

IMPORTANT DAYS**December 16 - Vijay Diwas**

- The nation celebrated Vijay Diwas on December 16 to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in 1971 war. Rich tributes are being paid to the Martyrs who laid down their lives during the war. This year's celebration marks the 47th anniversary.

NATIONAL**Chhattisgarh****New chief minister**

- Chhattisgarh Congress president Bhupesh Baghel will be sworn-in as the chief minister.

Gujarat**Railway Minister dedicates first Railway University to nation**

- Railway Minister Piyush Goyal dedicated India's first Railway University to the nation in Vadodara. Ministry of Railways has sanctioned 421 crores rupees for this university and its curriculum development for the next five years.

Tamil Nadu**NGT set aside Tamil Nadu Government order to close down copper smelter plant Sterlite**

- The National Green Tribunal, NGT has set aside the Tamil Nadu Government order to close down the copper smelter plant Sterlite in Tuticorin. The Vedanta Group plant has been shut down following agitations on charges of pollution.

INTERNATIONAL**Germany to compensate hundreds who fled Nazis as children**

- Germany has agreed to one-time payments for survivors, primarily Jews, who were evacuated from Nazi Germany as children, many of whom never saw their parents again.
- The New York-based Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany said the German government has agreed to payments of 2,800 US Dollars to those still alive from among the 10,000 people who fled on the Kinder transport.

SCIENCE**Cyclone Phethai**

- Cyclone Phethai to hit Andhra Pradesh coastal belt and is likely to cross between MachiliPatnam and Kakinada in the coming 24 hours.

UN Climate conference finalises rules to implement Paris climate treaty

- Ministers of 200 nations finally reached consensus on rules to implement the 2015 Paris climate agreement. The Paris accord aims to limit rise in global atmospheric temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius from pre-industrial revolution levels.

SCHEMES**‘Watan ko Jano’ programme**

- The Ministry of Home Affairs has been organising ‘Watan ko Jano’ programme to give exposure to the youth and children of Jammu and Kashmir about the cultural and socio-economic development taking place in other parts of the country.

MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS**Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill introduced amid din in Lok Sabha**

- The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill was introduced amid din in the Lok Sabha . The Bill makes all declarations of instant triple talaq void and illegal. It seeks to make the practice a punishable offence with imprisonment of up to three years.

Transgender Bill passed in Lok Sabha

- Lok Sabha passed the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill after rejecting the opposition amendments. The Bill prohibits discrimination against a transgender person in areas such as education, employment and healthcare. It also directs the central and state governments to provide welfare schemes for them.

DEFENCE**Special marathon 'Soldierathon'**

- On the occasion of Vijay Diwas, Sports Minister Col Rajyavardhan Rathore flagged off a special marathon 'Soldierathon' at JLN Stadium in New Delhi. The marathon was organised in the honour of Martyrs and wounded Soldiers.

AWARDS

- **Miss Universe 2018** - Catriona Gray of Philippines[4th Filipina to be named Miss Universe.]

SPORTS**Men's Hockey World Cup**

- Belgium has claimed their first ever World Cup title defeating Netherlands 3-2 in a dramatic shoot-out in the final of the Men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar. Belgium has won the trophy after sixteen years.

Second fastest to score 25 Test centuries in Cricket

- Indian skipper Virat Kohli has become the second fastest to score 25 Test centuries, only behind Sir Don Bradman. Kohli also equalled Tendulkar's record of most Test tons by an Indian - that is six - in Australia.

Badminton World Tour Finals

- Ace Indian shuttler P V Sindhu lifted the prestigious season-ending World Tour Finals trophy at Guangzhou, China. The Olympic silver medallist defeated Japan's Nozomi Okuhara 21-19, 21-17 in the summit clash.

37th Senior National Rowing Championship

- The 37th Senior National Rowing Championship will start in the Army Rowing Node in Pune.

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