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International

Saudi Arabia



Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman has been appointed as new Energy minister of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This post is generally considered as one of the most important positions in the government. He had earlier served as the Deputy and State Energy Minister for several years. It is the first time when

any member of the ruling Al Saud family has given the energy minister post in Saudi Arabia. Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman is the son of the King of Saudi Arabia.

Jack Ma



Jack Ma the co-founder of the company Alibaba in 1999, is among the world's richest billionaires. He has also been frequently listed by Forbes as one of the world's most powerful people. He announced his decision to retire from the Chairman position in September 2018 on his 55th birthday. He chose

Daniel Zhang to succeed him as Chairman. Alibaba is the world's largest retailer and e-commerce company and one of the largest Internet and AI companies. It is also one of the world's biggest venture capital firms and investment corporations in the world. The company hosts the largest online marketplace. The online sales and profits of Alibaba have surpassed all US retailers including Amazon, Walmart and eBay combined since 2015. Alibaba employs over 100,000 people and has now expanded into financial services, cloud computing and artificial intelligence. It is one of Asia's most valuable listed company with current market capitalization of Alibaba around \$460 billion. It is also expanding into the media industry. Recently, Alibaba announced investments worth \$2.7 billion in luxury goods retail platform Kaola and a music streaming firm. The move demonstrates the firm's flexibility in adopting new strategies.

Bahamas



Hurricane Dorian an extremely powerful, long-lived, and destructive tropical cyclone devastated the northwestern Bahamas and caused significant damage to the Southeastern United States and Atlantic Canada. India on Sunday announced humanitarian assistance of USD 1 million to help people in The Bahamas affected by Hurricane

Dorian. The death toll from the calamity has risen to over 40, even as search and rescue teams are still trying to reach out to Bahamian communities isolated by floodwaters and debris in the wake of Hurricane Dorian. In solidarity with the friendly people of The Bahamas in this difficult moment, the Government of India is extending an immediate disaster relief of \$ 1 million.

India-Nepal



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepal counterpart K P Sharma Oli on Tuesday jointly inaugurated the Motihari-Amlekhganj petroleum product pipeline via a video link. The over 60 km-long pipeline is the first-ever cross-border petroleum product pipeline in the South Asia region, according to a video presentation made

before the inauguration. As of now, tankers carry petroleum products from India to Nepal as part of an arrangement which is in place since 1973. This India-Nepal energy cooperation project is a symbol of close bilateral relations. It would not only help to enhance the energy security of the region but substantially cut down on transit costs too.

WEC



WEC or the World Energy Congress is a triennial event and has been running since 1924. With over 150 countries represented, WEC is world's largest and most influential energy event that covers all aspects of energy agenda. It is a global flagship event of World Energy Council. It offers a unique platform for global energy leaders to explore new

energy futures, new strategies and critical innovation areas. It enables dialogue amongst Ministers, CEOs, policy-makers and industry practitioners on critical developments in energy sector.

The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 9-12 September 2019. It was held under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE. The theme of this year's 4-day World Energy Congress is 'Energy for Prosperity'. It also represents ambitious and dynamic energy transition of UAE. Its objective is To bring together international energy stakeholders including governments, academia and media, private and state corporations. This event welcomed more than 15,000 participants including 72 Ministers, 250 high-level speakers, 500 CEOs, 1000 media persons with 40,000 square-metre exhibition space that will cover entire energy spectrum.

India-Iceland Relation



President of India Ram Nath Kovind, addressed the India-Iceland Business Forum in Reykjavik, (capital of Iceland) on 11 September 2019. President Kovind is on a 3 day visit to Reykjavik, Iceland from 9-11 September 2019. This is part of President's three first leg visit to– Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia. This is also the first visit of an Indian President to

Iceland since visit of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam in 2005.

India's growth and commitment to sustainability and Iceland's business strengths and niche capacities complement each other and make for a natural partnership. The technological prowess of Iceland and scientific skills of India could embrace each other to drive 4th Industrial Revolution and machine-intelligence age. There is a lot of economic potential and opportunities between India and Iceland in pharma, healthcare, finance, hospitality, tourism services and biotech space.

IFC and FIDC sign a MoU to train NBFC



The International Finance Corporation (IFC) part of the World Bank Group signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), a representative body of asset and loan Financing NBFC to collaborate on the training of NBFCs in the country.

