

– Current Affairs –

May 2017

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Vaishnavi Shone won 2 gold medals in the first Asia level Yoga Competition

Vaishnavi Shone a Coimbatore girl won 2 gold medals in the first Asia level Yoga Competition in Thailand. She was won the Junior Category (13 to 15 years). Overall 150 participants from Singapore and Thailand took part in the meet which was held in Bangkok. Vaishnavi has achieved various awards and titles including "Yoga Rami" and "Yoga Natchathra" from India Yoga Association and Government of Tamilnadu.

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PM Modi launches river conservation project in Madhya Pradesh

- i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Narmada Seva Mission for the conservation of the crucial river, which is a lifeline of Madhya Pradesh.
 - ii. Narmada river captured the attention of the nation when it became the center of a decades-long struggle to stop the raising of the Sardar Sarovar Dam.
 - iii. Narmada Seva Yatra was launched on December 11, 2016, projecting it as the world's "biggest river conservation campaign with public participation." It was concluded on 15th May 2017.
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Aravind Kumar Rengan bags INSA Young Scientist Award

Aravind Kumar Rengan, Assistant Professor in Department of Biomedical Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT – H) Hyderabad has been awarded the prestigious Indian National Science Academy (INSA) medal in the Young Scientist Category for 2017. Prof Aravind has been awarded the medal for devising a novel way of nano delivery using liposomes and gold nano particles which is useful for both imaging and therapeutics.

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Andhra Pradesh ropes in Singapore firms to develop start-up area in Amaravati

- i. Singapore-based Ascendas-Singbridge Pvt Ltd and Sembcorp Development Ltd were awarded a contract by the Andhra Pradesh government to act as the master developer for a start-up area in the capital city of Amaravati.

ii. For the speedy implementation of the project, a high-level joint implementation steering committee (JISC) will also be formed.

iii. The JISC will be co-chaired by the AP CM chief minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister of trade and industry of Singapore govt S.Iswaran.

Country's first Ornamental fish Park to Come Up at Chennai

India's first Aquatic Rainbow Technology Park (ARTP) will be set up in Chennai. The Park will include an ultra modern facility for Ornamental fish Equipped with multi species hatchery and live feed culture units. Tamil Nadu is the second largest exporter of Ornamental fish after West Bengal. The facility is being developed by Fisheries College and Research Institute, Ponneri in Tamil Nadu.

J&K to host 14th GST Council meet in Srinagar

i. The Jammu and Kashmir government is hosting the 14th Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council meeting in the summer capital Srinagar beginning today (18th May 2017). ii. The State administration is gearing up for the meeting of the GST Council headed by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.

iii. The GST is a value added tax and is proposed to be a comprehensive indirect tax levied on the manufacture, sale, and consumption of goods as well as services by the Central and State governments. J&K is among 8 States which are yet to ratify the GST.

Mohammad Anas breaks 400m National Record

Mohammad Anas from Kerala has broken the national record in men's 400 m race and won a gold medal at the third leg of the Indian Grand Prix Athletics Meet in New Delhi. He finished the race in 45.32 seconds at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. He also qualified for the World Championships to be held in London in August. Rajiv Arokia and Sachin Baby were second and third in 46.32 seconds and 47.18 seconds respectively.

Harsh Vardhan gets additional charge of Environment Ministry

i. Union Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan was given additional charge of the Environment Ministry following the death of Union Environment Minister Anil Madhav Dave.

ii. It was in accordance with the President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

Scientists discover First Natural Human Antibodies against Ebola Virus

A team of scientists from United States of America discovered a possible cure of Ebola Viruses. They have discovered the first natural human antibodies that are capable of neutralizing and protecting animals against all three major disease causing Ebola Viruses. Ebola Virus disease is a severe, often fatal illness in humans. It was first identified in 1976 in the Democratic Republic of Congo in a Village near the Ebola.

ISRO receives 2014 Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

- i. Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh presented now the 2014 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
 - ii. The award was announced by a jury headed by Vice President Hamid Ansari in 2014, consists of a trophy and a cash prize of Rs 1 crore.
 - iii. The Prize was awarded to ISRO in recognition of its path-breaking achievements culminating in the Mars orbiter mission and its significant contributions in strengthening international cooperation in peaceful use of outer space.
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Kejriwal, Venkaiah Naidu flag off Delhi Metro Heritage Line

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Union Urban Development Minister, M. Venkaiah Naidu on 28 May, 2017 flagged off Delhi Metro Heritage Line through video conferencing at Metro Bhavan in Delhi. Union Minister of Science and Technology, Harsh Vardhan was also present at the event. This Heritage line will connect Old Delhi Areas with the commercial hub of Delhi at Janpath. This Heritage line comprises four stations Delegate, Kashmere Gate, Jama Masjid and Lal Qila on the stretch of 5.17 km.

India and Fiji Sign MoU on Defence Cooperation

- i. The Minister of Defence and National Security of Fiji, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola accompanied by his delegation signed a MoU with the Minister of Defence, Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitley in New Delhi.
 - ii. An MoU on defence cooperation envisaging several areas of cooperation including in defence industry, military training and humanitarian assistance & disaster management was signed.
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Ananya Kamboj selects for the FIFA Programme in Russia

Ananya Kamboj, 8th Standard student from Chandigarh has been selected as young journalist at the global Football for Friendship (F4F) Social programme in Russia. India joins the programme for the first time and 60 other countries will participate. Mission XI Million is a programme of the FIFA U – 17 World Cup India 2017. It will focus on the development of children's football, fostering tolerance and respect for different cultures and nationalities among Children from different countries.

