

IMPORTANT DAYS

August 15 – 72nd Independence Day

- Independence Day is annually celebrated on 15 August, as a national holiday in India commemorating the nation's independence from the United Kingdom on 15 August 1947.

NATIONAL

Andhra Pradesh

CM to dedicate Vamsadhara project to nation

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.Chandrababu Naidu is expected to dedicate the Vamsadhara project to the nation on the Independence Day.

Maharashtra

Emergency measures to tackle pink bollworm

- The Maharashtra government has announced emergency measures to tackle the widespread pink bollworm (PBW) infestation in parts of the State to monitor relief measures and minimise economic losses to farmers.

Rajasthan

Rajasthan CM unveils welfare steps, extends milk scheme

- Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Raje unveiled a slew of welfare measures, including extension of the Annapurna milk scheme for schoolchildren, allocation of funds for new infrastructure and interest subsidy on farmers and to celebrate September as 'nutrition month'.

Jaipur man back from Pakistan after 36 years

- After spending 36 years in Lahore's Kot Lakhpat jail, Gajanand Sharma, a labourer from Jaipur returned home.

Punjab

‘TuMera Buddy’ programme

- Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh launched the ‘TuMera Buddy’ programme to tackle the problem of drugs in the State.

INTERNATIONAL**Cambodia’s ruling party wins all parliamentary seats**

- Cambodia’s ruling Cambodian People’s Party won all 125 parliamentary seats in a general election, the president of the National Election Committee (NEC) on August 15.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY**‘JioGigaFiber’**

- After 4G mobile services, Reliance Jio started “JioGigaFiber registration for optical fibre based fixed-line broadband service through which it has claimed to offer download speed of one gigabit per second.

Tea exports to China, Pakistan rise

- India shipped larger quantities of tea to two neighbouring countries China and Pakistan in the first half of 2018.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**India, China Armies meet in Ladakh**

- Amid continuing transgression by China at Demchok in eastern Ladakh, the Armies of India and China held a ceremonial Border Personal Meeting to mark India’s Independence Day.

APPOINTMENTS

- A K Singh - **Director-Pipeline of Indian Oil Corporation**
- D Bala Venkatesh Varma - **Ambassador to Russia**
- Anandiben Patel (Madhya Pradesh Governor) - **Additional charge of Governor Of Chhattisgarh**

- **Asad Qaiser - Pakistan's newly-formed Parliament Speaker**

SCHEMES

Gaganyaan mission to take Indian astronaut to space by 2022

- An Indian astronaut, be it a man or a woman, will go on a space odyssey by 2022 on board 'Gaganyaan', Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in his Independence Day address.

Veligonda project

- The first phase of the multi-crore Veligonda project, the giant tunnel being drilled to bring Krishna water from the Srisailem reservoir to the drought-prone district of western Prakasam in Andhra Pradesh, will be completed at any cost by coming Sankranti.

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS

REC inks pact with German bank for 200 mn euro loan

- State run Rural Electrification Corporation has inked a loan agreement with German bank KfW for EUR 200 million facility that would be used to finance clean energy projects in India.

AWARDS

- **Prestigious President's medal for distinguished service TamilNadu** – 1) ADGP (Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation) M.N. Manjunatha 2) IG (South Zone) K.P Shanmuga Rajeswaran 3) ASP (Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption) S. Thirunavukarasu

SPORTS

SAI to protect trainees from sexual harassment

- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has initiated firm steps aimed at protecting girl athletes from falling prey to sexual harassment at the hands of their coaches.

Nihal Sarin becomes India's 53rd Grandmaster

- Nihal Sarin became India's 53rd Grandmaster after attaining his third and final GM-norm in the Abu Dhabi Masters