Leading consultants from the World Bank Group will be conducting these training programs at various centres across the country. These training programs would greatly enhance the awareness, expertise and professionalism of our member companies and medium-sized NBFCs catering to the credit needs in rural and semi-urban areas. This would also facilitate more informed credit appraisals thereby improving the asset quality. Such engagement with

a global development finance institution would further improve the credibility of the NBFC sector thereby boosting investors confidence.

According to the agreement, the training programs for NBFCs would be conducted on “Commercial Credit Reporting” aimed at building the capacity of NBFCs to enhanced reporting and enquiring on Commercial Credit Information Data from the Credit Bureaus

ANGAN



A three-day international conference ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) focused on Energy Efficiency in Building Sector was held in New Delhi. Shri Abhay Bakre, DG, BEE and Shri Raj Pal, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Power, inaugurated the Conference in the presence of eminent experts of the field. The Conference was organized by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India in collaboration with the GIZ under the Indo-German Technical Cooperation.

BEE : The BEE is a statutory body under the Ministry of Power, Government of India that assists in developing policies and strategies with the primary objective of reducing the energy intensity. It coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies, and other organizations to identify, and utilize the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing the functions assigned under the Energy Conservation Act.

Speakers, Delegates, Experts and Policy Makers across 16 countries participated in the event. The participants from Central and State local authorities as well as Technology providers and Experts, practicing Architects and University Students were also present.

Tonga



It is Located in Oceania. Tonga is an archipelago in the South Pacific Ocean, directly south of Samoa and about two-thirds of the way from Hawaii to New Zealand. Prime Minister of Tonga Akilisi Pohiva 78, died in New Zealand. He was hospitalized for two weeks in the Tongan capital of Nuku'alofa with pneumonia. He was transferred to New Zealand recently Where passed away in this morning.

He is known as towering democracy in the country. He was first elected in 1987. Akilisi Pohiva was first elected as PM of Tonga in 2014 after decades of campaigning for democratic representation and reforms.



National

PM-KMY



It is Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana which will provide monthly pension to farmers. Under this scheme, the farmers involved will get a monthly pension of Rs 3,000 for completing 60 years of age. In case of death of the farmer, his wife will get a monthly pension of Rs 1,500.

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the scheme after which the PM-KMY registration process has started across the country. He said that this scheme will be implemented in the entire country including Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

This scheme was launched as because despite working hard, the farmer does not earn enough. Therefore it was important to ensure social security. The Government have taken several measures to ensure better income and PM-KMY is another effort in this direction.

NADCP

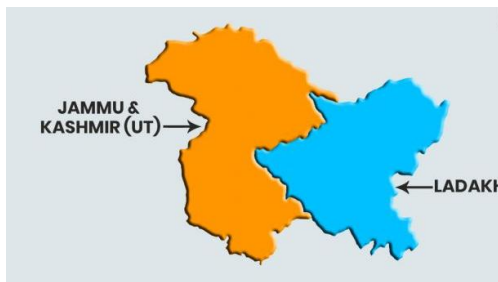


It is The National Animal Disease Control Programme which aims to provide vaccination to over 500 million livestock including cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats and pigs against foot and mouth disease and brucellosis disease among the livestock by 2030.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be launching the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) on September 11, 2019 in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh to eradicate the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis in the livestock. The move is aimed at empowering farmers and doubling their income, as promised under the Union Budget. The National Animal Disease Control Programme also aims to provide vaccination to about 36 million female bovine calves annually in its fight against the Brucellosis disease. The two main objectives of this programme is to controll the diseases by 2025 and to eradicate the diseases by 2030.

The programme will be receiving 100 percent funding from the Union Government. The government has earmarked funds worth Rs 12,652 Crores for the programme, for five years till 2024.

Bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir



A three-member panel headed by former defence secretary Sanjay Mitra and its members include retired IAS officer Arun Goyal and retired Indian Civil Accounts Service officer Giriraj Prasad has been formed by the Union Government to oversee the implementation of bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.

The function of the Advisory panel is to oversee the distribution of assets and liabilities between the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The Union Territory status will come into effect from October 31.