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Prakash Javadekar launches UGC App to fight ragging

- i. Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar launched an Anti-Ragging Mobile App introduced by the University Grants Commission (UGC) in New Delhi.
- ii. This mobile app will help students register complaints to counter the menace of ragging.
- iii. This app will work on android system on which students can log in and register their complaints immediately. Accordingly all concerned will be informed immediately and action will start immediately.

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First Women's TV Channel launched in Afghanistan

The first ever Women television channel "Zan TV" (or Women's TV) has started in Kabul, Afghanistan. It has been started on May 30, 2017 with a staff of all female presenters and producers. The main purpose to launch the women TV Channels is to highlight the rights of Afghan Women and to improve their status and ensure their equality with men in the conservative society. It has been taken a crucial step for Women's rights, in a male dominated country which is struggling for peace.

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Vadodara creates Guinness record for most people sweeping street

- i. Vadodara, which was declared the 10th cleanest city in the country made a new Guinness world record for the maximum number of people sweeping a single venue.
- ii. About 5,058 residents of the city came together to achieve the feat at the venue which was a bridge that connected Akota, an urban area.
- iii. The large-scale event saw about 50,000 people in attendance as they cheered and rendered their support to the participants. The event was organised as a tribute to prime minister Narendra Modi's 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' initiative.

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George Kurian appointed as vice Chairperson of National Commission for Minorities

George Kurian has been appointed as Vice Chairperson of National Commission for Minorities on 30th May, 2017. He is a renowned social and educational activist from Kerala. Other members of the commission are Sulekha Kumbhare Sunil Singhi and Vada Dasturji Khurshed Kaikobad Dastoor. The government had appointed noted social activist and former national general secretary of the BJP Minority Morcha, Syed Ghayoor Hasan Rizvi as commission's Chairman.

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India announces \$500 mn assistance to Mauritius

i. India announced a \$500 million line of credit to Mauritius as the two countries resolved to deepen ties in a range of areas including the maritime domain. The two countries also signed a maritime security agreement after extensive talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart Pravind Jugnauth.

ii. In a statement, Modi stated he and Jugnauth agreed that effective management of conventional and non-conventional threats in the Indian Ocean is essential to pursue economic opportunities.

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PM Modi inaugurates India's longest bridge in Assam

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the country's longest bridge - the Dhola-Sadia Bridge in Assam on. Mr Modi walked a short distance over the bridge and enjoyed two minutes of solitude amidst his hectic schedule, with a strong wind above him and gushing waters below him as his companions.

ii. Mr Modi named the bridge after legendary singer Bhupen Hazarika. This three-lane, the 9.15-kilometre bridge has been built over the Brahmaputra river. It links Dhola to Sadia, both in Assam. The bridge will reduce the distance from Rupai on NH- 37 in Assam to Meka-Roing on NH-52 in Arunachal Pradesh by 165 KM. The travel time between the two places will come down from the current six hours to just one hour, a total five-hour reduction.

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Union Minister Vijay Goel flags off Slum Yuva Daud

Minister of youth Affairs and Sports Vijay Goel Flagged of the Slum Yuva Daud to mark the beginning of the Adopt Slum Campaign in New Delhi. The run started from Delhi University's Shankarlal Hall and ended at the Rugby Stadium with participation of about 5000 youngsters from various slums of Delhi. It was initiated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

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Sufi legend Begum Yaman passes Away at 52

Famous Sufi singer and daughter of legendary Sitar Maestro (late) Ustad Vilayat Alikhan, Begum Yaman K. Khan has passed away after multiple organ failure. Khan was admitted to the Christian Medical college and Hospital, Ludhiana for the treatment of liver failure and breathed her last at 3. A.m. She was the recipient of "Hazrat Amir Khusro Award" by Urdu Press Club International and an award for her excellence and contribution to semiclassical and sufiana Kalam by Balkan-ji-Bari International.

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HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar launched Vidya-Veerta Abhiyan

i. Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched 'Students for soldiers-a nationwide Vidya-Veerta Abhiyan' to encourage Universities to display portraits of Param Veer Chakra-decorated soldiers.

- ii. The aim of this Abhiyan is to instill a sense of patriotism and nationalism among students.
- iii. Mr. Javadekar launched the Vidya-Veerta Abhiyan to create 'walls of heroes' - displaying the portraits of the heroes in institutions of higher learning.

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Anil Kumar Singhal appointed as EO for TTD

The Northern IAS officer Anil Kumar Singhal has been appointed to the post of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) Executive Officer (EO) Presently he was the resident commissioner of Ap Bhavan, at New Delhi. He was 1993 batch IAS Officer. The Govt has issued the orders to Singhal. In 2002 he was worked as Chittoor District Joint collector and then he also worked in 2004 as Medak District Collector.

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Department of Telecom launches 'Tarang Sanchar' portal

- i. Manoj Sinha, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Communications and Minister of State for Railways, formally launched the 'Tarang Sanchar portal' in an event organized at New Delhi.
- ii. The web portal is for Information sharing on Mobile Towers and EMF Emission Compliances. The portal aims to generate confidence among the public about the effectiveness of the EMF compliance process in India.
- iii. Additionally, any person can request for EMF emission measurement at a location by paying a fee of Rs 4000 online. It is an important move for Prime Minister's vision of Digital India.

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Second – tallest flag post comes up in Kolhapur Maharashtra

India's second tallest flagpole has been inaugurated in Kolhapur at Western Maharashtra. The pole is 300 feet high 90 feet long and 60 feet wide, Weighs 24 tonne, and it cost around 1.1 crore for the installation. Kolhapur Street Beautification project (KSBP), a registered trust, has installed the flag post. CM Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the pole by unfurl a national flag of 5400 sq ft as a part of the "Maharashtra Din" celebrations in the state.

