

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

**MAY 15** – International Day of Families

**Theme - “Families and inclusive societies”**

- To explore the role of families and family policies in advancing Sustainable Development Goal 16 in terms of Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

## **NATIONAL**

### **MAHARSHTRA**

#### **Exhibition on Department of Atomic Energy Technologies at the BARC**

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, visited an exhibition on Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) technologies at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in Trombay, Mumbai on May 15, 2018. He also inaugurated DAE facilities there.

## **PUNJAB**

#### **Darbhanga-Jalandhar Antyodaya Express**

- A new weekly train service between Darbhanga in Bihar and Jalandhar in Punjab Antyodaya Express will be flagged off by the minister of state for Railways Manoj Sinha from May 15.

#### **First all-woman Post Office Passport Seva Kendra**

- First Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) run by an all-woman team has started operations here Phagwara POPSK.
- The seva kendra was inaugurated by Union Minister Vijay Sampla in the local head Post Office.
- It was 192nd POPSK in the country, but first one to be operated by an all-woman team.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **Rohingya Crisis - World Bank agrees to a grant for Bangladesh**

- The World Bank has agreed to provide Bangladesh the full fund as grant money at its spring meeting held in April in the US.
- The World Bank (WB) is going to provide Bangladesh a grant to meet the basic needs of around one million Rohingyas who fled their homeland Myanmar.

## **SCIENCE**

### **Jupiter's moon Europa shows evidence of water plumes**

- NASA will get a close-up look from a new spacecraft during its Europa Clipper mission that could launch as soon as June 2022, providing a possible opportunity to sample plumes for signs of life, perhaps microbial, from its ocean.

## **BUSINESS & ECONOMY**

### **YES Bank launches Agenda 25×25**

- YES Bank and YES Global Institute have launched Agenda 25×25, which pledges to create a synergetic startup environment for budding women entrepreneurs in India.
- YES Bank said the effort would ensure that by 2025 at least 25% of all entrepreneurs in India are women.

## **MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS**

### **NALCO inks MoU with Government of India**

- The MoU has also set a target of 2.1 million tons for production of Alumina with 100% capacity utilisation & an optimum Aluminium production target of 4.15 lakh tonnes.
- It sets a target of reduction in net carbon consumption as part of improvement in production efficiency, apart from giving thrust to commercialisation of new R&D products.

**NTPC inks pact with Bihar**

- NTPC inked a pact with Bihar and its power utilities to acquire their entire stake in two joint ventures at Nabinagar and Kanti, and to buy Barauni thermal plant.

**SUMMITS & CONFERENCES****4<sup>th</sup> Global Exhibition on Services & Champion services sectors**

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 4<sup>th</sup> Global Exhibition on Services and launched a portal on 12 Champion Sectors in Services in Mumbai.
- The launch of 12 Champion Sectors is a bold new step that will contribute to both India's economy and the global economy, and will create jobs.
- Maharashtra will create an ecosystem for Services sector – Maharashtra CM which can offer employment in large numbers.

**DEFENCE****Indian Army Women Officers' Mountaineering Expedition**

- Indian Army Women Officers' Mountaineering Expedition to Mt. Bhagirathi-II (6512 metres) consisting of nine women officers, was flagged off by Director General of Military Training on 14 May 2018.
- The expedition will be conducted from 14 May to 11 Jun 18. The team also plans to set a new world record of practicing Yoga at 21000 ft on the occasion of Yoga Day 2018.

**SCHEMES****President launches various welfare schemes for upliftment of weaker sections**

- President Ram Nath Kovind recently launched three welfare schemes for the benefit of weaker sections of the society in a programme organised at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur.

**Live Social Media Session on Startups**

- The objective of the live session is to address concerns and elaborate on the support which they can seek from Startup India.
- The live session will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May at 4.30 pm on Suresh Prabhu's social handles – Twitter and Facebook, along with Startup India's social handles – Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

**RANKINGS & INDEXES****3rd largest solar market in world**

- India emerged as the third largest solar market in the world in 2017 behind China and the US, Mercom Communications India said in a report.

**AWARDS****Jayadev Rastriya Yuva Puraskar award**

- US-based Kathak dancer Anindita Anaam was honoured with the prestigious 'Shri Jayadev Rastriya Yuva Pratibha Puraskar 2018' for outstanding contribution to the field of art.

**Nikkei Asia Prize**

- The founder of Sulabh International, Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, has been honoured with the Nikkei Asia Prize in Japan for his contribution to Asia's development.
- Nikkei Inc., one of the largest media corporations in Japan, has been presenting the awards since 1996 to honour people in Asia who have made significant contributions in one of the three areas: Economic and Business Innovation, Science, Technology and Environment and Culture and Community.

**French player of the year prize**

- Neymar was named as France's player of the year at an awards ceremony in Paris.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Netmeds Brand ambassador**

- Star cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has been announced the brand ambassador of online pharmacy Netmeds.com.

**APP & WEBPORTAL****ITR-4 launched on e-filing portal**

- The Income Tax Department launched the ITR-2, the third income return form for assessment year 2018-19, on the official e-filing portal.

**SPORTS****International shooting championship**

- Heena takes gold in Women 10m air pistol; P. Shri Nivetha settled for bronze.