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Following are the latest current affairs of the first week of 2017. These current affairs are important for all competitive examinations including IBPS RRB, SSC CHSL and IPPB.

1. RBI appoints Surekha Marandi as the new Executive Director.

The new Executive Director is appointed in place of **U S Paliwal**. **Sureka Marandi** will be the in-charge of the Consumer Education and Protection Department, Secretary's Department and the Financial Inclusion and Development Department.

2. RBI gives permission to launch The Paytm Payment Bank.

Online Mobile Commerce and Payment Company Paytm has been given approval to formally setup Paytm Payments Bank. Paytm with **11 other companies** had applied for the payments bank license in 2015. The other companies include domestic giants like **Airtel** and **Vodafone**.

3. Jovenel Moise has been elected as the President of Haiti.

Haiti, one of the poorest countries in Southern America, elected its new President, Jovenel Moise. The country has been suffering from the political carnage from a year. It was having an interim President since February 2015

4. 2017 has been declared as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development by the United Nations.

The theme highlights the importance of tourism around the world. This will help not only to encourage tourism Internationally but also to conserve various tourist sites which have vulnerability of being destroyed.

5. World's highest bridge opens in China.

Connecting the mountainous provinces in China, the world's highest bridge opened in China. The provinces namely, Yunnan and Guizhou, are located at a height of 1854 feet (565 meters). The bridge facilitated the travelers as it reduced the travel time to three quarters.

6. Sorin Grindeabu appointed as the Prime Minister of Romania.

Romanian President Klaus Iohannis has appointed Sorin Grindeanu as the new PM of Romania. He has been chosen by the coalition of the winner party Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Democratic Alliance.

7. The Indian Army gets its New Chief, General Bipin Rawat.

General Bipin Rawat has taken charge as the 27th Army Chief of Indian Army. Rawat was commissioned in Gorkhja Rifles in 1978. He has commanded various insurgency operations. During his carrier period of 37 years, he has been awarded UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM and the Army Commander's Commendation.

8. Anil Bajjal sworn in as the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi.

Retired IAS officer, Anil Bajjal has taken oath as the 21st Lieutenant Governor of the national Capital. He replaced Najeeb Jung who recently resigned unexpectedly.

9. Virat Kohli has been voted as the India's Sportsman of the year.

Indian Test, ODI and T20 captain has been named as the India's Sportsman of the year. He gained the maximum number of votes beating P V Sindhu (Rio olympics Silver medal winner), who stood at 2nd place and R Ashwin who stays at 3rd place.

10. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Portuguese PM Antonio Costa inaugurate Pravasiya Bharatiya Divas Convection at Bengaluru.

PM Modi and his Portuguese counterpart Antonio Costa has inaugurated the Pravasiya Bharatiya Divas Convection on 8th January 2017 in Bengaluru. PM thanked the Indian Diaspora for supporting him all the way from elections to the event of demonetization.

11. Djokovic wins the Qatar Open Tennis title.

Novak Djokovic (Serbia) has won the Qatar Open Tennis Title defeating Andy Murray (UK) by 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

12. Sania Mirza wins Brisbane Women's Doubles title.

Indian tennis star Sania Mirza won her first title of the season with American partner Bethanie Mattek defeating the Russian team of Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina in the final of Brisbane International women's doubles title.