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India to get world's highest railway bridge across Chenab river in J&K

- i. Around two years from now, the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir will be spanned by the world's highest railway bridge that is expected to be 35 metres taller than Paris' Eiffel Tower.
- ii. The massive arch-shaped structure, being constructed at a cost of around Rs. 1,100 crores, will rise 359 m above the river bed.

iii. The 1.315-km- long “engineering marvel” will connect Bakkal (Katra) and Kauri (Srinagar). The bridge forms a crucial link in the 111-km stretch between Katra and Banihal, which is part of the Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project.

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Gadkari inaugurates The Highway Saga, SRISHTI exhibitions

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated two exhibitions namely The Highway Saga past present and Future, Safe Road and Interstate Highways Transforming India (SRISHTI) at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. The Highway Saga exhibition will depict the evolution of road transport in India. The exhibitions are part of three day India Integrated Transport and Logistics Summit being organized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways from 3rd to 5th May, 2017.

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India's 1st private small arms manufacturing unit opened in Madhya Pradesh

i. In order to Strengthen defence ties, India has opened its first private small arms manufacturing plant at Malanpur, Madhya Pradesh in a joint venture with Israel. ii. The plant has been set up as a joint venture Punj Lloyd Raksha Systems between Indian defence conglomerate Punj Lloyd and Israel Weapons Industries (IWI).

iii. This is the first opportunity for the country to get its own 'Made in India' small arms.

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Banganapalle Mangoes receives Geographical Indication Tag

The succulent Banganapalle Mango has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, making Andhra Pradesh the proprietor of the variety known for its sweetness. The registrar of Geographical Indications Registry, Chennai, O.P. Gupta has accorded the registration following an Application from the Horticulture commissioner, Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Government is the registered proprietor of the GI tag for mangoes, often hailed as the king of Fruits.

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Konkona bags Best Director and Best Actress Awards at NYIFF

Konkona Sensharma has bagged the best director for her debut film “A Death in the Gunj”. Konkona had also bagged the best actress for “Lipstick Under My Burka” at 2017’s New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF). The film festival took place from April 30 to May 7. She received the top honour for the performance in Alankrita Shrivastava Lipstick Under My Burka. She won the award for directing the drama thriller.

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16th of May is celebrated as the _____.

A. National Epilepsy Day

- B. National Maritime Day
- C. National Dengue Day
- D. National Science Day

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

National Dengue Day has been observed on 16th of May, 2016 by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. The main aim is to control the Dengue through create awareness, initiate preventive actions.

Which country is going to host FIFA Under-17 World Cup?

- A. India
- B. Brazil
- C. UK
- D. Spain

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

India is going to host FIFA Under 17 World Cup. The matches will be held in six venues, Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Guwahati, Goa and Kochi.

Which bank tie-up with Catholic Syrian Bank to distribute its individual life insurance products to the private lender's customers?

- A. Yes Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Axis Bank

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

HDFC Life has entered into a bancassurance (the selling of life assurance and other insurance products and services by banking institutions) tie-up with Catholic Syrian Bank to distribute its individual life insurance products to the private lender's customers. It will offer its leading range of

individual life insurance, health and pension products to the Catholic Syrian Bank's 1.5 million customer base across all its branches over a period of time.

Which cricketer has been awarded honorary life membership to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)?

- A. Virender Sehwag
- B. Anil Kumble
- C. V V S Laxman
- D. Gautam Gambhir

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Legendary batsman VVS Laxman was named an Honorary Life Member of the Marylebone Cricket Club. The veteran player has played 134 Tests, 86 one-day internationals, and 25 Twenty20 internationals for India.

Which company is named as the most valuable brand in India?

- A. LIC
- B. Tata Group
- C. Infosys
- D. Airtel

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

As per Brand Finance, a global brand valuation and strategy consultancy firm Tata Group is the most valuable brand in India by the value declining 4% from \$13.7 billion in 2016. telecom operator Airtel at an estimated valuation of \$7.7 billion ranked second in the list.

Who has become the first Indian woman to be conferred with the Woodrow Wilson Award for Global Corporate Citizenship?

- A. Chanda Kochhar
- B. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- C. Indu Jain

D. Vinita Bali i

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

MD and CEO of ICICI Bank, Chanda Kochhar, has been awarded the Woodrow Wilson Award for Global Corporate Citizenship from the Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington DC. The award is in recognition of her tremendous work and able leadership in improving the lives of common people.

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Which country imposed an anti-dumping duty on a Chinese chemical pharma industry to protect domestic industry?

- A. India
- B. Britain
- C. Algeria
- D. Fiji

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

India has imposed anti-dumping duty on a Chinese chemical used in the pharma industry and aluminium foil to protect domestic industry from cheap imports. An anti-dumping duty of up to \$1.63 per kg was imposed on aluminium foil, up to \$8.71 per kg duty was slapped on imports of amoxicillin, used in pharmaceuticals.

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The first-ever Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Lifetime Achievement Honour in Public Service has been awarded to whom out of the following?

- A. Manik Sarkar
- B. Pawan Chamling
- C. T. R. Zeliang
- D. Okram Ibobi Singh

Answer and Explanation

Ans. B

The President Pranab Mukherjee presented the 1st Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Life Time Achievement Honour in Public Service to Shri Pawan Kumar Chamling, Chief Minister of Sikkim. Chamling first won the assembly elections in 1994 and has won the assembly elections five times.

