arm within three years.** |

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| **10-Jan** | **The Planning Commission constitutes a 25-member expert panel to explore options before the country for a low-carbon economy.** |

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| **10-Jan** | **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctions $150 million aid for the Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB)** |

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| **11-Jan** | **Two ballistic flight tests of Astra, the Beyond-Visual-Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM), are successfully carried out fom the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Balasore, Orissa.** |

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| **11-Jan** | **Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh launches the Jawaharlal Nehru Solar Mission, or "Solar India"** |

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| **11-Jan** | **India and Bangladesh Prime Minister Ms. Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart Dr. Manmohan Singh, the pacts are aimed at bolstering Bilateral ties.** |

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| **12-Jan** | **Seeking to aggressively pursue export of products to China and Japan, the centre announces the inclusion of both the countries in the MarketLinked Focused Programme (MLFP) scheme; the Centre also unleashes incentive worth Rs. %00 crore for exporters, especially those in the labour intensive sectors.** |

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| **13-Jan** | **The Centre announces a slew of new measures to curb the soaring price of essential commodities.** |

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| **14-Jan** | **India and France exchange the instruments of ratification of the agreement on civil nuclear energy cooperation, bringing into force the historic Indo-FRance N-deal** |

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| **14-Jan** | **The Central Government allows ONGC Videsh to invest $39 million (Rs.1,651 crore) for oil exploration in two deep-sea blocks in Nigeria over the next five years.** |

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| **15-Jan** | **The millennium's longest (11-Minute) annular solar eclipse covers a swathe of 1000 km in India; the spectacle enthrals millions.** |

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| **15-Jan** | **The Central agrees to releas Rs. 12,000 crore in cash to loss-making state-run oil companies to cover for their losses in the 2009-10 fiscal.** |

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| **16-Jan** | **The Union Ministry of Environment and Forests decides to conduct a vulnerability line mapping along the country's coastline, to ensure the safety of those living close to the coast.** |

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| **16-Jan** | **The Centre annoumces that the next assembling centre for the BrahMos missiles will be Rajasthan's Pilani. At present BrahMos missiles are assembled only in Hyderabad.** |

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| **17-Jan** | **Jyoti Basu, the famous Leftist icon of India, passes away at the age of 95 in Kolkata, West Bengal.** |

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| **18-Jan** | **The Suprime Court extends to June 30, 2010 the deadline for the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to fix the tariff for the Direct-to-Home (DTH) platform.** |

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| **19-Jan** | **At the joint Economic Group (JEG) dialogue held in Beiging (China), India and China agree to work together to bridge the widening trade gap between the two nations.** |

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| **20-Jan** | **Malaysian Premier Md. Najib Tun Razak visit India; during this visit, India and Malaysia sign an extradition treaty and two two other accords on economic cooperation and higher education.** |

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| **21-Jan** | **Former Foreign Secretary Mr. Shiv Shankar Menon is appointed as a new National Security Adviser (NSA); he succeeds Mr. M.K. Narayanan.** |

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| **21-Jan** | **The Cabinate Committee on Infrastructure accords in-principle approval for the establishment of the National Knowledge Network (NKN) that will interconnect all knowledge institutions of the country.** |

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| **22-Jan** | **Lt. Gen. Vijay Kumar Singh is appointed the new chief of the Army Staff; he succeeds Gen,Deepak Kapoor.** |

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| **23-Jan** | **Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed attend and delivers the keynote address at the 16th edition of the India-maldivas Partnership Summit, organised by the Confederation of India Industry (CII) in chennai, Tamil nadu.** |

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| **24-Jan** | **The second ministerial-level meeting of the BASIC group of nations-Comprising China, India,South Africa and Brazil-is held in New Delhi.** |

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| **24-Jan** | **In a milestone, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) tests its biggest and most powerful rocked motor called the S-200, powered by 200 tonnes of solid propellant. The test is conducted at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.** |

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| **25-Jan** | **The Civilian Awards for 2010 are announced on the eve of the nation's 61st Republic Daky; in all, the President approves the names of 130 persons for the awards -6 for Padma Vibhushan, 43 for Padma Bhushan and 81 for Padma Shri. The President also approves 442 gallantry awards.** |

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| **25-Jan** | **India and South Korea sign four crucial agreement in various sectors; the agreements are signed in New Delhi during the state visit of South Korean Prime Minister Mr,Lee Myung -bak.** |

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| **26-Jan** | **Hon,ble President Ms. Pratibha Patel confers the gallantruy awards on the recipients on the occasion of the 61st Republic Day; Visiting South Korean Premier Mr.Lee Myung-bak takes part in the Repubic Day celebrations in New Delhi as the chief guest.** |

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| **27-Jan** | **Seeking to enhance its presence in mineral and oil rich African counries. The agreement is signed in Luanda , Angola.** |

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| **28-Jan** | **The 2010 Environmental performance Index,released worldwide, places India at the 123rd rank among 163 countries; the list is topped by Iceland.** |

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| **29-Jan** | **In a move to contain rising inflation, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hikes the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)-the portion that commercial banks are required to keep with the central bank-by 75 basis points from 5 percent to 5.75 percent.** |

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| **30-Jan** | **The high-level task force, constitude toset a growth agenda for the development of the micro,small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector, submits its recommemdation to prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh.** |

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| **30-Jan** | **India submits its emission cut proposals to the UN; in its proposals, India says that it will endeavour to reduce its emission intensity by 20-25 percent by 2020 in comparison to the 2005 levels.** |

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| **31-Jan** | **In a step that could creat a major socio-political impact in Punjab as well as other parts of the country, Dera Sachkhand Ballan announces a new religion, Ravidassia Dharm; it is also announced that the community will have its own separate religion book, Amrit Bani Guru Ravidass.** |

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| **1-Feb** | **A report released by the centre shows that continuing with a rising trend for the second consecutive month India's exports registered a 9.3 percent growth in December 2009, while imports also turned positive after posting negative growth for the last 11 months.** |

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| **2-Feb** | **German President Dr. horst Koehler arrivesin India on a statet visit; during his meeting with Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, India and Germany decide to setup security and economic cooperation by finalising host of cricial pacts.** |

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| **3-Feb** | **The Centre Constitutes a high-level committee, headed by justice B.N. SriKrishna, on the Telangana issue, '' to hold wide-ranging consultations with all sections of the people and political parties and groups in Andhra pradesh.** |

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| **3-Feb** | **The government- appointed kirit ParikhCommitte recommends complete decontrol of petrol and diesel prices; a hike of Rs.100 per LPG cylinder and an increase of Rs. 6 a litre of Kerosene.** |

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| **4-Feb** | **India and the UK agree on a text of a civil nuclearcooperation deal that is likely to be signed soon on a convenient date; the agreement is reached in London, UK, in a meeting between British Business Secretary Mr. Peter Mandelson and Visiting Indian Commerce and Industry Minister mr. Anand Sharma.** |

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| **5-Feb** | **The Ministers of Health and family Welfare and Railways sign an Mou for developing healthcare infrastructutre along the railway network across the country.** |

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| **5-Feb** | **Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh inaguurates the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) in New Delhi.** |

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| **6-Feb** | **The Chief Ministers' Conference on Price Rise is Convened in New Delhi; at the Conference, the government decides to setup a high-profile standing Core Group to suggest measures to tackle price rise.** |

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| **7-Feb** | **The Chief Ministers' Conference on Internal security is held in New Delhi; Various crucial issues are discussed in the meeting.** |

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| **7-Feb** | | **Agni-III, the longest- range(3,500km) N-Capable missile in India's arsenal. is successfully test-fired from the Wheeler Island off Orrisa.** |
| **Current Event International, 2010** | |

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| **9-Jan** | **Afghan President Mr.Hamid KarZai submits a new list of Cabinet nominees to replace Ministers rejected by the nation's parlaiment.** |

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| **10-Jan** | **Reports reveal that after a 13-month slump, China's exports posted strong growth in December 2009, helping the country surpass germany to become the world's largest exporter.** |

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| **10-Jan** | **Mr. Ivo Josipovic is elected the President of croatia.** |

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| **11-Jan** | **Sri Lanka and India sign a commercial pact in colombo, with India Promising the island nation an assistance of $185 million for the construction of a Railway Line in the War-torn Northern Province of Sri Lanka.** |

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| **12-Jan** | **Foreign Ministers of Afganistan , Pakistan and host United Arab Emirates (UAE) , along with the reoresentatives of 40 countries, the European Union (EU) and the UN Mision in Afghanistan, hold a crucial security meet in Abu Dhabi.** |