The advisory committee will start functioning with immediate effect. The committee will initially have a term of six months and it will get extended further if needed.

A notification from the Union Home Ministry, “the Central government has constituted the advisory committee by exercising the powers conferred by Section 84 and Section 85 of the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019.”

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill 2019 was passed by the Indian Parliament in August 2019. The bill proposed bifurcation of the state into two Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The centre also revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir by withdrawing Article 370 of the Indian constitution. Though Jammu and Kashmir will have its legislative assembly, Ladakh will be directly governed by the centre.

Section 84 : The Section 84 of the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019 states that assets and liabilities of Jammu and Kashmir will have to be distributed among the two Union Territories.

Section 85 : The Section 85 of the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019 states that the centre has the power to constitute committees to oversee the matters of apportionment of assets, rights and liabilities of the companies and corporations of the newly created Union Territories.

UNHRC



In a high-wattage clash at UNHRC or the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, India, in its right to reply said Jammu and Kashmir is and will be an integral part of India and slammed Pakistan for interfering in the matter. India sharply hit back at Pakistan by saying that it forgets that "terrorism is the worst kind human rights violation". Jammu and Kashmir was India's internal affair and it would want no interference.

Vimars Arya, First Secretary, MEA also said that Article 370 was a temporary provision of the Indian Constitution and its recent modification is "within our sovereign right and entirely an internal matter of India."

September-13



Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium in Delhi was renamed as Arun Jaitley Cricket Stadium in the memory of former DDCA President on September 12, 2019. The DDCA (Delhi and District Cricket Association) had decided to honour Arun Jaitley on August 27, 2019. The veteran politician breathed his last on August 24 after a prolonged illness. The renaming ceremony was held at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium. The inauguration of the Arun Jaitley cricket stadium was done digitally by Home Minister Amit Shah in the presence of the late Union Finance Minister's family. Arun Jaitley

had earlier served as the President of the Delhi District Cricket Association (DDCA) as well as the vice-president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

Hindi Divas 2019



It is celebrated on the 14th of September every year. On Hindi Diwas 2019, Home Minister Amit Shah would be presenting Rajbhasha Awards to the chiefs of various Ministries, departments and offices for their outstanding performances in promoting the language.

Hindi is spoken by around 40 percent of people in India. The language is the single largest spoken language among the 22 scheduled languages in the sixth schedule of the Indian constitution.

Currently, Hindi is well known and well-received at international forums. The pioneer of Hindi in international forums is former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee and he is now followed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who also chooses to speak in Hindi in most significant global exchanges. Hindi with 341 million native speakers is the fourth most spoken language in the world, after Mandarin, Spanish and English.

Overall, there are 22 scheduled languages of India, among which, two are used officially by the Union government- Hindi and English.

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Indian polity

Article 371



It is a law providing special status to six North East states. The 68th Plenary session of the North Eastern Council (NEC) was held in Guwahati on September 8 and 9. At a meeting with governors and chief ministers of the eight northeastern states as part of the North Eastern Council in Guwahati, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday upheld

the fact that the region was pivotal to India's growth story and that the Centre would not tamper with Article 371, dispelling fears that the special status of the north-eastern states would be scrapped, following the abrogation of Article 370 in Kashmir, last month.

Shah also reviewed the situation in the state in the wake of the publication of the final National Register of Citizens (NRC).

NEC



North Eastern Council(NEC) was constituted as a statutory advisory body under the NEC Act,1971. The eight States of Northeast India are members of the council with their respective Chief Ministers and Governors representing them. The council functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India. Union Home Minister is ex-

officio Chairman of the Council and the Vice Chairman is the Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region(DoNER). The Council was initially set up as an advisory body but now sanctioned as a Regional planning body since 2002. The council while formulating a regional plan for North Eastern states shall give priority to the schemes and projects benefiting two or more states provided that in the case of Sikkim, the Council shall formulate specific projects and schemes for that State.

The two Union Territories



Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He also said that 164 state laws would be repealed and 166 state laws will continue to be applicable.

Under the centre's announcement after revoking of Article 370, the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir will have a legislative Assembly, while the Union Territory of Ladakh will come under the direct control of the Union Government. Some laws will change, the existing law procedure for practice in the high court will remain the same.

