

NATIONAL**Andhra Pradesh****Andhra Pradesh gets new High Court**

- The separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh will start functioning from January 1.
- Ministry of Law and Justice notified the constitution of the High Court in Amaravati.
- Andhra Pradesh High Court will be the 25th High Court in the country.

Assam**3rd Dwijing Festival begins**

- In Assam, the third Dwijing Festival has begun today on the bank of Aye river at Chirang district.
- Adventure sports, food mart, cultural events, traditional games are being organized in the 12 daylong event. Participants from Thailand, Bhutan and Bangladesh are also taken part in the festival.

New Delhi**EC bans all kinds of tobacco in polling booths**

- The Election Commission has banned all kinds of tobacco in polling booths during next year's general elections, in a bid to effectively implement tobacco control laws in the country.

Odisha**26th National Children's Science Congress inaugurated**

- The 26th National Children's Science Congress has been inaugurated by the Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik in Bhubaneswar.

INTERNATIONAL**Afghanistan postpones presidential election**

- Afghanistan's election commission said that presidential election, initially scheduled for April, will be postponed for several months.

Indonesia raises danger level for Anak Krakatoa volcano

- Indonesia raised the danger level for Anak Krakatoa volcano that triggered a tsunami killing nearly 430 people last weekend. The authorities have also widened a no-go zone around the volcano to five kilometres, up from a previous two kilometres.

Palestine to apply for full UN membership

- Palestinian foreign minister Riyad al-Malki declared that Palestine would apply for full state membership at the United Nations in January.
- To secure full state membership, the Palestinians need support from at least nine out of the UNSC's 15 member states.

4.8-magnitude earthquake hits Sicily

- A 4.8-magnitude earthquake has hit Sicily near Europe's most active volcano, Mount Etna, injuring at least 28 people. The epicentre was located north of Catania.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY**RBI launches survey to capture retail payment habits in 6 cities**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will capture payment habits of individuals in six cities, including four metropolitan towns. For the purpose, the central bank has launched a 'Survey on Retail Payment Habits of Individuals (SRPHi)'.

- The survey will cover a sample of 6,000 individuals from various socio-economic backgrounds across six cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Guwahati.

Panel on RBI reserve

- Reserve Bank of India has named former Governor Bimal Jalan as the head of the expert panel that will decide on the appropriate size of reserves that the central bank should maintain and the dividend it should give to the government. Rakesh Mohan to be vice chairman.

Government reviews guidelines for FDI in E- commerce

- Government has reviewed guidelines for Foreign Direct Investment in E-commerce companies to protect the interests of domestic players.

RANKINGS & INDEXES

Second Delta Ranking of Aspirational districts

- Virudhunagar district in Tamil Nadu has shown the most improvement overall, followed by Nuapada district in Odisha, Siddarthnagar in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar's Aurangabad and Koraput in Odisha.
- Niti Ayog CEO Amitabh Kant releases Second Delta Ranking of Aspirational Districts Programme.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

7th National Photography Awards

- The photo division of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is organizing the 7th National Photography Awards. Entries for all the awards have been invited from across the country.
- The photographers will be awarded in mainly three categories - life time achievement award, awards for professional photographers and the awards for the amateur photographers.

APPOINTMENTS

- CA Kuttappa - **India's chief boxing coach**

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS

Centre increased allocation of annual budget

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the Centre has increased allocation of annual budget of Himachal to Rs 72 thousand crores from 21 thousand crores.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Administrative handbook of Information and Broadcasting Ministry

- Information and Broadcasting Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore released the administrative handbook of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry in New Delhi.

SPORTS

Ponting inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

- Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting was formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.

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