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| **12-Jan** | **An earthquake of a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude devastates the Caribbean nation Haiti, killing Lakhs of People and rendering millions homeless.** |

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| **13-Jan** | **Internet Giant Google threatens to close its operations in china, following a string of vicious cyber attacks on its services.** |

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| **14-Jan** | **Japan and Germany agree to work together on climate change, nuclear disarmament and rebuilding Afghanistan , during aTokyo visit by german Foreign minister Mr. guido Westerwelle.** |

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| **15-Jan** | **Russia lifts its opposition to a long-delayed reform of the European Court if Human rights in a major gesture towards the west; the new move will also improve the Russian legal system.** |

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| **16-Jan** | **The Government of hong Kong approves a controversial $8.6 bollion rail link to China's high-speed rail network.** |

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| **17-Jan** | **Amnesty international accuses Israel of ''collectively punishing'' the population of the Gaza Strip with border closures.** |

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| **18-Jan** | **Chilean billionaire Mr. Sebastian Pinera is elected as the nation's President; with his election, the latin American nation Witnesses a political shift to the right to the right after 20 years of leftist rule.** |

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| **19-Jan** | **Cadbury, the flagbearer of the British Chocolate industry , is acquired by US giant Kraft Foods for $19 billion ; the amalgamation creates a world leader in food and confectionery.** |

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| **20-Jan** | **In a major setback for US President Mr. Barack obama, Republican Mr.Scott Brown Captures the US Senate seat held by the legendary Democrat Edward Kennedy for neraly half a century.** |

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| **21-Jan** | **A report released by the Chinese Government reveals that after suffering one of its worst declines in decades, China's econiomy has rebounded strongly, recording 8.7 percent growth in 2009.** |

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| **22-Jan** | **In a Crucial Development, the Us Supreme Court that labour unions and corporations can spend unlimited amounts to influence federal elections, throwing out a ban that had been in effect for 63 years.** |

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| **23-Jan** | **A year after the Gaza War, Israel pays the Un $10.5 million as compensation for danaging its offices during an attack by its defence forces.** |

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| **24-Jan** | **Afghanistan postpones parliamentary elections for four months , saying it will not be safe to hold elections amid a spiralling Taliban Insurgency.** |

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| **25-Jan** | **Dalai Lama's envoys arrive in Beijing for the resumption of talks with china, Which have been suspended since November 2008 over disagreements on the question of Tibet's autonomy.** |

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| **26-Jan** | **In a Significant development, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) says that the Copenhagen Accord, finalised at the Copenhagen Conference in December 2009, is not a legally binding document but merely a political one.** |

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| **27-Jan** | **Sri Lankan President Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa is re-elected for a second term; in the presidential elections, he beats former army chief Gen. (Retd.) Sarath Fonseka by a comfortable margin.** |

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| **27-Jan** | **The World Economic Forum summit is convened in Davos, Switzerland.** |

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| **28-Jan** | **Spelling bad news for outsourcing hubs including India, US President Mr. Barack Obama says in his 2010 state of the Union Address that his government will cut tax breaks of companies that outsource jobs to offshore destinations.** |

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| **29-Jan** | **Microsoft Founder Mr. Bill Gates announces that his foundation will commit $10 billion over the next decade to research and deliver vaccines to the poorest nations of the world.** |

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| **30-Jan** | **Russia seals a multi- billion dollar package of seals to supply weapons to Lybia, Signalling a return to the strategically important region of North Africa.`** |

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| **31-Jan** | **Faced with growing discontent over land seizures by the government and real estate developers , china's State Council announces a major overhaul of land laws that will slowthe process of home demolitions and give home owners greater compensations for their land.** |

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| **1-Feb** | **US President Mr. Barack Obama unveils a $3.83 trillion budget in the cingress; the new budget will pour more money into the fight against unemployment, boost taxes on the wealthy , and freeze spending on a numbers of government programmes.** |

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| **2-Feb** | **Amnesty International appoints Mr. Salil Shetty , an Indian who headed the UN Millennium Mission, as its enxt Secretary General.** |

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| **2-Feb** | **The US Government Proposes $3.2 billion in assistance to pakistan in fiscal 2011 , a substantial jump in American aid to that country.** |

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| **3-Feb** | **Iran announces its readiness to send abroad the bulk of its low-enriched uranium stocks in return for its Tehran research reactor.** |

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| **4-Feb** | **Russia offers to send narcotics police to Afghanistan to shore up the global fight against drug porduction and trafficking in that country.** |

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| **5-Feb** | **A Landmark dael batween Northern Ireland's two major political parties,the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and Sinn Fein, Removes the last hurdle to granting full autonomy to the province envisaged inthe 1998 Good Friday Agreement thet brought decades of sectarian violence to an end.** |

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| **6-Feb** | **Resourcehouse , an Australian mining firm, signs a record $60 billion deal to supply coal to energy-hungry China for the next 20 years. it is the biggest ever xeport contract in Australia's history.** |

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| **7-Feb** | **Iran president Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad orders the cheif of the nuclear progremme to begin higher uranium enrichment , days after the country seemed to have accepted a UN-drafted nuclear deal.** |

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| **Current Event 2009** | |

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| **1-Jan** | **In a move to redress the grievances of armed forces personnel over anomalies in pay structures, the Union Government decides to place officers in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and their equivalents in the other two services on a higher pay band and constitute a separate pay commission** |

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| **1-Jan** | **New York (USA)-based Financial giant Merrill Lynch goes into history, as it is bought up by Bank of America Corp.** |

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| **1-Jan** | **Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt, the fastest man on earth, edges US swimming ace Michael Phelps to be voted the 2008 Athlete of the Year.** |

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| **2-Jan** | **Ms. Sheikh Hasina is sworn in as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh** |

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| **5-Jan** | **National Conference President Mr. Omar Abdullah is sworn in as the 11th Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir** |

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| **7-Jan** | **In an unparalleled instance of fraud in India's corporate history, B. Ramalinga Raju resigns as chairman of Satyam Computer Services India's fourth largest IT company, after admitting that the accounts of the company were fudged to the tune of Rs. 7,106 crore over several years** |

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| **9-Jan** | **The Slovak Republic clinch their third Hopman Cup title in Perth, Australia, beating Russia 2-0 in the final of the mixed team tournament.** |

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| **11-Jan** | **Marin Cilic of Croatia beats India's Somdev Dewarman in the final to claim the Chennai Open tennis title in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.** |

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| **12-Jan** | **Slumdog Millionaire, a British movie with overwhelmingly Indian content and backdrop, emerges as a big winner at the 66th Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, USA, scooping up four awards including the Best Original Score for famous Indian music director A.R. Rahman** |

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| **12-Jan** | **Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo is conferred the FIFA World Footballer of the Year award for 2008 at a ceremony in Zurich, Switzerland.** |

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| **15-Jan** | **Mr. Radha Vinod Raju, a senior IPS officer of J&K cadre, is appointed the first Director-General of the National Investigation Agency** |

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| **16-Jan** | **Mumbai win the 2009 Ranji Trophy title defeating Uttar Pradesh in the final in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.** |

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| **19-Jan** | **President's rule is imposed on Jharkhand, ending political uncertainty in the State following Chief Minister Mr. Shibu Soren's resignation.** |

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| **20-Jan** | **Mr. Barack Obama is sworn in as the 44th President of the US, while Mr. Joe Biden is sworn in as the 47th Vice-President of the nation** |

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| **23-Jan** | **ISRO reveals that the Imaging X-ray Spectrometer, one of the payloads of Chandrayaan-1, received X-ray signals of aluminium, magnesium and silicon.** |

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| **23-Jan** | **The US approves the first human trials using embryonic stem cells testing, a pioneering therapy for stroke patients.** |

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| **23-Jan** | **Japan launches the world's first Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT), dedicated to monitoring greenhouse gas emissions on the Earth.** |

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| **25-Jan** | **As many as 133 personalities-10 for Padma Vibhushan, 30 for Padma Bhushan and 93 for Padma Shri-are chosen for the prestigious Padma Awards** |

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| **26-Jan** | **Eminent Hindi author Ms. Mannu Bhandari's autobiography Ek Kahni Yah Bhi is chosen for the prestigious Was Samman for 2008.** |

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| **27-Jan** | **At an international conference on food security in Madrid, Spain, Mr. Jacques Diouf, the head of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation, appeals to double global food production by 2050 to ward off mass hunger** |

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| **29-Jan** | **The World Economic Forum summit of world leaders commences in Davos, Switzerland to discuss the present economic crisis and to find solutions thereof** |

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| **31-Jan** | **State Bank of India slashes interest rates on new home loans to 8 percent** |