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Air Marshal PN Pradhan appointed as the Deputy Chief of _____.

- A. Staff Committee
- B. The Army Staff
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Integrated Defence Staff

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Air Marshal PN Pradhan appointed as the Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) (Operations) a key platform to ensure a high degree of synergy between the armed forces. He was closely associated with the induction and operationalisation of Embraer-135 and C-130 fleets in the IAF.

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Who is the winner of the 2017 Formula 1 Spanish Grand Prix?

- A. Fernando Alonso
- B. Kimi Räikkönen
- C. Lewis Hamilton
- D. Max Emilian Verstappen

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes stole a stunning victory in the Spanish Grand Prix from Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel.

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Which Bollywood actress will be honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award?

- A. Kareena Kapoor
- B. Anushka Sharma
- C. Katrina Kaif
- D. Priyanka Chopra

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Actress Priyanka Chopra will be honoured with the Dadasaheb Phalke Academy Award for being an international icon. The Baywatch star will be given the award under the newly introduced 'Internationally Acclaimed Actress' category at a ceremony which will be held on June 1, 2017.

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Government has selected 5 Merchant bankers for stake sale of which company?

- A. HPCL
- B. IOC
- C. BPCL
- D. Coal India

Answer and Explanation

Ans. B

Government has selected five merchant bankers to manage 3% stake sale in Indian Oil Corporation.

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Which is the first Asian country to recognize same sex marriage?

- A. Taiwan
- B. Lebanon
- C. Timor-Leste
- D. Jordan

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Taiwan has become the first Asian country to recognize same sex marriage after the constitutional court's ruling comes in support of legalizing same-sex marriage. The panel of judges has given the island's parliament, known as the Legislative Yuan, two years to amend or enact new laws, which could potentially make Taiwan the first place in Asia to allow same-sex marriage. The island has a large gay community and its annual gay pride parade is the biggest in Asia.

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Which Bollywood actor has been given the International Humanitarian Award in Editor's Choice category of Asian Voice Charity Awards?

- A. Deepika Padukone

B. Jacqueline Fernandez

C. Kareena Kapoor

D. Nargis Fakhri

Answer and Explanation

Ans. B

Jacqueline Fernandez was awarded for her philanthropic work in India. She has been working with the charity 'Habitat for Humanity for the last five years. This organization gives needy people homes to live in and ensures a life of dignity for them.

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What is the name of the E-vehicle company which is inaugurated at Nagpur?

A. UBER

B. OLA

C. FASTTRACK

D. INDIA Cabs

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

The name of the E-vehicle company is OLA. Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated India's first multi-modal electric vehicle project and Ola electric charging station in Nagpur. Nagpur became the country's first city with electric fleet of 200 electric vehicles, including taxis, buses, e-rickshaw and autos.

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PM launches integrated case management system of Supreme Court

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the integrated case management system of the Supreme Court in the presence of the Chief Justice of India Jagdish Singh Khehar.

ii. The system will help litigants access data and retrieve information online and will be a step towards a paperless Supreme Court.

iii. It will help usher transparency, reduce manipulation and help the litigant know about the progress of the case on a real-time basis.

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Kochi Metro Rail offer job to members from transgender community

Kochi Metro decided to employ 23 members of the transgender community. This is the first time a government owned company has formally appointed members of transgender community. These 23 transgender workers will be a part of 530 kudumbasree workers to be employed at 11 stations in the Kochi Metro Station.

India to replace Maitri station in Antarctica, expand research activity

i. India has decided to replace the Maitri research station in Antarctica with a new one in the next three to four years.

ii. The country is also drafting laws to safeguard its interest in Antarctica and is poised to expand its research activity in the coldest continent with the special ice-cutting facility will be procured for the purpose.

Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister launches e-Krishi Samvad

The Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Radha Mohan Singh has launched a portal for addressing problems in the agricultural sector. The platform is known as e-Krishi Samvad and is a portal that allows agricultural workers and other stakeholders to directly approach the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) with the problems they face. The platform is meant for farmers, students, researchers and entrepreneurs.

Telangana first state with logo for hearing impaired drivers

i. Telangana has introduced a logo for identifying vehicles driven by persons with hearing impairment and has become the first state in the country to do so.

ii. The state's transport department has finalized the logo designed by Hyderabad-based graphic designer Manikanta Annapragada, who incidentally is the first person to obtain a driving license in the 'hearing impaired' category.

UP CM to declare no school bag day on Saturdays in Govt schools

The UP Government is planning to declare no school bag day on Saturdays in all the state run schools. The proposal for the same was submitted at a meeting chaired by Deputy Chief Minister Dinesh Sharma on 12 May 2017 in Lucknow. The move aims to encourage more involvement of Children in creative activities on those no school bad day. It will also help establish a good rapport between students and teachers and help in their personality development.

Govt revised base year of WPI, IIP to 2011-2012 from 2004-05

i. The government has revised the base year of Wholesale Price Index, WPI and Index of Industrial Production, IIP to 2011-2012 from 2004-05.

ii. As per the new series, April WPI inflation stood at 3.85 percent and March IIP at 2.7 percent. The Consumer Price Index-based inflation in April stood at 2.99 percent.

International Day of Families 15 May

The International Day of Families is Observed on the 15th May every year. This year's Observance on the focuses role of families and family oriented policies in promoting education and overall well-being of their members. In Particular, the day is to raise awareness of the role of families in promoting early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities for children and youth. This holiday was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993. The first observation took place on May 15, 2017.

