

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **August 14 - Pakistan celebrates 72nd Independence Day**

- Independence Day, observed annually on 14 August, is a national holiday in Pakistan. It commemorates the day when Pakistan achieved independence and was declared a sovereign nation following the end of the British Raj in 1947.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Manipur**

- The Governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma A. Heptulla inaugurated the project “Development of North East Circuit: Imphal & Khongjom” implemented under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism at a function held at the historic Kangla Fort in Imphal, Manipur.

### **New Delhi**

#### **Handfan “Pankha” made by tribals for invitees**

- In a unique initiative, Trifed has supplied the handfans “Pankha” to Ministry of Defence for those invitees who will attend the Independence Day flag hosting ceremony at Red Fort in Delhi.

### **Rajasthan**

#### **Human chain formed on Rajasthan border**

- As part of the ‘Shahadat Ko Salam’ (A salute to martyrdom) programme, a record 700-km-long human chain was formed in Rajasthan’s four border districts Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Sriganganagar as a tribute to the martyrs on the eve of the Independence Day.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Australia recommences its adoption programme**

- The Government of Australia has decided to recommence the Adoption Programme with India, as per Hague Convention on Inter-Country Adoption.

## **SCIENCE**

### **200 million-year-old Pterosaur fossil found in the US**

- Scientists unveiled a previously unknown species of giant pterosaur, the first creatures with a backbone to fly under their own power.

## **BUSINESS & ECONOMY**

### **New bidding model for greenfield airports**

- The government proposed a new transaction structure for the bid process for greenfield airports, switching from a revenue share model to a fixed fee per passenger to be paid to the concessioning authority.

## **RANKINGS & INDEXES**

- **World's most liveable city (Global Liveability Index)** – 1) Vienna 2) Melbourne
- **India's most valuable brand** – 1) Tata 2) Airtel 3) Infosys
- **India's strongest brand** - HDFC Bank
- **India's fastest-growing brand** - Kotak Mahindra Bank

## **SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**

### **India-US Roundtable Discussion**

- Minister for Railways, Coal, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Shri Piyush Goyal, Chairman Railway Board, Shri Ashwani Lohani, other Railway Board Members and senior officials participated in the India-US Roundtable discussion.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

- **Brand Ambassador for Road Safety Campaigns** - Film Actor Akshay Kumar
- **Head coach of the Indian Women's Team** - Ramesh Powar

## **SCHEMES**

### **Green Mysuru initiative**

- The Forest Department will launch a Green Mysuru drive on August 15 as part of Hasiru Karnataka programme to increase the tree cover of the city and the district.

### **New Central Sector scheme for promoting Pharmacovigilance of AYUSH Drugs**

- Ministry of AYUSH has introduced new Central Sector scheme for promoting pharmacovigilance of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) Drugs.

### **Nabh Nirmaan 2018**

- Sh Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Civil Aviation today unveiled a new transaction structure for future greenfield airports proposed under NABH Nirmaan 2018.

### **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0**

- Higher Education Institutions of Human Resource Development Ministry under its flagship program – Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) 2.0 will participate in Gram Sabhas to be organised on the occasion of Independence Day

### **‘One Million’ women placement drive in MGU**

- ‘Project Disha’, a partnership of the India Development Foundation and the United Nations Development Programme, will conduct a two-day placement drive for women students at the Mahatma Gandhi University campus.

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

## **Ministry of Railways Signs Record of Discussion for India Japan Cooperation**

- Record of Discussion (ROD) for the project on Capacity Development on Rail Safety was signed between Ministry of Railways and Japan International Cooperation Agency

## **AWARDS**

- **Vayu Sena Medal** - Sergeant Shashidhar P Prasad Indian Air Force (Garud)
- **Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry)** - Squadron Leader Vernon Desmond Keane Flying (Pilot)
- **Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry)** - Group Captain Abhishek Sharma Flying (Pilot)
- **Presidents's Police Medal for Distinguished Services** - Dr. S. N. Pandey, Inspector General, Railway Board
- **NASI-Young Scientist Platinum Jubilee Awards** – 1) Dr. Sushmee Badhulika for his work in ‘electronics, computer science and engineering.’  
2) Dr. Aravind Kumar Rengan in the bio-medical, molecular biology and bio-technology category

## **APP & WEBPORTAL**

### **“TRAINS AT A GLANCE (TAG)”**

- The Ministry of Railways will be releasing its new All India Railway Time Table known as “TRAINS AT A GLANCE (TAG)” effective from 15th August, 2018.

### **“Pitch to MOVE”**

- NITI Aayog has launched “Pitch to MOVE” - a mobility pitch competition that aims to provide budding entrepreneurs of India a unique opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a distinguished jury.

## **SPORTS**

### **18th Asian Games**

- Indian men and women's hockey teams leave for 18th Asian Games

**Srilanka Beat South Africa in the T20I**

- Sri Lanka defeated South Africa by three wickets in the one-off T20I