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| **31-Jan** | **To control the problem of piracy off the coast of Somalia, countries of the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea pledge to cooperate in arresting pirates** |

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| **31-Jan** | **Yuki Bhambri creates history by becoming the first Indian to win the Australian Open boys' title, beating F. Georgoudas of Germany in the final in Melbourne, Australia.** |

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| **1-Feb** | **The prestigious Ambikatanayadatta National Award, instituted by the D.R. Bendre National Memorial Trust, is conferred on Sahitya Akademi President Mr. Sunil Gangopadhyay.** |

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| **1-Feb** | **British filmmaker Mr. Danny Boyle adds another feather to his cap by bagging the top honour at the Directors Guild of America Awards for his film Slumdog Millionaire in Los Angeles, USA.** |

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| **1-Feb** | **Mahesh Bhupathi and Sania Mirza become the first Indian pair to win a Grand Slam mixed doubles title, crushing Andy Ram (Israel) and Nathalie Dechy (France) in the final of the event at the Australian Open 2009.** |

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| **3-Feb** | **Iran successfully places into orbit Omid, its first domestically made satellite.** |

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| **4-Feb** | **In a milestone, a Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas takes off from Bengaluru and for the first time drops live stores (bombs) at a firing range** |

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| **5-Feb** | **Cuban President Mr. Raul Castro concludes a week-long visit to Russia, having signed various crucial pacts aimed at revitalising bilateral ties** |

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| **8-Feb** | **India win the Wealthsurance ODI series against Sri Lanka 4-1, even as Sri Lanka win the fifth and final match by 68 runs in Colombo.** |

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| **9-Feb** | **West Zone lift the Duleep Trophy, defeating South Zone in the final in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.** |

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| **10-Feb** | **Noted Hindustani classical vocalist Pandit Bhimsen Joshi (87) is presented the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest Civilian award** |

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| **11-Feb** | **Veteran politician Mr. Zillur Rahman is elected President of Bangladesh** |

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| **12-Feb** | **In what was the first-ever high-speed impact between two intact spacecraft, two communication satellites-one American, the other Russian-smash into each other nearly 800 km. above the Earth.** |

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| **14-Feb** | **King Abdullah, the monarch of Saudi Arabia, appoints Ms. Noura al-Fayez as a deputy cabinet minister, thus making her the first ever woman to be appointed as minister in the history of the nation** |

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| **15-Feb** | **Ms. Suman Sharma, a 30-year-old Indian woman, becomes the world's first woman to fly the mighty Russian MiG-35 fighter jet at the Aero India international air show in Bengaluru.** |

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| **15-Feb** | **Finance Ministers from the G7 nations hold an important meeting in Rome, Italy, which renews calls for a concerted global response to the financial and economic crisis** |

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| **19-Feb** | **The Rajya Sabha passes the Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2008, which will strengthen the legal framework to tackle cases effectively.** |

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| **22-Feb** | **Slumdog Millionaire wins eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Director. Sean Penn wins Best Actor for Milk and Kate Winslet wins Best Actress for The Reader. Indian music maestro A.R Rahman wins two Oscars while another Indian Resul Pookutty wins an Oscar for the Best Sound Mixing** |

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| **24-Feb** | **NASA's Orbiting Carbon Observatory lands in the Pacific Ocean after failing to reach Earth's orbit.** |

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| **25-Feb** | **Antarctica's subglacial Gamburtsev Mountain Range is mapped for the first time** |

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| **28-Feb** | **In a significant development in the history of Indian warship building, the keel of the first indigenous aircraft carrier is laid by Defence Minister Mr. A.K. Anthony at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. in Kochi, Kerala.** |

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| **28-Feb** | **The Standing Committee of China's NPC approves the Food Safety Law, which will enhance supervision and strengthen quality standards.** |

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| **28-Feb** | **Novak Djokovic of Serbia clinches the title of the Dubai Open tennis championship, beating David Ferrer of Spain in the final in Dubai, UAE.** |

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| **1-Mar** | **Accepting the Centre's advice, Hon'ble President Ms. Pratibha Devisingh Patil rejects Chief Election Commissioner Mr. N. Gopalaswami's recommendation that Mr. Navin Chawla be removed as Election Commissioner.** |

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| **1-Mar** | **ASEAN concludes its annual summit in Hua Hin, Thailand, and calls for coordinated action against the current recession** |

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| **1-Mar** | **China's first lunar probe, Chang'e 1, impacts the Moon.** |

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| **1-Mar** | **India clinch the hockey Test series against New Zealand, beating the hosts 2-0 in the fourth and final match in Auckland, New Zealand.** |

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| **4-Mar** | **The Union Government announces the appointment of Mr. Navin Chawla as the new Chief Election Commissioner with effect from April 20, 2009** |

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| **6-Mar** | **NASA launches Kepler telescope to survey the galaxy in the hope of learning if other planets like the Earth exist.** |

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| **8-Mar** | **The 14th World Conference on Tobacco or Health (WCOTH) is inaugurated in Mumbai, Maharashtra.** |

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| **8-Mar** | **North Korea holds elections for its Supreme People's Assembly** |

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| **8-Mar** | **Sachin Tendulkar scores his 43rd ODI century (an unbeaten 163 off 133 balls) in the third ODI of the series in Christchurch, New Zealand.** |

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| **14-Mar** | **In a crucial meeting in London, the UK, G20 leaders agree on a broad framework to tackle the global financial crisis.** |

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| **16-Mar** | **The Pakistani government reinstates the deposed Chief Justice, Justice Iftikhar Chaudhary, surrendering to the demand of the Opposition leader Mr. Nawaz Sharif** |

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| **19-Mar** | **Meghalaya is put under President's rule and the State Assembly is kept under suspended animation** |

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| **20-Mar** | **Air Marshal Pradeep Vasant Naik is appointed the Chief of the Air Staff with effect from June 1,2009. He succeeds Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major** |

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| **22-Mar** | **The Fifth World Water Forum, a seven-day focus on the world's water crisis, ends in Istanbul, Turkey, with a pledge by more than 100 countries to strive to provide clean water and proper sanitation facilities for billions in need. The delegates also vow to shore up defences against drought and flood.** |

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| **22-Mar** | **England defeat New Zealand by four wickets in the final to claim the title of the ICC" Women's World Cup in Sydney, Australia.** |

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| **23-Mar** | **Tata Motors launches the much-awaited Rs. 1 lakh car Nano, billed as the "people's car" due to its easy affordability, amid great fanfare in Mumbai, Maharashtra** |

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| **26-Mar** | **Mr. Mikhail Leonidovich Gromov, a Russian-French mathematician, is honoured with the Abel Prize for his revolutionary contribution to geometry. This prestigious award is instituted by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters and carries a cash award of NOK 6.000,000.** |

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| **28-Mar** | **The election process in 141 Lok Sabha constituencies, spread over 13 States and Union Territories, begins with Hon'ble President Ms. Pratibha Patil issuing a notification for the second phase** |

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| **31-Mar** | **Hon'ble President Ms. Pratibha Devisingh Patil gives away the Padma Awards in New Delhi. The winners include Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Bollywood actors Ms. Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Mr. Akshay Kumar, eminent Tamil writer Mr. D. Jayakanthan and noted Kerala academician Mr. A. Sreedhara Menon, among others.** |

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| **31-Mar** | **British forces commence their withdrawal from Iraq, six years after the Anglo-American invasion of die country.** |

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| **31-Mar** | **Indian batsman V.V.S. Laxman returns to the top 20 of ICC Test rankings, up six places to the 15th position.** |

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| **1-Apr** | **The Cancer Research Foundation India launches an awareness programme under the "Conquer Cancer Campaign" for initiating awareness through a dedicated helpline in the urban areas.** |

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| **1-Apr** | **Israeli Prime Minister Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu officially assumes the reins of power of the country, along with a 30-member cabinet.** |

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| **1-Apr** | **India's Gaganjit Bhullar qualifies for playing in this year's British Open golf tournament by winning the international final qualifying event for Asia in Singapore.** |

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| **2-Apr** | **Leaders of the world's largest economies at the G20 Summit in London pledge additional SLA trillion in resources for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other multilateral institutions to boost global growth.** |

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| **5-Apr** | **Delhi girl Ms. Ekta Chowdhry is crowned Miss India Universe 2009 at the Femina Miss India pageant held in Mumbai; Ms. Pooja. Chopra of Pune is crowned Miss India World and Shriya Kishore of Mumbai is crowned Miss India Earth.** |

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| **5-Apr** | **North Korea announces the successful launch of an indigenous communication satellite.** |