Indian boy wins top Intel Science Award in US

An Indian boy has won the World's largest pre-college science competition in the US in the environmental engineering category. His project was on biodegradation of pesticides. Prshant Ranganathan, a 12th grader from Jamshedpur, along with 20 high school students from various parts of India. Participated in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. In all, more than 1700 students from across the world participated in the week-long event.

NASA names bacteria after Abdul Kalam

i. Scientists at NASA have named a new organism discovered by them after the much-loved A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

ii. The name of the bacterium is *Solibacillus kalamii*, the species name is after Dr. Abdul Kalam and genus name is *Solibacillus* which is a spore-forming bacteria.

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[Police/Defence Jobs](#), [Engineering Jobs](#) Etc.

India win all 10 gold medals in South Asian

In the South Asian Junior Table Tennis Championship India has won 10 gold medals. It was a proud moment for India. The tournament was held in Mount Lavinia, near Colombo in Sri Lanka. Apart from 10 gold medals, the Indian participants have also won 4 Silver medals that total makes to 14. In this Championship Manav Thakkar won Junior boys final Archana Girish Kamath won Junior Girls final.

PM launches various projects of Kandla Port Trust, Gujarat

- i. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has launched various projects of Kandla Port Trust at Gandhidham in Gujarat.
- ii. He unveiled plaques to mark the laying of Foundation Stone for the construction of the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Convention Centre and the development of the 14th and 16th General Cargo Berth.
- iii. He handed over Letters of Award for Construction of Interchange-cum-ROB (Railway Bridge) at Kutch Salt Junction, Deployment of two Mobile Harbour Cranes and Mechanization for the handling of fertilizers at Kandla Port.

Sweden beat Canada to win ICE Hockey World Title

Sweden won Ice Hockey World Championship Title for the 10th time. Sweden won the Championship with a 2-1 goal. This win is Sweden's first in four tries against Canada. The teams were tied at 1-1 after three periods in Cologne, Germany, with Victor Hedman scoring for the Swedes and Canada's Ryan O'Reilly equalizing. Finally Sweden have won the ICE Hockey World Championship, beating favourites Canada in a dramatic penalty shootout.

Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' resigned as Nepal Prime Minister

- i. Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' has resigned paving way for Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba to become the next Prime Minister.
- ii. The resignation is to honor an accord signed in August 2016 when Prachanda was elected the prime minister with Deuba's support.

Entertainment, Cable TV, DTH to attract lower Taxes Under GST

The Union Finance Ministry on 23 May 2017 announced that the taxation on entertainment, Cable TV, and DTH services will come down under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime. Cable TV and

Direct -To-Home (DTH) services will attract 18 percent GST. With regard to circus theatre, Indian classical dance including folk dance and drama, the GST rate is 18 percent. The Entertainment Services like events or cinematography films in Cinema theaters will attract 28 percent GST with effect from 1 July 2017.

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Govt launches 'eSanad' for online document verification

i. The Human Resource Development Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry launched an online verification portal 'e-sanad' to make the document verification process easier for students who planning to study abroad.

ii. 'e-Sanad' is an initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), in association with two other ministries with the help of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

iii. CBSE becomes the first Board to partner with MEA for e-Sanad.

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Govt launches 'e SANAD' for online Document Verification

The Human Resource Development Ministry and the External Affairs Ministry launched an online verification portal "e SANAD" to make the document Verification process easier for students who planning to study abroad. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) academic repository of degrees and certificates Parinam Manjusha" was also involved in the project of creating e SANAD. The Human Resources development Ministry launched this portal on 24 May, 2017.

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Supreme Court becomes paperless, digital court

i. The Supreme Court has taken its first step towards becoming a paperless, digital court.

ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the digital filing system at a function in New Delhi where the Integrated Case Management System will be connected with the Supreme Court website.

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Which team has won the 38th Federation Cup football tournament?

A. Aizawl FC

B. Shillong Lajong FC

C. Chennai City FC

D. Bengaluru FC

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Bengaluru FC beat Mohun Bagan 2-0 to win the 38th Federation Cup football tournament. Bengaluru FC also booked their berth for next year AFC Cup by virtue of winning the blue riband tournament.

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Who is the author of the book "Winning like Virat: Think & Succeed like Kohli"?

- A. Shri Uday Mahurkar
- B. Abhirup Bhattacharya
- C. Shri Rajesh Jain
- D. Aravind Adiga

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

A new book "Winning like Virat: Think & Succeed like Kohli" by Abhirup Bhattacharya, unravels the secrets of the cricketer's consistent form, while attempting to decode his philosophy towards life. In the book, the writer etches Virat's success curve by using statistics that chart his performances and anecdotes from his predecessors and contemporaries in the game. It also throws light of Virat's exceptional efficiency as a family man, who manages to take time out for his mother, brother and sister, despite a taxing schedule.

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New Aeronautical test range has been setup in which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Karnataka
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Union Defence Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated a first-of-its-kind Aeronautical Test Range in the Chitradurga district of Karnataka.

=====

Who has become first Indian to win a Gold Medal in an International fencing tournament?

- A. Bhavani Devi
- B. Gaurav Gupta

C. Vijay Kumar

D. Sagar Lagu

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

India's Chadalavada Anandha Sundhararaman Bhavani Devi has become first Indian to win a Gold Medal in an International fencing tournament. In the final, she defeated Sarah Jane Hampson of Great Britain. She participated in the sabre event of the Turnoi Satellite Fencing Championship held at Reykjavik in Iceland.

=====

According to World Bank, India's gross domestic product is expected to grow at what rate during 2017-2018?

