

IMPORTANT DAYS

December 18 - International Migrants Day

- International Migrants Day is observed on 18 December in accordance with Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly, adopted on 4 December 2000.
- On 18 December 1990, the General Assembly had adopted a resolution on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (resolution).
- **2018 theme: Migration with Dignity**

December 18 - International Day of the Arabic Language

- UN Arabic Language Day is observed annually on December 18. The event was established by the UNESCO in 2010. It is "the day in 1973 when the General Assembly approved Arabic as an official UN language".

NATIONAL

Assam

Debt relief scheme for farmers

- The Assam government has approved debt relief scheme for the farmers of the state. The state cabinet decided to waive 25 percent of loan amount to the farmers.

No proposal to extend NRC to other States

- The government that there is no proposal to extend the National Register of Citizens, NRC to States other than Assam.

Bihar**Construction of new 4- lane bridge across River Ganga**

- The Union Cabinet has approved a new bridge across the Ganga river at Patna in Bihar. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the project for construction of 5.634 km long new 4 lane bridge parallel to the existing MG Setu on NH-19.

Chhattisgarh**Farm loans of over 16 lakh farmers waived**

- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced to waive off farm loans to the tune of 6,100 crore rupees of more than 16 lakh farmers.
- Chhattisgarh cabinet also decided to provide 2,500 rupees per quintal to farmers for their paddy being sold under Minimum support price scheme.

Jammu & Kashmir**Jammu and Kashmir Governor recommending imposition of President's rule**

- Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik has sent a report to the central government recommending imposition of President's rule in the state after expiry of six month Governor's rule there on December 19.

INTERNATIONAL**Phasing out of Plastic shopping bags**

- In New Zealand, regulations for mandatory phase-out of single-use plastic shopping bags will take effect from July 1, 2019. Retailers will no longer be able to sell or give away single-use plastic shopping bags from July next year.

SCIENCE

Countdown begins for launch of GSLV F 11 carrying GSAT 7A

- The launch of GSLV F 11 carrying GSAT 7A begins. The 69th launch vehicle will lift off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- GSAT 7A , a geo stationary communication satellite weighing 2250 kilogram is all set to provide communication services in Ku band over the Indian region.

SPORTS

India Vs Australia Test Series

- Australia defeated India by 146 runs in the second Test at Perth. It has now levelled the four-match series 1-1.

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