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| **6-Apr** | **Team India's mainstay Rahul Dravid takes the 182nd catch of his Test career in the final Test against New Zealand in Wellington, thus setting the world record for most Test catches (excluding wicketkeepers), overtaking Australian Mark Waugh's tally.** |

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| **7-Apr** | **India record their first Test series win in New Zealand in 41 years, taking the series 1 -0, even as the third and final Test ends in a draw in Wellington, New Zealand.** |

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| **8-Apr** | **For the first time. Pakistan acknowledges that besides Mohammad Ajmal Amir Kasab, some of the other terrorists invoked in the Mumbai attack may have also been Pakistanis** |

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| **10-Apr** | **Chandrayaan-1 sends back some important images, one of them being its first full-Earth image captured by the Terrain Mapping Camera (TMC) on board. These images, taken from 4,00,000 km away, with India at the centre, show Asia and West Asia, parts of Africa and Australia forming a terrestrial ring around the Indian Ocean.** |

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| **12-Apr** | **In a significant decision, the Supreme Court of India holds that the Appellate Authority (AA), even while affirming the order of the Disciplinary Authority (DA), must give reasons for arriving at the decision.** |

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| **12-Apr** | **India lift the Sultan Azlan Shah hockey tournament title after a gap of 13 years, beating Malaysia 3-1 in the final at Ipoh, Malaysia.** |

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| **13-Apr** | **Tech Mahindra outbids Larsen & Toubro and Wilbur Ross to acquire the beleaguered San-am Computer Services; it will shell out Rs. 2.889 crore for 51 percent stake in Satyam.** |

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| **13-Apr** | **Swiss architect Mr. Peter Zumthor is chosen for the Pritzker Prize 2009, a prestigious honour which is considered an equal to the Nobel Prize in architecture.** |

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| **16-Apr** | **Polling in 124 of the 543 Lok Sabha constituencies-the first of the five-phase elections-witness 58-62 percent turnout** |

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| **17-Apr** | **At an international conference held in Tokyo, Japan, donors led by the L'S and Japan pledge more than $5 billion to stabilise Pakistan's troubled economy and fight the spread of terrorism.** |

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| **19-Apr** | **Ace Indian cueist Pankaj Advani wins a record third Asian billiards championship title, beating Singapore's Peter Gilchrist in the final of the Asian billiards championship in Pune, Maharashtra.** |

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| **20-Apr** | **In a flawless mission, the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV C-12) puts in orbit Radar Imaging Satellite (RISAT-2), a surveillance satellite, and ANUSAT, the first satellite built by a university (Anna University, Chennai).** |

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| **23-Apr** | **French swimmer Alain Bernerd breaks the world record in the 100-metre freestyle event at the French swimming championship, winning the event at 46.94 seconds.** |

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| **24-Apr** | **The Government of Oman, through its ambassador to India, urges India to sign the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council** |

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| **25-Apr** | **South Africa's long-dominant African National Congress (ANC) party wins over-whelmingly in the parliamentary elections, but fails to get the majority it won in the last elections. The victory puts Mr. Jacob Zuma in line for presidency** |

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| **26-Apr** | **Governments around the world rush to check the spread of H1N1, a new type of virulent swine flu** |

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| **30-Apr** | **The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) announces the launch of the New Pension System (NPS) for all citizens of the country with immediate effect** |

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| **30-Apr** | **The six-year British military occupation of Iraq ends formally, a month ahead of schedule, amid conflicting claims whether it was worth the cost and loss of lives.** |

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| **30-Apr** | **India's Asher Noria clinches the Gold in the double trap event of the International juniors' competition in Suhl, Germany.** |

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| **1-May** | **Official data reveal that India's merchandise export plummeted by 33.3 percent in dollar terms in March 2009.** |

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| **1-May** | **Workers, trade unions and leftist politicians across Europe mark May Day or International Labour Day with massive demonstrations demanding jobs, better wages and pensions.** |

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| **1-May** | **Australia beat Pakistan by eight wickets in the fourth ODI of the series in Abu Dhabi, UAE, to take the series with an unassailable 3-1 lead.** |

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| **4-May** | **Nine months after he was elected the first Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" announces his resignation from the office in Kathmandu, the capital of the nation** |

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| **9-May** | **Mr. Jacob Zuma the indefatigable fighter against apartheid is sworn in as liberated South Africa's fourth President in Johannesburg** |

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| **12-May** | **Russian Prime Minister Mr. Vladimir Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Taro Aso signs Nuclear Supply deal in Tokyo, Japan, under which Russia will supply fuel and technology to energy-starved Japan.** |

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| **13-May** | **The elections to the 15th Lok Sabha comes to an end with the completion of the fifth and final phase. According to official reports, around 5960 percent of the 71.37 crore voters in the country exercised their franchise in the month-long elections to elect 543 members to the Lok Sabha** |

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| **15-May** | **NASA launches two robotic probes-the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) and the Lunar CRater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS). It is the first step towards returning humans to the Moon by 2020.** |

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| **16-May** | **The United Progressive Alliance (UPA) led by the Indian National-Congress storms back to power at the Centre winning 261 seats in the general elections held in April-May 2009; the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) garners 159 seats while Left parties win just 24 seats. Others including SP (23), BSP (21) and BJD bag 99 seats.** |

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| **16-May** | **The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) announces that Sri Lanka and Belarus will be granted dialogue partner status at the group's summit to be held in June 2009.** |

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| **16-May** | **South Korea win their third Asia Cup hockey title, beating Pakistan 1-0 in the final in Kuantan, Malaysia.** |

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| **17-May** | **China retain the Sudirman Cup world badminton championship title, defeating South Korea in the final in Guangzhou, China.** |

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| **19-May** | **Ending all speculations, the Sri Lankan Government announces that troops engaged in combing operations in the Mullaithivu coast, where the LTTE were pitted in the last standoff against the military, have recovered the body of LTTE supremo V. Prabhakaran.** |

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| **19-May** | **The nuclear-capable Agni-II missile, with a strike range of up to 3,000 km, is successfully test-fired from a launch pad off the Orissa coast.** |

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| **22-May** | **Dr. Manmohan Singh is sworn in as the Prime Minister of India for a second consecutive term along with 19 Cabinet colleagues-majority of them from Congress and only two from other allies-as part of the first phase of government formation** |

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| **24-May** | **Deccan Chargers, last year's wooden spooners, clinch the title of the IPL-2, beating Bangalore Royal Challengers in the final by six runs at Johannesburg, South Africa.** |

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| **25-May** | **Cyclone Aila hits West Bengal, killing a large number of people and affecting lakhs in the State.** |

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| **25-May** | **Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal takes oath as the new Prime Minister of Nepal** |

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| **27-May** | **Justice Arijit Pasayat, retired Supreme Court Judge, assumes charge as Chairperson of the Competition Appellate Tribunal for a tenure of three years.** |

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| **27-May** | **Canadian short story writer Ms. Alice Munro wins the prestigious 60,000 pounds Man Booker International Prize.** |

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| **27-May** | **Russia successfully launches a spacecraft to boost the strength of the crew of the Inter-national Space Station (ISS) from three to six.** |

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| **31-May** | **Air Chief Marshal Pradeep Vasant Naik takes over as the Chief of the Air Staff.** |

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| **31-May** | **In the Asian Security Summit held in Singapore, Pakistan offers to play a constructive role in Afghanistan.** |

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| **31-May** | **Casey Stoner of Australia wins the Italian MotoGP Grand Prix title in Mugello, Italy.** |

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| **1-Jun** | **The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) announces that the mobile subscriber base in India has crossed the staggering 40-crore mark.** |

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| **1-Jun** | **Ignoring opposition from Israel, a UN team enters Gaza to investigate possible war crimes and other violations of international law during Israel's assault on the coastal strip in early 2009.** |

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| **1-Jun** | **The Indian women's team finish fourth in the Asian women's rugby tournament in Pattaya, Thailand.** |

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| **3-Jun** | **Ms. Meira Kumar is unanimously elected as the first women Speaker of the Lok Sabha; she also becomes the first Dalit to be elected to this prestigious post** |

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| **6-Jun** | **India's Leander Paes and Lukas Dlouhy of the Czech Republic win the men's doubles title of the 2009 French Open tennis tournament with a 3-6, 63, 6-2 win over Wesley Moodie of South Africa and Belgium's Dick Norman.** |

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| **9-Jun** | **Genpact, one of the world's largest business process outsourcing companies, signs an MoU with the Government of Bhutan to train personnel and develop information technology-enabled services in the mountain nation** |