A. 7.8%

B. 7.6%

C. 7.4%

D. 7.2%

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

As per World Bank, India's gross domestic product is expected to grow 7.2 percent in 2017-18.

=====

Who launched the Anti-Ragging Mobile App?

A. Shri Suresh Prabhu

B. Shri Ramvilas Paswan

C. Shri Prakash Javadekar

D. Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Human Resource Development minister Prakash Javadekar launched an Anti-Ragging Mobile App introduced by the University Grants Commission (UGC). This app will work on android system and students can log in and register their complaints instantaneously.

=====

Which technology is used by the Indian Railways for tracking of wagons, coaches and locomotives to ensure the effective and transparent functioning of the system?

- A. RFID
- B. Infrared Technology
- C. ZigBee Wireless Technology
- D. Wi-Fi Technology

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Indian Railways is set to make use of the radio-frequency identification tags (RFID) for tracking of wagons, coaches and locomotives to ensure the effective and transparent functioning of the system. For this purpose, the RFID tags have been designed by the Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS) at an estimated cost of Rs 1000 per tag.

Who is the newly appointed Controller General of Accounts (CGA)?

- A. Chandrakant B Kamble
- B. T S Jawahar
- C. G. Latha
- D. Anthony Lianzuala

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Mr. Anthony Lianzuala, a 1982-batch Indian Service (ICAS) Officer, took over as the New Controller General of Accounts (CGA) on May 1, 2017. He is the first person from the north-eastern region to hold this position. Mr Lianzuala, a graduate from the Hindu College of Delhi University, has vast and rich experience in the government both at the Centre and the State levels.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a commemorative stamp on the 1,000th birth anniversary of _____.

- A. Madhvacharya
- B. Advaita Acharya
- C. Raghavendra
- D. Ramanujacharya.

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a commemorative stamp on the 1,000th birth anniversary of Saint Ramanujacharya with the central message of his life was inclusive society and religion. And PM said Ramanujacharya saw manifestation of God in human beings and saw all devotees of God as equal.

=====

Which country opened an honorary consulate in Chennai in April 2017?

- A. Uzbekistan
- B. Kyrgyzstan
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Afghanistan

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

The Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Kazakhstan in India was inaugurated today by H.E. Mr. Bulat Sarsenbayev, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to India along with H.E. Mr. Suraj Shantakumar, Honorary consul of Kazakhstan in Chennai. India and Kazakhstan have completed 25 years of its diplomatic ties. The Honorary Consulate will provide help to citizens of Kazakhstan in the region and promote commercial and cultural relations between Kazakhstan and India.

=====

The garish red colour of the Blood Falls water was attributed to discolouration caused by

_____.

- A. Fire algae
- B. Green algae
- C. Red algae
- D. Brown algae

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Blood Falls of Antarctica Located in the McMurdo Dry Valleys. The garish red colour of the water was attributed to discolouration caused by red algae. But, new research by scientists from the University of Alaska Fairbanks suggests a different possibility. The red colour is a product of oxidation of iron that takes place when iron minerals dissolve in high-density salt water or brine.

=====

Which pair has won the 2017 Men's Doubles Tallahassee Challenger title?

- A. Leander Paes and Maximo Gonzalez
- B. Leander Paes and Leonardo Mayer
- C. Leander Paes and Blaz Rola
- D. Leander Paes and Scott Lipsky

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Tallahassee Tennis Challenger is a professional tennis tournament that is currently played as a part of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Challenger Tour. The tournament is played on outdoor hard courts. Since 2000, it is held annually at the Forestmeadows Tennis Complex in Tallahassee, Florida, United States. The top-seeded pair of Leander Paes and American Scott Lipsky came from behind to pip Argentine third seeds Leonardo Mayer and Maximo Gonzalez 4-6 7-6(5) 10-7 in the summit clash. Paes had won the Leon Challenger in Mexico with Adil Shamasdin, earlier.

=====

Which airport becomes International Airport as per provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014?

- A. Visakhapatnam
- B. Rajahmundry
- C. Tirupati
- D. Vijayawada

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet has granted international airport status for the Vijayawada Airport. The approval was given as per provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The airport is currently undergoing infrastructural upgradations and improvement in facilities for international operations.

=====

Who recently inaugurated the Patanjali Research Institute at Haridwar?

- A. Arun Jaitley
- B. Amarinder Singh
- C. Narendra Modi

D. Navjot Singh Sidhu

Answer and Explanations

Ans. C

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Patanjali Research Institute at Ramdev's Patanjali Yogpeeth, Haridwar. The institute aims to conduct research work on Drug Screening, pharmacognosy, drug discovery, pharmacology, chronic disease study, and much more. The institute which is a part of the Patanjali Yogpeeth in Haridwar, was founded in August 2010. The institute like its parent body Patanjali Yogpeeth has been named after sage Patanjali.

=====

What is the name of the Indian Shooter who reached his first ever ISSF World Cup Final stage?

- A. Sangram Dahiya
- B. Ankur Mittal
- C. Vijay Kumar
- D. Shapath Bharadwaj

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Young Indian shooter Shapath Bharadwaj reached his first ever ISSF World Cup stage Final after finishing fourth shoot-off in the men's double trap event. Shapath was one of the four shooters to finish with a score of 135.

=====

Which Kendra will be set up by Swachh Bharat Mission at Rajghat?

