

IMPORTANT DAYS**September 23 - International Day of Sign Languages**

- The first International Day of Sign Languages will be celebrated on 23 September 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf, which will take place on 24-30 September.

2018 theme - “With Sign Language, Everyone is Included!”

NATIONAL**Jharkhand****Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Ayushman Bharat in Ranchi**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana from Ranchi in Jharkhand.

PM inaugurates Jharsuguda Airport

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated a new airport in Jharsuguda - also known as the powerhouse of Odisha. The Prime Minister also flagged off the UDAN flight on Jharsuguda-Raipur sector.

Punjab**20kW FM transmitter of All India Radio inaugurated**

- A 20kW FM transmitter of All India Radio located at Gharinda close to the international border at Attari in Amritsar was formally inaugurated by Vijay Sampla Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment.

Sikkim**PM inaugurates Pakyong Airport in Sikkim**

- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Pakyong Airport in Sikkim. This is the first airport in the Himalayan State, and the 100th airport in the country.

INTERNATIONAL

Nepal to be world's first country to double its tiger population

- Nepal is likely to be the first country in the world to double its tiger population. Nepal announced that there are now an estimated 235 wild tigers in the country, nearly doubling the baseline of around 121 tigers in 2009.

Maldives Presidential elections

- Opposition candidate Ibrahim Mohamed Solih has emerged victorious in Maldives Presidential elections.

SCIENCE

Japan's Maezawa lands first SpaceX moon flight

- SpaceX, Elon Musk's space transportation company named its first private passenger on a voyage around the moon as Japanese billionaire Yusaku Maezawa.

Japan's two hopping rovers successfully land on asteroid Ryugu

- MINERVA-II1(MIcro Nano Experimental Robot Vehicle for Asteroid, the second generation) Two robotic rovers have become world's first to successfully land on the surface of an asteroid Ryugu by the Japanese space agency JAXA.

RANKINGS & INDEXES

Ease of Living Index – 2018

- Launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). **Three Best Performing States** Under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)

1) Andhra Pradesh 2) Odisha 3) Madhya Pradesh

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SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

73rd session of the UN General Assembly

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has arrived here to represent India at the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly and hold several bilateral and multilateral meetings with her global counterparts.

National Orientation workshop on NeVA

- Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurated two-day National Orientation workshop on National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) & also launched the new website of the NeVA.

SCHEMES

Mushairas

- Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India, is organising “Mushairas”, based on the themes of teachings and principles of Mahatma Gandhi, across the country as a part of the Modi Government’s decision to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation.

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS

BSNL signs deal with Softbank, NTT to roll out 5G

- BSNL has inked a pact with Japan's Softbank and NTT Communications to roll out 5G and internet of things (IoT) technology in India.

DEFENCE

India successfully test fires Prithvi Defence Vehicle

- India successfully conducted an interceptor missile test off the Odisha coast achieving a major milestone in developing a two-layer Ballistic Missile Defence system.

AWARDS

- **The Right Livelihood Award known as the "Alternative Nobel"** - Abdullah al-Hamid, Mohammad Fahad al-Qahtani and Waleed Abu al-Khair [Saudi Arabia]
- **2018 honorary award** - Thelma Aldana of Guatemala and Colombia's Ivan Velasquez

SPORTS

Junior world wrestling championships

- India's Deepak Punia won silver medal in 86kg freestyle event in Slovakia.
- India's Naveen Sihag has progressed to the 57kg gold medal bout in the men's freestyle competition.

China Open Badminton

- Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting beat Japan's Kento Momota to take the Men's singles China Open title. Spain's Carolina Marin beat China's Chen Yufei to take the women's singles title.

India enter finals of Asia Cup

- India beat Pakistan by nine wickets in a Super Four encounter of the Asia Cup cricket in Dubai to enter finals of Asia Cup. It was India's biggest win against Pakistan in terms of number of wickets lost.

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