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| **11-Jun** | **Kaguya, Japan's first lunar satellite, is successfully manoeuvred to crash onto the Moon.** |

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| **12-Jun** | **India, along with 27 other countries, signs the Inter-governmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) network, which aims at linking the railroad systems in Asia and Europe. Besides India, the signatories include Cambodia, Mongolia, South Korea, Russia, Tajikistan and Thailand, among others.** |

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| **12-Jun** | **The United Nations Security Council votes unanimously to slap tougher sanctions on North Korea in response to its nuclear test in violation of the UN resolutions.** |

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| **16-Jun** | **The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit is held in Yekaterinburg, Russia** |

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| **18-Jun** | **NASA successfully blasts two probes into space on a mission to scout water resources and landing sites in anticipation of sending humans back to the Moon in 2020.** |

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| **21-Jun** | **The eagerly-awaited Acropolis Museum, which houses 4,000 ancient sculptures that once adorned the Acropolis, opens in Athens, Greece.** |

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| **21-Jun** | **Pakistan emerge winners of the 2009 edition of the ICC World Twenty20, beating Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the final in London, England.** |

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| **21-Jun** | **Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal scripts history by becoming the first Indian to win a Super Series tournament after she clinches the Indonesian Open title with a stunning victory over the higher ranked Chinese Lin Wang in Jakarta, Indonesia.** |

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| **24-Jun** | **Uttarakhand Health Minister Mr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank is unanimously elected as the new Chief Minister of the State replacing Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C. Khanduri** |

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| **25-Jun** | **Mr. Nandan M. Nilekani, the Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Infosys Technologies, is appointed as the Chairperson of the Unique Identification (UID) Authority of India. It is a new agency set up to provide unique identification numbers to all citizens for accessing various government services.** |

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| **25-Jun** | **A research carried out by a team of European scientists reveals that huge geysers on Saturn's moon Enceladus may be fed by a salty sea below its surface.** |

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| **26-Jun** | **Michael Jackson, the American pop superstar, passes away at the age of 50 in Los Angeles, USA** |

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| **29-Jun** | **On the sidelines of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France, Trade Ministers of India, Brazil and South Africa come out with a joint declaration asserting that the needs and aspirations of developing countries must remain in the forefront of the Doha Round of World Trade Organisation talks.** |

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| **29-Jun** | **Brazil beat USA 3-2 in the final to win the title of the Confederations Cup football tournament in Johannesburg, South Africa.** |

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| **30-Jun** | **The Bandra-Worli Sea Link, the longest sea bridge in the country, is inaugurated by UPA Chairperson Ms. Sonia Gandhi in Mumbai.** |

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| **30-Jun** | **In a significant development, the US troops begin withdrawing from Iraq** |

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| **1-Jul** | **As a part of the government's decision to spread the reach of the National Security Guards (NSG), Union Home Minister Mr. P. Chidambaram inaugurates an NSG hub in Chennai.** |

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| **1-Jul** | **Sri Lankan President Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa announces the formation of an All-Party Committee (APC) for development and recon-ciliation work in the terrorism-ravaged country.** |

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| **1-Jul** | **World champion Viswanathan Anand of India retains his second place behind Bulgaria's Veselin Topalov in the latest chess world rankings.** |

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| **2-Jul** | **Japanese diplomat Yukiya Amano is elected the next head of the UN atomic watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), succeeding Mohamed ElBaradei who retires in November 2009** |

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| **5-Jul** | **Roger Federer of Switzerland creates history by clinching his 15th Grand Slam, when he beats Andy Roddick of USA in the marathon final of the Wimbledon 2009.** |

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| **6-Jul** | **Union Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee unveils the Union Budget 2009-10 in the Lok Sabha. In the Budget, he seeks to trade off higher fiscal deficit with growth** |

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| **9-Jul** | **Leaders of the G8 industrial nations and the G5 developing countries at their Summit in L'Aquila, Italy call for an ambitious and balanced conclusion to the Doha Development Round of trade talks in 2010. The leaders also stress that the standstill commitments made at the London G20 summit must be adhered to** |

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| **14-Jun** | **Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh attends the Bastille Day parade in Paris, France, The Indian delegation attends the event as Guest of Honour, on a day that marks the 220th anniversary of the French Revolution** |

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| **16-Jul** | **The Union Government proposes to launch an ambitious Rs. 1,600-crore scheme for the development of one million hectares of fringe forests and adjoining non-forest lands in villages across the country.** |

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| **16-Jul** | **The 15th NAM Summit concludes in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt** |

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| **17-Jul** | **ISRO announces that Chandrayaan-1's star sensors--vital in determining the orientation of the spacecraft--have failed.** |

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| **20-Jul** | **India and die US take the bilateral relations a step forward, with the visiting US Secretary of State Ms. Hillary Clinton signing three agreements-the military end user agreement, the technology safeguards agreement, and the science and technology cooperation agreement.** |

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| **20-Jul** | **Four-time women's boxing world champion M.C. Mary Kom is chosen by the Government of India for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, the country's highest sporting honour, for the year 2008.** |

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| **22-Jul** | **A total solar eclipse, the longest of its kind of the 21st century, sweeps across a narrow swathe of Asia, visible in totality from many regions of India.** |

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| **22-Jul** | **At the sidelines of the conference of the Foreign Ministers of two dozen countries in Phuket, Thailand, India's External Affairs Minister Mr. S. M. Krishna holds his first meeting with his Chinese counterpart Mr. Yang Jiechi. In the meeting, the representatives of the two Asian powerhouses resolve to further deepen their ties, especially in bilateral trade.** |

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| **22-Jul** | **A NASA report reveals that Jupiter was recently struck by a large object-possibly a comet or a block of ice-which has left a Earth-sized dent in its gaseous atmosphere.** |

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| **25-Jun** | **Indonesian President Mr. Sushilo Bambang Yudhoyono is re-elected by a landslide margin** |

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| **26-Jul** | **With the launch of INS Arihant in Visakhapatnam, India joins the elite club of nations having nuclear submarine capability. With the launch of this 110-metre, 6,000-tonne submarine, India becomes only the sixth country after the US, the UK, China, Russia and France and the only country in the Indian Ocean region to possess this advanced capability.** |

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| **26-Jul** | **Last year's winner Alberto Contador of Spain wins the title of the 2009 Tour de France.** |

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| **31-Jul** | **The Supreme Court asks the Centre to take up with the State Governments and ensure that there is no unauthorised constructions of temples, churches, mosques and gurdwaras on public streets/public places.** |

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| **31-Jul** | **Aaron Peirsol of USA wins the 200-metre backstroke. title at the World swimming championship in Rome, Italy.** |

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| **31-Jul** | **The Government of Sri Lanka relaxes the restrictions on deep sea fishing--in force since 2005 due to terrorism--in the northern seas** |

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| **1-Aug** | **Ms. Nirupama Rao takes charge as the Foreign Secretary.** |

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| **1-Aug** | **Corazon Aquino, whose name remains indelibly linked to the "people's power" of the 1980s in the Philippines, passes away at 76.** |

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| **1-Aug** | **India defeat South Africa by 17 runs in the final to win the Emerging Players Tournament in Brisbane, Australia.** |

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| **3-Aug** | **Prominent Indian social activist Mr. Deep Joshi is named along with five others for the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for 2009, which is considered Asia's equivalent of Nobel Prize** |

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| **5-Aug** | **Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is sworn in as the President of Iran** |

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| **12-Aug** | **The Centre releases the draft of the new Direct Taxes Code. The new code proposes 10 percent income tax if the total yearly income exceeds Rs. 1.6 lakh but does not exceed Rs. 10 lakh. It proposes two other slabs : where the total income exceeds Rs. 10 lakh but does not exceed Rs. 25 lakh, it proposes a tax of Rs. 84,000 plus 20 percent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 10 lakh. In the slab where the total income exceeds Rs. 25 lakh, it proposes Rs. 3.84 lakh plus tax at the rate of 30 percent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 25 lakh. The code is proposed to come into effect from April 1, 2011** |

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| **15-Aug** | **Member-states of the forum of East Asia Summit (EAS), including India and China, hold a meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, wherein they collectively express themselves against all forms of protectionism in trade and investment.** |

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| **16-Aug** | **Olympic champion and the "Fastest Man on Earth" Usain Bolt of Jamaica obliterates his own 100 m world record (9.69 sec, registered at Beijing Olympics 2008) to win the World Athletics Championship final in a breathtaking 9.58 seconds in Berlin, Germany.** |

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| **20-Aug** | **Afghan voters defy the threat of Taliban rebels and come out to vote in the Presidential elections of the country, counting of votes also begins** |