- A. Rashtriya Arogya Kendra
- B. Rashtriya Be-Rozgar Kendra
- C. Rashtriya Swachhta Kendra
- D. Rashtriya Awaas Kendra

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Furthering the cleanliness mission, the government will establish a national centre at Rajghat, New Delhi, to monitor the progress of the Prime Minister's pet programme. The Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra will be set up by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation at the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, Rajghat, to monitor the progress of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said Swachh Bharat Mission being very important for

the government, will gain national momentum as well. Space for the Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra at Rajghat was being provided in respect of the centenary of the Champaran Satyagraha. This was announced by the Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma during the "Swachhata Pakhwada" held by the ministry.

=====

Made in China C 919 passenger jet takes maiden flight

The twin engine, 158-174 seat passenger jet made by state owned Commercial Aircraft Corporation it feature several imported elements like German landing Gear and Austrian interior. Single aisle plan carry up to 168 passengers and is meant to rival Airbus and Boeing Aircraft. China's first domestically made regional jet, the twin engine regional AR 121, flew its passengers in June 2016.

=====

Haryana to start door-to-door survey to collect data of every resident

- i. Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar has decided to gather a detailed data of every resident and issue a sleek identity for every house in Haryana.
 - ii. The objective of this two-month long data generating exercise, to be launched on June 15, 2017 is to get details of land holdings and status of facilities.
 - iii. The facilities includes social security pension, scholarship, MGNREGA, loans and LPG connection. During the survey, address of each house, location, details of owner of the house, bank account numbers, IFSC code and Aadhaar and personal details will be gathered.
- =====

Emmanuel Macron elected as President of France

Emmanuel Macron was elected French president on 7th May, 2017. He was defeating Marine Le Pen, a far right nationalist who threatened to take France out of the European Union. Mr Macron will also become the first president from outside the two traditional main parties since the modern republics foundation in 1958. Mr Marcon had about 19.3 million votes, while Marine Le Pen scored about 10.4 million was the close rival in elections.

=====

Odisha to introduce boat ambulances in four districts

- i. Odisha will introduce boat ambulance service in four districts where people face difficulties in getting health service.
 - ii. The boat ambulance service will be available in the districts of Koraput, Malkangiri, Kendrapara and Kalahandi where people face problems in availing 108 ambulance service due to intervening large water bodies in the form of rivers and dams disrupting road communication, stated by Health and Family Welfare secretary P K Meherda.
- =====

Indian – Origin girl Raj Gauri Pawar scores 162 in Mensa IQ Test

At 12, Raj Gauri Pawar has scored in incredible 162 in the British Mensa IQ test. The figure beats Albert Einstein's estimated score and that of professor Stephen Hawking, who scored 160. Raj Gauri is a top 1 percent score, landing her the elite British Mensa membership for high IQ talents across the globe. According to Mensa, the largest and oldest high IQ society in the World. She is one of only 20.000 people to achieve the score world wide.

=====

The promulgation of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017

i. The promulgation of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 inserting two new Sections (viz. 35AA and 35AB) after Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 enables the Union Government to authorize the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to direct banking companies to resolve specific stressed assets by initiating insolvency resolution process, where required. The RBI has also been empowered to issue other directions for resolution, and appoint or approve for appointment, authorities or committees to advise banking companies for stressed asset resolution.

=====

Jhulan Goswami as highest wicket taker in Women's ODIS

Fast bowler Jhulan Goswami is now the highest wicket taker in one day internationals in the women's game. Goswami, who now has 181 wickets in 153 matches, Surpassed the world record held by Australia bowled Cathryn Fitzpatrick (180). She achieved this feat with the wicket of No.11 batsman Raisibe Ntozakhe of South Africa. She broke the record in the ongoing match against hosts South Africa in the women's Quadrangular series in potchefstroom.

=====

Which film has become highest grossing Indian film in China?

- A. 3 Idiots
- B. PK
- C. Bahubali 2
- D. Dangal

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Dangal has become the highest grossing Indian film in China, after earning Rs. 148.67 crore within a week of its release.

=====

Which country planned to invest Rs 10,000-crore Deep Sea Mission?

- A. New Zealand
- B. India
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Belgium

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

India planned to invest Rs 10,000-crore Deep Sea Mission to commence by the year end to explore mineral wealth beneath the ocean floor. It was an interministerial and interdisciplinarity project. hey give seven and a half thousand kilometres of coastline and 2.4 million square km of Exclusive Economic Zone.

=====

Who is going to be the next coach Afghan cricket team?

- A. Inzamamulhaq
- B. Ricky Ponting
- C. Shahid Afridi
- D. Younis Khan

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Younis Khan is set to join the Afghanistan national team as coach after he retires from international cricket.

=====

Which department launched a new e-facility to link a person's Aadhaar with the PAN?

- A. Department of Revenue
- B. Central Bureau of Narcotics
- C. Income Tax department
- D. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

The Income Tax department launched a new e-facility to link a person's Aadhaar with the Permanent Account Number (PAN). The department's e-filing website incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in has created a

new link on its homepage making it "easy" to link the two unique identities of an individual. It requires a person to punch in his PAN number, Aadhaar number and the " exact name as given in the Aadhaar card.

=====

Which Indian cricketer has been conferred with the Fellowship Award in United Kingdom (UK)?

- A. Ravi Shastri
- B. Virat Kohli
- C. Sachin Tendulkar
- D. Virender Sehwag

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

India's cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar was given the Fellowship Award at the 7th Annual Asian Awards. After retiring from cricket he now wants to spend time in helping the under- privileged.

=====

Which ex-India player awarded an honorary life membership to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)?

