

NATIONAL**Assam****Assam Assembly passes amendment in GST Act**

- The Assam Assembly has passed an amendment in the GST Act by exempting GST registration for companies having up to 20 lakh rupees turnover per annum.

Punjab**Punjab Cabinet approves policy for regularization of Unauthorized colonies**

- Punjab Cabinet approved a policy for regularization of unauthorized colonies developed before March 19, 2018.

Maharashtra**Maharashtra brings in 31 GST reforms**

- Maharashtra government brought in 31 reforms in the state GST structure to promote ease of doing business. The changes have been brought in for the first time since the introduction of the GST.

New Delhi**Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) celebrated its Annual Day**

- To commemorate its establishment on 1st October, 2016, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has instituted an Annual Day Lecture in New Delhi.

Rejuvenated Lake and Illumination of Purana Qila

- Rejuvenated Lake and Illumination of Purana Qila inaugurated by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, in Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL

Kulbhushan Jadhav case in International Court of Justice

- The case of Kulbhushan Jadhav, the Indian national who was sentenced to death by a Pakistani court on spying charges, will be heard by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) from 18th February to 21st February next year.

Bangladesh scraps unpopular quota scheme for government jobs

- Bangladesh abolished a controversial quota system for civil service jobs.

SCIENCE

First moon outside our solar system discovered

- Astronomers have discovered the first moon detected outside our solar system, a large gaseous world the size of Neptune that is unlike any other known moon and orbits a gas planet much more massive than Jupiter.

Japan drops new robot on asteroid

- Hayabusa2, a Japanese probe launched the French-German Mobile Asteroid Surface Scout, or MASCOT, towards the Ryugu asteroid's surface by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to shed light on the origins of the solar system.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Government decides to cut petrol, diesel prices

- The government has decided to cut Rs 2.50 per litre on both petrol and diesel.

RBI allows state-owned oil companies to borrow long term working capital from overseas

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed state-owned oil companies to borrow long term working capital from overseas. RBI relaxed the policy on

borrowing up to 10 billion US dollar from the overseas by the state owned fuel retailers.

RBI imposes penalty on Federal Bank

- Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of five crore rupees on Federal Bank for non-compliance of certain RBI directions among other deficiencies.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

19th India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit

- Russian President Vladimir Putin will reach New Delhi on a two day visit to India to attend the 19th India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit in New Delhi.

'Women in Detention and Access to Justice' Conference

- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs is organising the First ever Regional Conference at Shimla on 'Women in Detention and Access to Justice' in Himachal Pradesh.

SCHEMES

Mission Gange

- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has partnered with Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) to launch a month-long rafting expedition of a team of 40 members which will be led by the first Indian woman to scale Mount Everest Ms. Bachendri Pal.

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS

Cabinet hikes MSP of Rabi crops

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA, has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all Rabi crops for the current financial year which will be marketed in 2019-20 season.

- The MSP of wheat - raised by 105 rupees per quintal, Safflower - 845 rupees per quintal, Barley - 30 rupees a quintal, Masur - 225 per quintal, Gram - 220 per quintal and rapeseed & mustard - 200 rupees per quintal.

Centre sanctions 122 schemes

- The Centre has sanctioned 122 schemes to mitigate ill effects of arsenic in Assam.

Redevelopment of Railway Stations

- Cabinet approves Redevelopment of Railway Stations by IRSDC as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and longer lease tenure.

MoU between India and Russia

- Cabinet approves MoU between India and Russia on Bilateral Cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Road Transport and Road Industry.

Second Protocol amending the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

- Cabinet approves Second Protocol amending the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and Singapore.

Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation

- Cabinet approves establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation in Sehore District instead of Bhopal.

ADB sign \$ 100 Million Loan Agreement

- Government of India and The Asian Development Bank (ADB) sign \$ 100 Million Loan Agreement to expand Sewerage and Drainage Coverage in Kolkata.

ADB sign \$ 150 Million Loan Agreement

- Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sign \$ 150 Million Loan Agreement to support India's First Global Skills Park in State of Madhya Pradesh.

India and ADB Sign \$240 Million Loan Agreement

- India and ADB Sign \$240 Million Loan to Provide Safe Drinking Water Service in 3 West Bengal Districts.

APP & WEBPORTAL

“Digi Yatra”

- Civil aviation Ministry releases the policy on Biometric based Digital processing of passengers at airports called “Digi Yatra”.

SPORTS

India clinch Blind T20 series against England

- India beat England by 55 runs in the second T20 game in Bengaluru to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the bilateral cricket series for the blind.

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