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| **23-Aug** | **18-year old Miss Venezuela Ms. Stefania Fernandez clinches the coveted 2009 Miss Universe title at the pageant held in Nassau, Bahamas.** |

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| **23-Aug** | **England regain the Ashes Trophy after beating Australia by 197 runs on the fourth day of the deciding fifth Test.** |

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| **26-Aug** | **In a significant development, the fudges of the Supreme Court of India, including Chief Justice of India KG. Balakrishnan, agree to make public their statements of assets, which they declared at the time of their appointment to the Supreme Court, and subsequent additions, if any** |

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| **28-Aug** | **The former Indian Coast Guard ship Vigraha is inducted into the Sri Lankan Navy (SLN) at the Trincomalee Navy Dockyard in Sri Lanka; the ship is formally commissioned and renamed SUWS Sayurala.** |

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| **29-Aug** | **Space shuttle Discovery blasts off from NASA's space station at Cape Canaveral, Florida to the International Space Station (ISS) on a 13-day mission to equip the space station.** |

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| **29-Aug** | **Hon'ble President Ms. Pratibha Patil presents the National Sports and Adventure Awards to the recipients at a glittering function in New Delhi. This is for the first time that the nation honours three sportspersons with the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for the same year-four-time world boxing champion M.C. Mary Kom, and Beijing Olympic Bronze medallists Vijender Singh (Boxing) and Sushil Kumar (Wrestling).** |

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| **30-Aug** | **The Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), led by Mr. Yukio Hatoyama, registers a landslide victory in Japan's parliamentary elections, ousting the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which has been in power in the country for all but 11 months since 1955.** |

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| **30-Aug** | **The ISRO calls off the Chandrayaan-1 mission, as there is no possibility of retrieving it; it, however, says that the Chandrayaan-2 mission will be on track as per schedule (2012-13).** |

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| **31-Aug** | **Vice-Admiral Nirmal Kumar Verma takes over as the new Chief of Naval Staff; he succeeds Admiral Sureesh Mehta.** |

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| **31-Aug** | **The Colombo High Court of Sri Lanka sentences senior Tamil journalist Mr. J. Tissainayagam to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA).** |

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| **31-Aug** | **India retain the Nehru Cup football title, beating Syria in the final 6-5 in New Delhi.** |

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| **1-Sep** | **Renowned missile scientist Dr. V.K. Saraswat assumes office as the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister and Director-General of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).** |

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| **1-Sep** | **Fiji is suspended from the Commonwealth after it fails to meet a deadline to make progress towards restoring democracy in the nation.** |

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| **1-Sep** | **Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka reclaims the top spot in ICC's batsman rankings in Tests.** |

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| **2-Sep** | **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, which makes education a fundamental right of every child in the 6-15 years group, comes into force with the Presidential assent** |

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| **4-Sep** | **Signalling a breakthrough in the deadlock over global trade talks, stuck since July 2008, the New Delhi Ministerial Meeting on re-energising the trade talks announces the resumption of Doha Round of WTO talks** |

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| **7-Sep** | **In a radical. revamp for school education. Union Human Resource Development Minister Mr. Kapil Sibal announces that beginning 2011, Class X board examinations will become a thing of the past: instead, students will be promoted to senior secondary level through internal assessment.** |

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| **7-Sep** | **Ace cueist Pankaj Advani of India clinches the tide of the 2009 Professional World Billiards Championship in Leeds, England, outclassing Mike Russell of Qatar in the final.** |

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| **10-Sep** | **Olympic Bronze medallist Indian boxer Vijender Singh creates history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal at the World Boxing Championship, after beating Ukrainian Sergiy Derevyanchenko to enter the semi-final at the 2009 edition of the event in Milan, Italy.** |

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| **12-Sep** | **The Centre unveils the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY), under which States that are ready to accord property rights to slum dwellers will be assisted by the Centre to upgrade their slums.** |

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| **12-Sep** | **The Rural Development Ministry says in a report that 50 percent of Indians are below the poverty line if one takes into account the criterion of calorie intake.** |

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| **14-Sep** | **India win the Compaq Cup tri-series beating Sri Lanka in the final in Colombo, Sri Lanka, riding on Sachin Tendulkar's 44th ODI century (138) and Harbhajan Singh's five-wicket haul (5 for 56).** |

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| **15-Sep** | **Nobel winning US agricultural scientist Norman Borlaug, widely hailed as the "Father of Green Revolution", passes away in USA.** |

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| **15-Sep** | **In one of the biggest upsets in tennis history, Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina defeats Swiss maestro Roger Federer in the final to lift the title of the 2009 US Open men's singles title in New York, USA.** |

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| **16-Sep** | **Mr. Yukio Hatoyama is appointed as the Prime Minister of Japan; he becomes the 60th person to hold this office and the 93rd Prime Minister of the nation** |

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| **17-Sep** | **NASA astronomers find the coldest place in the solar system inside the craters in the Moon's south pole. Temperature in the area is 397 degrees below zero, which is just 62 degrees higher than the lowest temperature possible.** |

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| **20-Sep** | **Riding on the brilliant display of Somdev Devvarman, India defeat South Africa 4-1 in the World Group play-off in Johannesburg, South Africa, thus entering the Davis Cup World Group after an 11-year gap.** |

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| **23-Sep** | **In what is the 15th successful launch of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in a row, the PSLV C-14 blasts off from the Sriharikota space station, and puts India's Oceansat-2 and six foreign nano satellites in orbit.** |

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| **24-Sep** | **The Summit of G20 major economies gets underway in Pittsburg, USA.** |

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| **24-Sep** | **In a significant discovery, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announces that the NASA-supplied Moon Mineralogy Mapper (M3) on board Chandrayaan-1, India's first Moon mission, had found traces of water across the surface of large parts of the Moon.** |

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| **27-Sep** | **Iran test-fires three missiles, including a solid-fuelled weapon which can target several destinations in the region including Israel, heightening tensions among world powers.** |

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| **27-Sep** | **Australian scientists find 850 new species in the underground caves of the Australian Outback, including various species of invertebrates like spiders, insects and worms.** |

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| **28-Sep** | **German Chancellor Ms. Angela Markel is re-elected for a second four-year term to govern the country.** |

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| **28-Sep** | **Chinese researchers unearth the fossil of a bird-like dinosaur with wings, which they suggest is a crucial missing link in dinosaurs' evolution into birds.** |

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| **29-Sep** | **In a landmark development, Iran announces that it will allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect its second uranium plant to help allay fears about its nuclear intentions.** |

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| **29-Sep** | **Indian boxing's pride Vijender Singh, Olympic and World Championship Bronze medal winner, achieves yet another first for Indian boxing by becoming the world's top ranked pugilist in the middleweight category.** |

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| **30-Sep** | **Legendary playback singer Manna Dev is chosen for the prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Award for 2007.** |

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| **1-Oct** | **The Union Government makes major changes in the Mega Power Policy, under which States controlling the power distribution system will be allowed to purchase power from mega power units in a bid to encourage such projects.** |

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| **1-Oct** | **Iran and six global powers-five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany-begin nuclear talks in Geneva, Switzerland.** |

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| **1-Oct** | **Gautam Gambhiris named ICC Test Cricketer of the Year; M.S. Dhoni is adjudged the ICC ODI Cricketer of the Year, while Australia's Mitchell Johnson wins the Cricketer of the Year award.** |

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| **2-Oct** | **The Centre renames the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Act.** |

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| **2-Oct** | **Brazilian city Rio de Janeiro gets the right to host the 2016 Olympics.** |

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| **3-Oct** | **India is unanimously elected the Second Vice-Chair of the G24 countries** |

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| **3-Oct** | **Tiger Woods of USA becomes the first athlete in history to surpass $1 billion in career earnings.** |

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| **5-Oct** | **Americans Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak win the 2009 Nobel Prize in Medicine for discovering a key mechanism in the genetic operations in cells, an insight that has inspired new lines of research into cancer.** |

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| **5-Oct** | **Australia win the Champions Trophy, defeating New Zealand in the final by six wickets in Centurion, .South Africa.** |

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| **6-Oct** | **Three Americans-Charles K. Kao, Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith, whose 1960 research laid the foundation for today's world of computer images and lightning fast communication, share the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics.** |

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| **7-Oct** | **India-born American Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, his fellow countryman Thomas Steitz and Israeli scientist Ada Yonath share the 2009 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, for showing how the ribosome, which produces protein, functions at the atomic level.** |

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| **7-Oct** | **British novelist Ms. Hillary Mantel's historical novel Wolf Hall wins this year's Man Booker Prize beating five other contenders, including two previous Booker winners** |