Indian policy news

Project Gaushala



Cows are considered as very holy in India. She is 'Gau Mata' and is a sign of faith and pride. So for the conservation of cows the 'Project Gaushala' is started by the Government where it offers cows for adoption online. Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh has become the latest state to allow people to adopt cows. Kamal Nath government in MP has proposed various options for people wanting to adopt cows. This includes adopting a cow for a minimum of 15 days to the animal's lifetime. Those willing to adopt a cow for a lifetime will have to pay Rs 3 lakh, for a year will have to pay Rs 21,000, for a month will have to pay Rs 2,100 and those willing to adopt for 15 days will have to pay Rs 1,100. They will be able to choose the one nearest to their home and can check on progress. Even NRI's can adopt a cow.

This step was taken by the Government as there are nearly 7 lakh abandoned cattle in MP alone where 13 lakh are left on streets by rearers during the day and it is the same case in other states also, therefore Gaushalas manages to house atleast 75% of stray cattle.

In June the government had also stated that any person or organisations wanting to open gaushalas will be given the right to use government land.

13 September 2019 Current Affairs



Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyaparik Mandhan Yojana and Swarojgar pension schemes in Jharkhand during his visit. During his visit, he also laid the foundation for the new building of Jharkhand Secretariat.

To avail this scheme the beneficiaries must be between 18 and 40 years. All shopkeepers, self-employed persons, and retail traders whose GST turnover is below Rs.1.5 crore will be eligible. The eligible beneficiary will get Rs.3,000 per month after completing 60 years of age.

In the Union Budget 2019-20, the Central Government has allocated Rs.750 crore for the scheme. Centre also has chosen Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India as a pension fund manager. LIC will be responsible for managing the pension fund, Central record keeping agency and responsible for pension payout.

Mukhya Mantri Dal Poshit Yojana



With an objective to provide low-priced pulses, the Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched a scheme 'Mukhyamantri Dal Poshit Yojana' at his residence on Thursday. Under the scheme, two kilogrammes of pulses per month would be made available to 23.32 lakh ration card holders. On the day, the CM distributed packets of pulses to selected beneficiaries.

Under the scheme State government will offer a subsidy of Rs.15 per kilogram on variety of pulses identified, including chana, malka and masur which will fulfil the protein requirement of the people. Each eligible beneficiary and ration card holders in state will get 2 kgs of pulses at subsidised rates every month. 23.32 lakh ration card holders will benefit from this scheme. The scheme will help achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a healthy India.



Science and Technology

CHC Farm Machinery: It is Multilingual Mobile App launched for farmers.

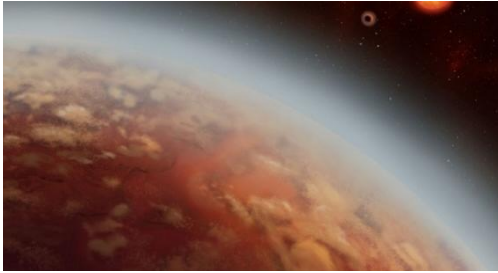


The Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Purushottam Rupala recently launched a multilingual mobile app 'CHC Farm Machinery' during the National Conference on crop residue Management for farmers in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

CHC Farm Machinery Mobile App will allow farmers to avail custom hiring services of CHCs located in a radius of 50 km. It will connect the farmers with Custom Hiring Service Centers in their area. Farmers can download this mobile app on any android phone from Google Play Store. Farmers can get affordable access to cutting-edge technology at their doorsteps with the help of this mobile app.

The issue of crop residue burning has become a major environmental problem causing health issues as well as contributing to global warming. There are some sustainable techniques like Composting, biochar production and mechanization that can help to curtail the issue while retaining the nutrients present in the crop residue in the soil. However, some steps by the government of India have taken to curtail this problem. Several measures and campaigns designed to promote sustainable management methods such as converting crop residue into energy have also started. In recent years, the alarming rise of air pollution levels caused by crop residue burning in the city of Delhi and other northern areas in India observed.

