

- Adani Group is set to commission worlds' largest solar power plant at Ramanathapuram, in Tamil Nadu. This 648 MW project spans over 12 sq km area and it will light some 150,000 homes in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- The World Coal Association (WCA) advocates for policy parity for carbon capture use and storage (CCUS) alongside all low emission technologies. According to WCA, strong policy drives strong action. Quoting the significant growth that has taken place in renewable energy technology has been entirely on account of policy that provides \$100 billion in subsidies every year. The cumulative value of policy support provided to CCUS by governments to date is approximately 1% of the cumulative value of policy support provided to renewable technologies.
- PTI reported Coal India's coal dispatches to the power sector dropped by 3.6 per cent to 288.2 million tonnes in the April-December 2016-17 as compared to 299.1 million tonnes during the same period in 2015-16. During the same period, supply by Singareni Collieries Co. increased by 2.2% to 36.4 mt. The overall dispatches of coal by CIL in the first nine months of the ongoing fiscal were at 391.7 million tonne against 389.2 million tonne in 2015-16.
- South Eastern Coalfields Ltd is setting up a 5.0 MTPA Coal Washery on Build-Operate-Maintain (BOM) basis at Baroud in Raigarh district. This washery is a part of government's decision to tackle the quality issue of the coal dispatched. Government has decided to transport coal above G10 level only after being washed from October 1, 2017. Business Standard.
- WCA Chief Executive Benjamin Sporton announced that "WCA will work closely with UNECE to demonstrate the role of coal in achieving universal energy access and combating climate change. By keeping coal in the energy mix and supporting technology that reduces emissions, we'll be making energy affordable and accessible to all." As per agreed programme, UNECE and WCA will work together through UNECE's Committee on Sustainable Energy and its subsidiary bodies, the Groups of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and on Cleaner Electricity Production from Fossil Fuels. WCA will also assist in disseminating information on the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC) and its application to solid minerals.
- CNBC has reported that Coal India is looking for a merchant banker to assist it on foreign coal asset acquisitions.
- NLC India Ltd (Formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd) is reported to be in talks with Hyderabad based Ind-Barath Infra Ltd for acquiring their 2X350 MW coal fired power plant at Jharsuguda in Odisha
- Recognizing the shortage of coking coal production in the country, the new draft Steel Policy proposes a strong increase in domestic production, in order to cut imports by half until 2030-31. By then, the steel sector wants to augment its production to 300 million tons of steel per annum, significantly increasing the need for coking coal.

CPSI has been repeatedly advocating that low volatile medium coking coal (LVMC), which is now being sent to power stations should be washed and supplied to steel plants. Today over 45 mt of low volatile coking coal, after washing can give about 15-17 mt of good coking coal that can be used in blend for metallurgical use.

- DNA reported that Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is planning to sell 10% of its annual output in the next three years via e-auction, for which it is inviting bids from service providers. State-owned MSTC Ltd and mjunction Ltd. – jointly owned by Tata Steel and the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) – are the two existing service providers. CIL has been conducting its e-auctions through the two service providers since the process started in 2005.
- Mahanadi Coalfield's Rs. 335.72 crore Basundhara coal washery project in Odisha, is reported to be further delayed due to unfavorable environmental decision. The project has a designed capacity for 10 million tons per annum.

Washing of coal being a pro-environment statutory requirement, there has to be a proactive and positive approach by Ministry of Environment, Forest & CC. CPSI suggests that MoEFCC may set out 'standard guidelines' to be strictly followed by the washery developers and environment clearance for coal washeries should not be held up.

- NTPC is reported to be taking over 1000 MW Chhabra Thermal Power Plant (1,000 mw) and Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (1,320 mw) in Rajasthan from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN) and Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam (RUVNL), respectively. To this effect the three entities signed memorandum of understanding for the takeover.
- In the wake of the Jharkhand coal mine cave-in, which has so far claimed 18 lives, the government has decided to conduct safety audits for all the 418 mines in the country, coal and power minister Piyush Goyal announced. The Centre has also decided to draw a road map for the highest standard of mine safety, ensuring 'zero accident' in coal mining. (Reuters)
- Minister of State for Power, Coal, and New and Renewable Energy Piyush Goyal is not prepared to revise its target for an overall annual production of 1.5 billion tons by 2020, reports Business Standard.
- Coal India, GAIL India, and RCFL are setting up JV for restarting production at the Talcher fertilizer plant, which was closed in 2002. Plans for its reopening in 2020 include a new coal-fired power plant and a new coal washery at the site. Coal gasification is a key development for this joint investment of Rs. 8,700 crore. The Union Ministry of Coal has already agreed on allotting a coal block to the proposed joint venture as soon as it is formalized.
- China is reported to have passed a law that levies taxes on pollution, but ignores carbon dioxide, one of the major contributors to global warming, according to the web site of the country's highest legislative body.