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| **8-Oct** | **Ms. Herta Mueller, a member of Romania's ethnic German minority, wins the 2009 Nobel Prize in Literature.** |

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| **8-Oct** | **NASA crashes two spacecraft, the Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite and its Centaur rocket, into an eternally dark crater, in search of water.** |

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| **9-Oct** | **US President Mr. Barack Obama, who is just nine months into his term, sensationally wins the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize** |

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| **12-Oct** | **Americans Elinor Ostrom and Oliver Williamson jointly win the 2009 Nobel Economics Prize for their analyses of economic governance-the rules by which people exercise authority in companies and economic systems.** |

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| **15-Oct** | **India and Russia finalise a new 10-year military cooperation pact that will enhance bilateral relations.** |

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| **15-Oct** | **US President Mr. Barack Obama signs into law the Kerry-Lugar Bill that triples the US non-military assistance to Pakistan to SI.5 billion annually over the next five years** |

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| **16-Oct** | **India notifies its separation plan to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), under which 14 of its 22 nuclear reactors will be placed under safeguards of the watchdog by 2014.** |

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| **16-Oct** | **Five countries-Nigeria, Brazil, Bosnia. Lebanon and Gabon-are elected as the new members of die UN Security Council.** |

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| **17-Oct** | **The Maldives Cabinet holds the world's first underwater meeting to highlight the dangers posed to low-lying nations by global warming.** |

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| **17-Oct** | **Ghana become the first African nation to win the under-20 football World Cup, when they beat Brazil 4-3 in the final of the 2009 edition in Cairo, Egypt.** |

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| **18-Oct** | **Britain's Jenson Button is crowned Formula One world champion when he secures the fifth place in the Brazilian Grand Prix in Sao Paulo, Brazil.** |

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| **20-Oct** | **Union Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee launches the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), which is mandated to impart skills to 30 percent of the overall target of 500 million people by the year 2022** |

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| **22-Oct** | **The results of the Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Haryana and Arunachal Pradesh are announced. Congress wins 42 seats out of 60 in Arunachal; in Maharashtra, Congress (82 seats)-NCP (62) coalition retains power; and in Haryana, the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) wins 31 seats against Congress' 40 in a House of 90** |

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| **23-Oct** | **The New South Wales Blues win the inaugural Airtel-Champions League Twenty20 championship, defeating Trinidad & Tobago by 41 runs in the final in Hyderabad.** |

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| **24-Oct** | **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan (60), Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, is appointed Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). He succeeds Dr. G. Madhavan Nair.** |

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| **24-Oct** | **The seventh ASEAN-India meet is held on the sidelines of the 15th Association of South East Asian Nations Summit in Hua Hin, Thailand. At the meet, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh proposes the establishment of a joint task force to ensure a substantive outcome for India's 10th summit with ASEAN in 2012; he also offers to play host to the bilateral gathering that year.** |

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| **25-Oct** | **India grants Market Economy Status to Vietnam, which responds by entering the India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement which India had signed with the other members of the 10-nation bloc in August 2009** |

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| **27-Oct** | **NASA tests Ares I-X, a prototype rocket that carries the hope of returning humans to the Moon, and for the first time to Mars. It is also the world's tallest rocket to be ever launched.** |

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| **29-Oct** | **The first-ever fighter-level exercise between the air forces of India and Oman comes to an end at the Royal Air Force of Oman's Thumrait airbase.** |

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| **29-Oct** | **Britain's Queen Elizabeth formally hands over the Commonwealth Games baton to visiting President Ms. Pratibha Patil in London. After the formal handing-over, prominent Indian sports personalities set off a relay race that will eventually cover more than 1,90,000 km over 340 days across various Commonwealth nations. The race will come to an end when the baton finally reaches New Delhi on October 3, 2010** |

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| **30-Oct** | **Oasis of the Seas, the world's biggest cruise liner, embarks on its maiden voyage to Florida, USA, from Helsinki, Finland. The liner spans 360 metres, has 2,700 cabins and can accommodate 6,300 passengers and 2,100 crew.** |

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| **31-Oct** | **India defeat Australia by six wickets in the third match of the ODI series in New Delhi to take a 2-1 lead in the series.** |

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| **1-Nov** | **Deriba Merga of Ethiopia wins the men's title of the Airtel Delhi Half-Marathon; Mary Keitani of Kenya wins the women's race.** |

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| **2-Nov** | **Twenty-one Judges of the Supreme Court, including Chief Justice of India K.G. Balakrishnan, declare their assets, giving details of movable and immovable property owned by them and their spouses on the Supreme Court website.** |

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| **2-Nov** | **Afghanistan's Election Commission proclaims President Mr. Hamid Karzai the victor of the country's tumultuous presidential elections, cancelling a planned run-off and ending a political crisis that began with a fraud-marred first round in .August 2009.** |

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| **4-Nov** | **Soumya Swaminathan of India becomes the girls' champion in the World Junior Chess Championship at Puerto Madryn, Argentina.** |

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| **5-Nov** | **In the fifth match of the India-Australia ODI series at Hyderabad, Sachin Tendulkar scores a brilliant 175 off 141 balls, which is the 45th ODI century of his career. Despite his heroics, India go down by three runs in the match.** |

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| **6-Nov** | **The 10th India-European Union (EU) Summit is held in New Delhi; the summit is chaired by Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, while the EU is represented by European Commission President Mr. Jose Manuel Barroso and Swedish Prime Minister Mr. Fredrik Reinfeldt, whose country currently heads the EU. Among various crucial agreements, the two sides also sign an important pact to promote joint research in nuclear fusion. The two sides also decide to put negotiations for a free trade agreement on the fast track** |

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| **6-Nov** | **The UN General Assembly endorses the Goldstone Report, which focuses mainly on alleged Israeli war crimes and crimes against humanity during the infamous Gaza War.** |

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| **7-Nov** | **A team of Japanese and American scientists announces the discovery of 22 extremely distant galaxies which may have been born 787 million years after the Big Bang.** |

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| **8-Nov** | **Inaugurating the 25th India Economic Summit, organised in New Delhi by the World Economic Forum in association with FICCI, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh unveiled the broad contours of decision-making on future economic reforms.** |

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| **8-Nov** | **The UN Development Fund for Women launches an international campaign in the Kenyan capital Nairobi to mobilise people around the world to take part in a drive to stop the pandemic of violence suffered by women.** |

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| **9-Nov** | **A crucial agreement is reached between Nepal and China to start flights on the Kathmandu-Lhasa route in 2010, making Nepal the first country in the world to operate flights to Lhasa (Tibet).** |

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| **11-Nov** | **Australia clinche the ODI series against India by a 4-2 margin, even as the last of the seven-match series in Mumbai is abandoned due to rain.** |

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| **13-Nov** | **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA, says that its bombardment of the Moon's surface has discovered beds of water ice at the lunar pole.** |

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| **15-Nov** | **The two-day summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) concludes in Singapore. In the summit, the leaders of the 21 APEC economies pledge to promote inclusive and sustainable growth to ensure a durable recovery.** |

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| **16-Nov** | **The UN Hunger Summit is held in Rome, Italy; in the summit, the participants pledge to combat food shortages around the world.** |

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| **18-Nov** | **US President Mr. Barack Obama wraps up his three-day China visit, after discussing trade-related issues with Chinese Premier Mr. Wen Jiabao.** |

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| **19-Nov** | **Bangladesh Prime Minister Ms. Sheikh Hasina is chosen for the prestigious Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2009.** |

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| **19-Nov** | **China retain the men's team title at the 19th Asian table tennis championship in Lucknow; they also clinch the women's team title in the tournament.** |

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| **19-Nov** | **The Centre approves the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, which aims to add 20,000 MW of power in India by 2022** |

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| **20-Nov** | **Belgian PM Mr. Herman Von Rompuy is elected as the first President of the 27-member European Union (EU); Ms. Catherine Ashton of Britain is elected as the High Representative of Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.** |

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| **20-Nov** | **Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar becomes the first cricketer to score 30,000 international runs, a feat he achieves in the first Test of the India-Sri Lanka series in Ahmedabad; the match ends in a draw.** |

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| **21-Nov** | **The Large Hadron Collider (LHC), developed by the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), starts functioning again after a break of 14 months. Scientists hope that the LHC, popularly known as the Big Bang Machine, will help them understand the origin of the Universe.** |

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| **22-Nov** | **Larissa Ramos of Brazil wins the 2009 Miss Earth title at the pageant held in Boracay, the Philippines.** |

