

NATIONAL

New Delhi

Government asks citizens not to use plastic national flags

- Ahead of Independence Day, the Centre has urged all citizens not to use national flag made up of plastic and asked states and Union Territories to ensure strict compliance of the flag code.

Karnataka

Memorial to be inaugurated on August 9

- ‘Independent India – 70’, a memorial to commemorate the 70th Independence Day, by Mallasajjana Vyayamashala in front of Gandhi Bhavan here, will be inaugurated on August 9, coinciding with the Quit India Movement.

Rajasthan

New breastfeeding policy comes into effect

- A new breastfeeding policy has come into effect in Rajasthan for encouraging the rural communities to promote exclusive breastfeeding along with its early initiation. The initiative has been taken as part of the National Nutrition Mission-2022.

Sikkim

11th Biosphere Reserve from India to be Included in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves

- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve has become the 11th Biosphere Reserve from India that has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

Tamilnadu

'Kalaignar' M. Karunanidhi passes away

- 'Kalaigarnar' M. Karunanidhi, former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK chief, passes away aged 94.

INTERNATIONAL

Pakistani troops to receive training at Russian military institutes

- Pakistan and Russia have signed an agreement to allow Pakistani troops to receive training at Russian military training institutes, a move aimed at boosting their bilateral defence ties.

Tokyo 2020 Olympics to use facial recognition

- Tokyo 2020 will be the first Olympics to deploy facial recognition technology to increase security around all venues.

SCIENCE

Forty-five new exoplanets discovered

- Astronomers pooled data from NASA's Kepler and the ESA's Gaia space telescopes. They confirmed existence of these 44 exoplanets and described various details about them.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Govt doubles import duty on 328 textile products to 20% to boost production

- The government doubled import duty on as many as 328 textile products to 20 per cent to provide a boost to the manufacturing of these items in the country.

India Post bank to be unveiled on August 21

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) on August 21, 2018.

Govt. to get Rs.50,000 cr. from RBI

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will transfer Rs.50,000 crore surplus to the government of India for the year ended June 30, 2018.

Competition Commission clears Walmart-Flipkart deal

- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved U.S. retail giant Walmart's proposed acquisition of Flipkart.

Samsung to invest billions in artificial intelligence, biopharmaceuticals

- South Korea's Samsung Group would invest \$22 billion over the next three years in cutting-edge technology including artificial intelligence, self-driving cars and biopharmaceuticals, as it searches for ways to drive future growth.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

Inauguration of the 3rd National Convention of Rashtriya OBC Mahasangh

- Maharashtra Government has announced a special assistance of 500 crore rupees for OBC community to help them develop employment opportunities for the youth at the 3rd National Convention of Rashtriya OBC Mahasangh.

APPOINTMENTS

- **S. Gurumurthy & Satish Kashinath Marathe** - Part time non-official directors on the central board of Reserve Bank of India

AWARDS

Jal Bachao, Video Banao, Puraskar Pao Contest

- **Shreshth Sahu, Satish Mewada and Gopal Prajapati** – For spreading awareness about water conservation

APP & WEBPORTAL

Mobile App Niryat Mitra

- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Aviation Suresh Prabhu launched Niryat Mitra, mobile App in New Delhi developed by the

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). It provides wide range of information required to undertake international trade

SPORTS

European Championships

- Britain registered an historic sprint double at the European Championships, winning the gold medal in the men's and women's 100 m races at the same edition of the event for the first time.