Exoplanet - K2-18b



Water has been found by scientists in the atmosphere of an exoplanet called K2-18b. The exoplanet is twice the size and eight times the mass of Earth and hence, known as a super-Earth. Super-Earths are exoplanets that are larger than Earth but smaller than Neptune. The exoplanet orbits a red

dwarf star, K2-18 and is 110 light-years away from Earth in the Leo constellation. It is the first planet outside the solar system in the habitable zone of its star. The K2-18b exoplanet completes one orbit around its star every 33 days. The super-Earth is much closer to its star than the Earth is to the sun. However, the red dwarf star is much cooler than the Sun.

The discovery was published in a paper in a scientific journal, Nature Astronomy on September 11, 2019 by researchers from University College London (UCL). The paper revealed that scientists studied the atmosphere of K2-18b, a distant super-Earth and for the first time discovered water vapor in its atmosphere and temperature that could potentially support life. Though scientists have tagged exoplanet K2-18b as potentially habitable, it doesn't mean that humans could live there.

The research team used archived data collected by the Hubble Space Telescope between 2016 and 2017 that had captured starlight as it passed through the exoplanet's atmosphere. When the researchers put the data through algorithms, they saw signs of water vapour in the atmosphere.

The researchers also saw traces of hydrogen and helium in the atmosphere, two of the most abundant elements in the universe. The planet was first discovered by NASA's Kepler spacecraft in 2015.

Environment & Climate News

Typhoon Faxai



A powerful typhoon landed near Tokyo early Monday morning, killing at least three people and injuring about 40 as well as affecting hundreds of thousands of rush-hour commuters in the metropolitan area at the start of the week.

The weather agency had warned that central and eastern Japan, including Tokyo, could see record winds, forcing airlines to cancel flights and some major roads to be closed. Authorities issued voluntary evacuation warnings to more than 390,000 people, as forecasters cautioned the rain and wind could reach “record” proportions. It had an atmospheric pressure of 975 hectopascals at its center and was packing winds of up to 180 kph, according to the Meteorological Agency.

DPIIT



It is The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. DPIIT has requested state governments to work towards collection of plastic waste from industrial estates, parks, corridors, nodes and industrial areas for the ‘Swachhta hi Sewa 2019’ campaign beginning from September

11. DPIIT will ensure recycling of plastic waste collected on October 2 in cement kilns and also collect plastic waste through nationwide ‘shramdaan’. On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, DPIIT personnel will undertake manual labour and ensure the collection of plastic waste in and around industrial areas all across the country.

Under the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) campaign the DPIIT has also requested state governments to sensitize Industrial Parks by focusing on Plastic Waste Management on a sustained and continuous basis. State and UTs Governments will monitor the campaign through their nodal teams to be set up by them.

UNCCD COP-14

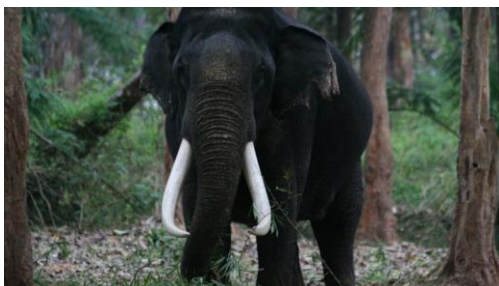


On Monday 9 September 2019, Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi inaugurated the High Level Segment (HLS) of UNCCD COP14 in the presence of heads of the UN and other international organizations, leaders of states and ministers from many countries to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) today, at Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. As many as 196 countries, 70 environment ministers and over 8,000 delegates from across globe are participating in 12-day conference from September 2 to September 13.

Speaking at the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Prime Minister Modi said between 2015 and 2017, India's tree and forest cover increased by 0.8 million hectares. He announced that India would raise its target for restoring degraded land from 21 million hectares to 26 million hectares by 2030. Modi also said India would be happy to propose initiatives for greater South-South cooperation in addressing issues of climate change, biodiversity and land degradation. The prime minister also called upon the leadership of UNCCD to conceive global water action agenda which is central to Land Degradation Neutrality strategy.

Degraded lands also addresses the problems of water scarcity. Augmenting water supply, enhancing water recharge, slowing down water run-off and retaining moisture in the soil are all parts of a holistic land and water strategy. India would be happy to help other friendly countries develop land restoration strategies through cost effective satellite technology.

(MoEFCC)



It is the Union Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) which undertakes projects that focuses on steps required to save animals from extinction and ensure a healthy environment endangered species. Elephant project, Rhino project, Tiger project and other variants of this kind are in action to protect and preserve animal lives. There are 771 protected areas whose land composition cannot be changed, which is boosting animal population.