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| **22-Nov** | **Usain Bolt of Jamaica and Sanya Richards of USA are named the IAAF World Athletes of the Year in a ceremony held in Monte Carlo, Monaco.** |

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| **23-Nov** | **India test-fires its nuclear-capable Agni-II Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile at night for the first time from the Wheeler Island off the Odhisa coast** |

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| **24-Nov** | **The report of the Liberhan Commission, appointed to find out the facts behind the demolition of the Babri Masjid, is tabled in the Parliament. The report comes down strongly on the entire Sangh Parivar, accusing them of manipulating the common masses and turning them into a frenzied mob.** |

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| **24-Nov** | **The summit meeting between US President Mr. Barack Obama and visiting Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh is held at the White House in Washington, USA. The meeting ends on an optimistic note with Mr. Obama affirming that the relationship between the two nations is one of the "defining partnerships of the 21st century"** |

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| **25-Nov** | **Hon'ble President Ms. Pratibha Patil creates history by becoming the first woman head of state to fly in a fighter jet. She completes a 30-minute sortie aboard a Sukhoi at a height of 8,000 feet.** |

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| **27-Nov** | **The French Parliament unanimously adopts the Indo-French civil nuclear deal, paving the way for French companies to invest in India.** |

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| **28-Nov** | **India and Canada reach a crucial deal on civil nuclear cooperation, paving the way for the supply of Canadian atomic technology, equipment and uranium to India** |

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| **29-Nov** | **Italy win their first-ever World Cup golf title, defeating Sweden and Ireland in the three-way final round in Shenzhen, China.** |

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| **30-Nov** | **The 2009 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) concludes in Port-of-Spain, after reaching some key agreements on various crucial matters including the issue of climate change** |

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| **1-Dec** | **Union Minister for Tourism Kumari Selja launches the MV Aquamarine, a cruise ship, from Kochi, Kerala; it is the first international cruise ship to operate from a port in India.** |

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| **1-Dec** | **Star Argentinian footballer Lionel Messi wins the Golden Ball, awarded to the European Footballer of the Year, following an exceptional season with Spanish giants Barcelona.** |

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| **2-Dec** | **US President Mr. Barack Obama unveils a new Afghan strategy, saying that the US will send 30,000 more troops to the war-torn nation. He also says that the US will make an effort to pull out of Afghanistan by July 2011** |

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| **4-Dec** | **The Nepal Cabinet holds a historic meeting at the Everest Base Camp in Kalapatthar to send a message to the world that the Himalayas in Nepal are melting because of climate change triggered by carbon emissions in big countries.** |

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| **5-Dec** | **Spain retain the Davis Cup by taking an unassailable 3-0 lead over Czech Republic in the final in Barcelona, Spain. This is Spain's fourth tide since 2000.** |

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| **6-Dec** | **India beat touring Sri Lanka by an innings and 24 runs in the third and final Test of the series in Mumbai, thus completing a 2-0 series sweep. The series win takes India to the top spot in the ICC Test Rankings for the first time.** |

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| **6-Dec** | **Australia claim the men's field hockey Champions Trophy for a record 10th time, beating Germany in the final of the 2009 edition in Melbourne, Australia.** |

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| **7-Dec** | **In a significant development, India and Russia conclude a breakthrough long-term pact for expanding civil nuclear cooperation that is free from any restrictions on India and guarantees it against any curb in the future. Under the agreement signed during Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's visit to Moscow, Russia will set up more nuclear reactors in India, transfer the full range of nuclear energy technologies and ensure uninterrupted supply of fuel.** |

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| **7-Dec** | **The UN Climate Change Conference 2009 opens amid much anticipation in Copenhagen, Denmark.** |

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| **8-Dec** | **The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) adds yet another feather to its cap, with its scientists succeeding in completely sequencing the genome of an individual. This spectacular feat enables India to join a league of select countries-the US, the UK, Canada, China and South Korea.** |

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| **8-Dec** | **Australia retain the Frank Worrell Trophy with a draw against West Indies in the second Test of the series in Adelaide, Australia, thus gaining a 1-0 lead in the three match series.** |

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| **9-Dec** | **In a crucial development, the Centre announces that the process of forming the State of Telangana will be initiated and appropriate resolution moved in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly.** |

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| **11-Dec** | **Asian champion Suranjoy Singh becomes the first Indian boxer to clinch a Gold medal in the intercontinental President's Cup; he defeats Frenchman Nordine Oubaali in the final to win the Gold at the 51-kg category in the 2009 edition of the tournament, where confederations from Asia, America, Europe, Africa and Oceania are pitted against one another.** |

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| **12-Dec** | **Kaiane Aldorino of Gibraltar wins the 2009 Miss World crown in the pageant held in Johannesburg, South Africa, defeating 111 contestants from all over the world. This is the first Miss World title for Gibraltar. Miss Mexico Perla Beltran finishes second, while Miss South Africa Tatum Keshwar becomes the second runner-up.** |

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| **13-Dec** | **India successfully test-fires the nuclear-capable ballistic missile Dhanush from a warship in the Bay of Bengal off the Orissa coast.** |

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| **14-Dec** | **New Zealand clinch the title of the 2009 Champions Challenge hockey tournament, beating Pakistan 4-2 in the final in Salta, Argentina; India bag the Bronze medal defeating hosts Argentina in the playoff match.** |

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| **15-Dec** | **Boeing's revolutionary lightweight 787 Dreamliner takes to the skies for the first time from an airport in USA, marking the advent of a new era in air transport. It is the largest passenger jet made mostly of composite material.** |

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| **17-Dec** | **An international study reveals that scientists have identified all the changes in cells of lung and skin cancer to produce the first entire cancer genome map.** |

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| **18-Dec** | **The UN Climate Change Summit 2009, held in Copenhagen, Denmark, ends with pact named "Copenhagen Accord". The accord promises a mobilisation of $100 billion in annual funding for developing countries to meet the challenges of climate change from 2020 and also pledges about $30 billion by 2012. It sets a target limiting temperature increases to a maximum of two degrees Celsius, but fails to specify the greenhouse gas emission cuts that nations need to commit themselves to in order to meet that goal.** |

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| **19-Dec** | **Spanish club Barcelona becomes the first team in the world to win six tournaments in a calendar year, winning the Club World Cup title for the year 2009, defeating Estudiantes of Argentina in the final in Abu Dhabi, UAE.** |

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| **20-Dec** | **The world's first osmotic power plant, which can utilise the energy when fresh water encounters sea water to produce clean electricity, is unveiled in Norway.** |

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| **22-Dec** | **India and Bhutan hold summit-level talks in New Delhi. In the summit, a dozen pacts are signed between Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and visiting Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk.** |

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| **22-Dec** | **Argentinian footballer Lionel Messi wins the FIFA Player of the Year at a glittering ceremony held in Zurich, Switzerland; Brazilian player Marta is adjudged the Woman Player of the Year.** |

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| **24-Dec** | **The US Senate passes President Mr. Barack Obama's landmark healthcare overhaul by a 60-39 vote, backing sweeping changes in the medical insurance market and new coverage for tens of millions of uninsured Americans.** |

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| **24-Dec** | **India clinch the ODI series against the touring Sri Lankan side 3-1, winning the fourth match by seven wickets in Kolkata, West Bengal.** |

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| **26-Dec** | **China launches the world's fastest train till date, which has the ability to run at an average speed of 350 km per hour.** |

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| **28-Dec** | **The Russian Navy inducts the Akula-II Class nuclear attack submarine "K-152 Nerpa"; the induction spells good news for India, and it will be leased to India for a 10-year period.** |

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| **29-Dec** | **Japanese Premier Mr. Yukio Hatoyama holds a crucial meeting with his Indian counterpart Dr. Manmohan Singh in New Delhi. During the visit, the two sides finalise a joint action plan to advance security cooperation. They discuss various other issues of mutual interest, including the issue of nuclear cooperation. The two leaders also approve the Rs. 3,60,000-crore Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project, which is to be constructed with Japanese assistance. Mr. Hatoyama offers the bullet train technology to India.** |

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| **30-Dec** | **England beat hosts South Africa by an innings and 98 runs in the second Test to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series in Durban, South Africa.** |

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| **31-Dec** | **Ms. Reena Kaushal becomes the first Indian woman to ski to the South Pole. Ms. Kaushal, based in Delhi, makes the historic ski-run as part of an eight-woman Commonwealth team which crosses a 900-km Antarctic ice trek to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Commonwealth.** |

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| **31-Dec** | **For the second time in just over a year, Canadian Prime Minister Mr. Stephen Harper temporarily shuts down the Parliament, evoking accusations from opposition politicians that he is abusing parliamentary power for political gains.** |