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National Affairs

IIT Roorkee develops technology for railway track health monitoring using drones

- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, have developed computer vision approach for the monitoring of railway tracks using drones and satellite data.

Agartala Airport to be named after Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore

- The Union Cabinet decided to name the Agartala airport in Tripura after Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore, the erstwhile ruler of the state.

EC launches Braille-enabled Voter IDs

- The Election Commission launched voter identity cards with Braille label to ensure greater participation of persons with visual impairment in the electoral process.

India Smart Cities Fellowship (ISCF) and Internship (ISCI) Program

- India Smart Cities Fellowship (ISCF) and Internship (ISCI) Program Launched To Provide Opportunity to Youth to Work In the Domain of Urban Planning and Governance.

Rajya Sabha members can use all 22 scheduled languages

- Rajya Sabha members can speak in any of the 22 scheduled languages from the monsoon session of Parliament beginning on July 18.

Platinum jubilee celebrations of Institute of Cost Accountants of India

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the platinum jubilee celebrations of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India in New Delhi.
- India has invited US President Donald Trump to be the chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations next year.

India Tourism Mart

- The Minister of State (I/C) for Tourism, Shri. K. J. Alphons announced that the Tourism Ministry in partnership with the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality (FAITH) and with the support of State /UT Governments will organize the ‘first ever’ India Tourism Mart (ITM) from 16th to 18th September, 2018 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

90th Foundation day of Indian Council of Agricultural Research

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh congratulated scientists and officials of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with farmers from across India on ICAR’s 90th Foundation day and award ceremony function in New Delhi.

Seven new members take oath in Rajya Sabha

- Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh ideologue Rakesh Sinha, classical dancer Sonal Mansingh and sculptor Raghunath Mohapatra were among the seven new members of Rajya Sabha who took oath of office.

WCD ministry set to move cabinet to make child marriages invalid

- The Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry is set to move the cabinet to make all child marriages invalid. According to a study based on Census 2011, there are 2.3 crore child brides in the country.

Prime Minister visit to Rwanda, Uganda and South Africa

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, will pay a State Visit to Republic of Rwanda (23-24 July), Republic of Uganda (24-25 July) and Republic of South Africa (25-27 July). This will be the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Rwanda and the first visit by our Prime Minister to Uganda in over 20 years.

First heritage run coming to city with 163-year-old loco

- The Southern Railways has transported the Steam Loco EIR 21, built in England in 1855 and which served the Indian Railways for over five decades, to Puducherry for a maiden heritage ride sometime next week.

JEE (Main) and NEET exam to be conducted twice a year by the National Testing Agency

- The Union Cabinet approved JEE (Main) and National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET)-UG twice a year in order to give adequate opportunity to candidates to bring out their best.

KVIC Launches Exclusive Western and Ethnic Designer Wear

- Union Minister of State (I/C) for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Giriraj Singh launched Western and Ethnic Designer Wear collections at Khadi Bhawan at Connaught Place, New Delhi.

Books and Authors:

- **Booklets of NALCO and HCL on ‘Aluminium –the future metal’ and ‘from waste to secondary resources’ – authored by Dr. Tapan Kumar Chand & released by the Minister of Mines, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.**

Technology Challenge Launched for Promoting Suitable Techniques for Cleaning of Sewers and Septic Tanks

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, which was entrusted with the task, has now launched the “Technology Challenge: Identifying solutions for cleaning of Sewerage Systems and Septic Tanks”.
- Elimination of Human Entry into Sewer Drains and Cleaning of Septic Tanks is the Ultimate Goal of this Challenge

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