Three Animal Species in India Extinct Due To Desertification: According to some researchers three animal species namely Indian Cheetah, pink-headed duck and Great Indian Bustard have become extinct due to desertification in India. The study by researchers was put forth

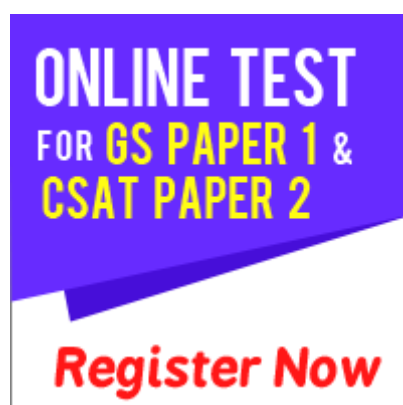
at 14th meeting of Conference of Parties to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 14).

UNCCD COP14



The 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) which is currently underway at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida dedicated day 10 to the theme of Drought. The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on Wednesday

launched a 'drought toolbox' - a kind of knowledge bank that may be used by vulnerable countries, including India to reduce drought risk and be prepared and be able to effectively respond to it. The drought toolbox is a web page that provides the stakeholders easy access to case studies and other resources to support action on drought preparedness with the aim of boosting the resilience of people and ecosystems to drought.



Sports News

US Open 2019



It is a Grand Slam US Open tennis tournament. Rafael Nadal won his 19th Grand Slam title after holding off Russian Daniil Medvedev's exhilarating fightback in one of the greatest US Open finals. Rafael Nadal beats Daniil Medvedev to clinch a thrilling win in four hours and 50 minutes - just four

minutes shorter than the longest US Open final. Spain's Nadal, 33, won 7-5 6-3 5-7 4-6 6-4 against the fifth seed in New York.

Formula One Italian Grand Prix



It is a Grand Prix motor racing championship which takes place in Italy, Montichiari. Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc of Monaco won Formula One Italian Grand Prix at Monza.

He ended Ferrari's nine-year wait for victory at its home circuit as he held off the Mercedes duo to win Formula One's Italian Grand Prix on Sunday. Aged just 21, Leclerc held off a Mercedes onslaught to become the youngest driver dressed in red to win Ferrari's home race.

BCCI



The BCCI (The Board of Control for Cricket in India) named a 15-man team for the three-match Test series against South Africa starting October 2. The name of KL Rahul had dropped due to poor performance in the 2 last Tests in the West Indies. He was dropped while Shubman Gill got his maiden call-up in the Test side. He has scored 1,443 runs in 14 first-class matches at an average of 72.15. India-South Africa Test series will begin on October 2.

People in News

Ravish Kumar



Indian journalist Ravish Kumar has been honoured with the prestigious 2019 Ramon Magsaysay Award. The four other winners of the Award are Ko Swe Win from Myanmar, Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab from the Philippines, Angkhana Neelapaijit from Thailand, and Kim Jong-Ki from South Korea. The prestigious award is widely regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize.

Veeru Krishnan



Legendary actor and Kathak dancer Veeru Krishnan, popular for films like 'Ishq', 'Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke' and 'Raja Hindustani', passed away on Saturday. His final rites were performed at a crematorium in suburban Santacruz. The veteran, who graced silver screen during the '90s in supporting roles, often shared screen space with Aamir Khan. Besides acting in films, Krishnan a trained kathak dancer used to teach Kathak. He trained several film and TV actors like Priyanka Chopra, Lara Dutta, Katrina Kaif, Athiya Shetty, Karanvir Bohra and others. A host of celebrities took to social media to express their grief and offer condolences to the departed soul.

Pramod Kumar Mishra



71 year old Pramod Kumar Mishra a Gujarat cadre Indian Administrative Service officer belonging to the 1972 batch, who was previously an Additional Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, also held posts like Secretary Agriculture & Cooperation and Chairman, State Electricity Regulatory Commission has been appointed as the new Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, effective September 11. He will replace Nripendra Misra, the Prime Minister's long-serving aide who resigned last month after a five-year stint as the top bureaucrat in the central government.

