

NATIONAL**New Delhi****Tribes India launches “Punch Tantra Collection**

- Tribes India and TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched “Punch Tantra Collection and Ms. Mary Kom as Brand Ambassador of Tribes India”.

Bihar**New Domestic Terminal Building at Patna Airport**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the construction of New Domestic Terminal Building and other allied structures at Patna airport.

Madhya Pradesh**Narmada-Malwa Link Project**

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will dedicate the Narmada-Malwa Link Project in Indore district. This seeks permanent solution to the water crisis of Malwa region.

INTERNATIONAL**India to ship first consignment of common grade rice to China**

- India will send its first consignment of common grade rice to China. China is a leading importer of rice and sugar, while India is the world's biggest exporter of rice.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY**RBI eases cash reserve rules to ease liquidity condition of banks**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) eased mandatory cash requirement rules for banks to provide “durable liquidity” to the economy.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

National literary and intellectual conference- "Lok Manthan 2018"

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a national literary and intellectual conference- "Lok Manthan 2018" organised by Department of Culture of Jharkhand in Ranchi.

APPOINTMENTS

- Shri Sanjay Kumar - **Director General, Fire Service, Civil Defence & Home Guards (FS, CD & HG)**

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS

MoU between India and Uzbekistan

- Cabinet approves MoU between India and Uzbekistan on Mutual Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics, Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors, Cooperation in the Sphere of Law & Justice, strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism, cooperation for establishment of Uzbek-Indian Free Pharmaceutical Zone in the Andijan region of Uzbekistan, cooperation in health and medical science and cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied sectors.

MoU between the India and Kenya

- Cabinet approves MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK).

MoU between NITI Aayog, and Russian Federation

- Cabinet approves MoU between NITI Aayog, and Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (MEDRF) in the field of social, economic, industrial and regional development programs.

MoU between India and South Korea

- Cabinet apprised of the MoU between India and South Korea for enhancing cooperation in Applied Science and Industrial Technology.

Bilateral Cooperation between India and Oman

- India and Oman Agree to Enhance Bilateral Cooperation in the Field of Maritime Security and Defence Industry.

India and UN to sign a Five-Year Sustainable Development Framework

- India and the United Nations to sign a Five-Year Sustainable Development Framework (2018-2022)

India, US form alliance in public and private sectors to combat menace of TB

- India and United States have formed an alliance comprising leading experts in public and private sectors to combat the menace of tuberculosis.

Government increases customs duties on 19 items

- The government has increased Custom Duty on 19 items, including jet fuel, ACs and refrigerators to curb imports of non-essential goods.

Center approves construction of affordable houses under PMAY (Urban)

- The Center has approved the construction of over six lakh 26 thousand more affordable houses for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

Adultery no longer a criminal offence

- Supreme Court scrapped the pre-Independence provision of adultery in the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which treats a married woman as a commodity owned by her husband.
- Section 497 (adultery) gives a husband the exclusive right to prosecute his wife's lover. If found guilty, the adulterer faces five years behind bars.

DEFENCE

IAF successfully test fires air-to-air Astra missile

- The Indian Air Force successfully test fired the indigenously developed Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile.

AWARDS

- **UN Champions of the Earth Award** – Prime Minister Narendra Modi (for his leadership of the International Solar Alliance and pledge to eliminate single use plastic in India by 2022).
- **Award for Entrepreneurial Vision** - Cochin International Airport (for its leadership in the use of sustainable energy).
- **Policy Leadership category** - French President Emmanuel Macron and Modi (for their pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance)

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize 2018 for Science and Technology

Category	Winner	Affiliation
Biological Sciences	Dr Ganesh Nagaraju	IISc Bengaluru
	Dr Thomas Pucadyil	IISER Pune
Chemical Sciences	Dr Rahul Banerjee	IISER Kolkata
	Dr Swadhin Kumar	IISER Kolkata

	Mandal	
Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences	Dr Madineni Venkat Ratnam	National Atmospheric Research Laboratory, Tirupati
	Dr Parthasarathi Chakraborty	CSIR-NIO, Goa
Engineering Sciences	Dr Amit Agrawal	IIT Bombay
	Dr Ashwin Anil Gumaste	IIT Bombay
Mathematical Sciences	Dr Amit Kumar	IIT Delhi
	Dr Nitin Saxena	IIT Kanpur
Medical Sciences	Dr Ganesan Venkatasubramanian	NIMHANS, Bengaluru
Physical Sciences	Dr Aditi Sen De	Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad
	Dr Ambarish Ghosh	IISc Bengaluru

National Tourism Awards 2016-17

- **Comprehensive development of tourism** – 1) Andhra Pradesh 2) Kerala 3) Rajasthan & Goa

Third South Asia Digital Media Awards at the 26th annual conference of WAN-IFRA India 2018

- **Gold trophy** - Madras Courier
- **Silver trophy** - The Hindu's mobile app Briefcase & Sakal Media's Agrowon App
- **Bronze trophy** - The Hindu Group's Sportstar Live

APP & WEBPORTAL

Online software for Agmark

- Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh today launched the online software for Agmark and it is being implemented across the country to conduct quality control functions.
- The processing of Agmark certification application will be available 24x7

SPORTS

Asia Cup Cricket

- Bangladesh beat Pakistan by 37 runs to enter the final of the Asia Cup Cricket.

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