- A. Gopal Sharma
- B. Harbhajan Singh
- C. Ajit Agarkar
- D. V. V. S. Laxman

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

The former India batsman V.V.S. Laxman became the latest ex-India player to be awarded an honorary life membership to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC). He scored 8,781 Test runs at an average of 45.97 and 2338 ODI runs at 30.76.

=====

Which company is going to sponsor New Zealand cricket team in Champions Trophy?

- A. AMUL
- B. ITC
- C. PayTm
- D. Airtel

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

Amul will sponsor the New Zealand cricket team for the upcoming Champions Trophy in England.

=====

Who won the first gold medal for India at the Asian Wrestling Championship?

- A. Sushil Kumar Solanki
- B. Hardeep Singh
- C. Bajrang Punia
- D. Rajinder Singh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Bajrang Punia won the first gold medal for India at the Asian Wrestling Championship by defeating Lee Seungchul of South Korea in the final of the men's 65 kg Freestyle division.

=====

How many medals have India won in 2017 Asian Wrestling Championship?

- A. 6
- B. 8
- C. 10
- D. 12

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

India finished with 10 medals, including one gold, five silver and four bronze at the Asian Wrestling Championship, bettering their tally of nine medals in the last edition at Bangkok.

=====

What is the name of the vaccine which is launched for Pneumonia?

- A. Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine
- B. Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
- C. DPT vaccine
- D. Meningococcal vaccine

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda launched new Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine(PCV) for Pneumonia. It will provide protection against 13 types of pneumococcal bacteria which results in pneumonia. This is used to vaccinate children under two years old as part of the NHS childhood vaccination programme.

=====

On which date the World Metrology day is observed?

- A. May 20th
- B. May 21st
- C. May 19th
- D. May 18th

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

World Metrology Day is celebrated on May 20 globally every year. The theme for World Metrology Day 2017 is Measurements for transport. It is an annual celebration of the signature of the Metre Convention on 20 May 1875 by representatives of seventeen nations.

=====

When is National Anti-Terrorism day observed?

- A. May 18
- B. May 20
- C. May 21
- D. May 23

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Every year May 21 is observed as National Anti-Terrorism day because on this day Former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, was assassinated by a suicide bomber while conducting an election campaign in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu.

=====

How many Indian companies have been named in the list of top 50 luxury goods firms globally?

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 2
- D. 8

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Three Indian companies - Gitanjali Gems, Titan and PC Jeweller - have been named in the list of top 50 luxury goods firms globally that was topped by Louis Vuitton. Gitanjali Gems Ltd was placed in the 30th rank, followed by Titan Company(31st) and PC Jeweller (44th) rank.

=====

Which is the world's busiest single-runway airport?

- A. London Heathrow
- B. Washington Dulles International Airport
- C. Mumbai Chattrapati Shivaji International Airport
- D. Munich Airport

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

The GVK group-run Mumbai airport has become the world's busiest airport with single-runway facilities. It handles 837 flights a day or one in 65 seconds on an average in fiscal 2017, taking over London's Gatwick airport that had 757 flights a day.

=====

Who became the first India-born woman elected as a councillor to City of London Corporation?

- A. Seema Malhotra
- B. Priti Sushil
- C. Saira Shah
- D. Rehana Ameer

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Rehana Ameer was elected as a councillor to the Court of Common Council, becoming the first India-born woman to be elected to the City of London Corporation. She was born and raised in Chennai, contested from Vintry ward in the City of London county as an independent candidate.

=====

What interest rate is Paytm Payments bank offering on its saving's bank account?

- A. 7.25%
- B. 7%
- C. 4%
- D. 4.25%

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Paytm has launched its Payments Bank operations in Delhi-NCR, with 4% interest on savings account

=====

This bank and IFFCO introduced the co-branded debit cards for farmers?

- A. Allahabad Bank
- B. Andhra Bank
- C. Bank of Baroda
- D. Indian Overseas Bank

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Bank of Baroda (BOB) and Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) launch its first set of co-branded debit cards for farmers and aimed them to buy agri-inputs through a convenient cashless transaction mechanism, thus providing further thrust to PM Narendra Modi's Digital India programme. wo lakh co-branded debit cards will be issued initially to the farmers beginning with the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

=====

What is the full form of FIPB?

- A. Foreign Investment Private Board
- B. Foreign Investment Public Board
- C. Foreign Investment Planning Board

D. Foreign Investment Promotion Board

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Full Form of FIPB is Foreign Investment Promotion Board. FIPB is the inter-ministerial body or a single window clearance mechanism for applications on foreign direct investment in India in sectors under the government approval route.

=====

India's first underwater tunnel connect which two cities?

- A. Birbhum and Kolkata
- B. Jhargram and Kolkata
- C. Hooghly and Kolkata
- D. Howrah and Kolkata

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Afcons Transtunnelstroy and Kolkata Metro Railway Corporation Limited (KMCR) implemented the India's first underwater tunnel under the Hooghly river to link Howrah and Kolkata. The total length of the entire metro project is 16.6 km long, out of which 10.8 km runs under the ground. Of this 10.8 km, 502 metres is under the water. The total project cost is USD 750 million.

=====

“SIMBEX-17” bilateral maritime exercise has been held between India and which country?

- A. Myanmar
- B. China
- C. Singapore
- D. Australia

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

The Indian Navy and the Singapore Navy have concluded a week-long bilateral military exercise in the South China Sea, during which they conducted a series of advanced naval warfare drills, including air defence exercises and gunnery live-firings. The Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 2017 (SIMBEX-17) concluded on May, 24, 2017. There was a display of Singapore's F-15SG fighter jets. This year's exercise is the 24th iteration of the annual bilateral exercise held since 1994.



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