Mr.PK Mishra who holds a PhD in Economics / Development Studies from the University of Sussex in England, was conferred a prestigious United Nations award for disaster management and disaster risk reduction.

Pramod Kumar Sinha



Former Cabinet Secretary Pramod Kumar Sinha who is a 1977 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, has been appointed the principal advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prior to this appointment he served as the Power Secretary of India, and was the Shipping Secretary of India before that. Sinha was appointed as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the PMO on August 30, 2019..The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of P K Sinha, currently functioning as OSD in the Prime

Minister's Office, as Principal Advisor to Prime Minister with effect from 11th September, 2019.

Recipients of Visitor's Awards 2019



Recipients of Visitor's Awards 2019 for research in various fields were announced by President's Secretariat. President's secretary Shri Sanjay Kothari, headed the committee along with other officials, assisted by a Sub-Committee selected people for 2019 Visitor's award. The award will be conferred by President Ram Nath Kovind at an event to be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The awards will be awarded to –

Dr Partima : She is from Special Centre for Nanoscience in Jawaharlal Nehru University. This year the Visitor's Awards 2019 will be awarded to her for her research on biosensors and nano-bio interactions especially early-stage cancer diagnosis using nanomaterials based biosensing platform. She will be awarded this award for her research in Biological science.

Professor AsadUllah Khan : He will be awarded The Visitor's Award 2019 for his contribution to biological science for identifying Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) problem in India: mechanism of spread and control of AMR. He is from Inter-disciplinary Biotechnology Unit in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

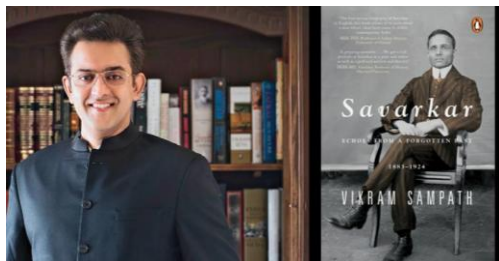
Prof. Sibnath Deb : He is from Department of Applied Psychology, Pondicherry University. He will be awarded Visitor's Award 2019 for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Award, for his research in field of child protection, especially his focus on child abuse and neglect, student's mental health and HIV/AIDS.

Professor Sanjay Puri : He is from School of Physical Sciences in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). He will be awarded the Visitor's Award 2019 for Technology Development for his research in field of non-equilibrium statistical physics and nonlinear dynamics.

Dr Shaon Ray Chaudhuri : She is from Department of Microbiology in Tripura University. She is awarded for Technology Development, for developing microbial biofilm reactor for conversion of dairy wastewater into biofertilizer.

Awards are awarded to promote healthy competition amongst Central Universities as well as motivate them to adopt best global practices in pursuit of excellence.

Vikram Sampath



He is a Bengaluru-based historian. His book titled *Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924*, published by Penguin was released on the 11th of September 2019.

This book describes the life of freedom fighter and Philosopher Vinayak Damodar Savarkar who was popularly known as Veer Savarkar. The first volume of the two-volume series covers the life of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (Veer Savarkar). It expresses and explains the incidents from his birth in 1883 to his conditional release to Ratnagiri in 1924. The uniqueness of the new book is the historian Vikram Sampath brought out the often missed aspects of politician Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's life and times.

Padma Vibhushan



It is the highest civilian award after Bharat Ratna. Mary Kom, the Manipur boxer, who is the only woman to become World Amateur Boxing champion for a record six times, and the only woman boxer to have won a medal in each one of the seven world championships, becomes the first woman athlete to be recommended by the Sports Ministry for Padma Vibhushan.

Padma Bhushan



2015.

It is the third highest civilian award. PV Sindhu has been nominated for Padma Bhushan. She became the first Indian to win the BWF World Championships in August. She has been recommended for the Padma Bhushan. The 24-year old Hyderabad shuttler had got the Padma Shri in

Padma Shree



It is the forth highest civilian award. The names of wrestler archer Tarundeep Rai, hockey Olympian MP Ganesh, wrestler Vinesh Phogat, table tennis star Manika Batra, cricket captain Harmanpreet Kaur (T20Is), hockey captain Rani Rampal, former shooter Suma Shirur and mountaineer twin sisters,

Tashi and Nungshi Malik have been sent for Padma Shri.

Navdeep Singh Suri



He is Indian Ambassador to UAE. He was awarded the First Class Order of Zayed II award by the UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. It is a rare honour given to any diplomat. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, presented

the Order to the Indian Ambassador Navdeep Puri in Abu Dhabi. He was awarded in recognition of his efforts during his tenure and his contribution to the development and strengthening of friendly relations and co-operation between the two friendly countries.

Amit Sharma



Amit Sharma a resident from New Delhi, has made a world record by creating World's largest static website www.cheapflightsall.com which consists of 31 Crore 84 Lakh 60 Thousand 567 pages. The website size is 5 TB and it took 23 days to develop and 4 months to upload and the same was launched

on 25th September 2016.

Places in News

Jharkhand



The Prime Minister will also be launching 400 Ekalavya Model Residential Schools during his visit to Jharkhand. The main aim is to provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to Scheduled Tribe students in tribal-dominated areas. The scheme will be implemented in blocks with a tribal population of at least 20,000.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyaparik Mandhan Yojana and Swarojgar pension schemes in Jharkhand during his visit. During his visit, he also laid the foundation for the new building of Jharkhand Secretariat

Maharashtra



Asian Development Bank

The Government of India and The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 200 million loan to upgrade rural roads to all-weather standards in 34 districts of Maharashtra. Its objective is to improve road safety and better connect rural areas with markets and services. Road construction and repairing work will be started with the loan. ADB and GOI project will improve the condition of about 2,100 kilometres (km) of rural roads to all-weather standards. It will also provide climate resilience and safety features, connecting rural communities with productive agricultural areas and socio-economic centres.

Telangana



The Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhara Reddy who presented the annual budget for the year 2019-20 has downsized the budget to 1 lakh 46 thousand 492 crore rupees. K Chandrasekhara Reddy government had to consider the financial crisis which is looming large around the country and forced to take practical decisions. He assured people in his hour-long budget speech that the government will make all-out efforts to fulfil the assurances given during elections.

As per Mr. Rao, the severe economic slowdown is leading to serious repercussions in the country, which is being witnessed daily and it has adversely impacted all sectors. There is a negative growth in many key sectors, which mirrors the prevailing economic situation. The official data put out by the institutions connected with these sectors presented a gloomy picture.

Uttarakhand



Mount Satopanth peak is the second highest peak in the Uttarakhand. The mountain successfully summited for the first time by the team lead by Andre Roch in 1947. A team of 16 members of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) successfully completed Mount Satopanth's peak climbing. The

CISF members committed the expedition to Fit India Movement and Women Empowerment which were initiated by the Prime Minister of India.

The main objective of the expedition was to unfold the message of empowering girls through mountain climbing to stay spirit of journey alive in effect. The team pushed their limit and achieved their goal by exposing themselves to the very best order of mental and physical challenges, including exposure to low atmospheric pressure, thin air, sub-zero temperatures, incessant snow blizzards and lots of alternative harsh climatic conditions.

The CISF has a sixteen members mountain climbing expedition team including 3 girls was flagged-off on 05th August 2019 by Director General of CISF. The team was led by Shri Raghbir Lal DIG.CISF as a part of the CAPFs team will go to Mt. Everest Expedition in March-April in 2020.

Ranchi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi heralded a new era in the development journey of Jharkhand when he inaugurated the second riverine Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal online from Ranchi, Jharkhand built at Sahibganj. He dedicated to nation the second Multi Modal Terminal built at Sahibganj in Jharkhand on

12 September, 2019. This trade point has been completed in record time of 2 years. This is the 2nd of three Multi Modal Terminals (MMTs) being constructed on river Ganga under Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP). In November 2018, PM Modi inaugurated first MMT at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

The Rs.290 crore multi-modal cargo terminal which will have a cargo storing capacity of 3 million tonne (MT) per year, a stockyard and parking and berthing space for two vessels, has been built by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) on River Ganga at Sahibganj.

The Sahibganj terminal will play an important role in the development journey of Jharkhand and Bihar acting as a gateway for industries in these states, and connecting them to global markets. The terminal will specially benefit the coal sector, stone chips, fertiliser, cement and sugar industries. Acting as a point of convergence for Road-Rail-River routes it will improve connectivity to Kolkata, Haldia and adjoining areas.

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