

**NATIONAL****Bihar****Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojana**

- Bihar government has announced a universal old age pension scheme - Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna- MVPY for all people above 60 years of age.
- Except those senior citizens who have retired from government service, all will be eligible for 400 rupees monthly pension irrespective of caste, religion or community.

**Bihar Patrakar Samman Yojana (BPSY)**

- People in the field of media and not getting any other pension will be eligible for Bihar Patrakar Samman Yojana (BPSY) - a pension of 6,000 rupees for journalists above 60 years of age.

**New Delhi****“Vande Bharat Express”**

- The ‘Make in India’ effort of Indian Railways has culminated into India's first Semi High Speed Train, "Vande Bharat Express". Vande Bharat Express can run up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph and has travel classes like Shatabdi Train but with better facilities.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the maiden run of the train on New Delhi-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi route train from the New Delhi Railway Station.

**Tamil Nadu****Government promotes M-sand for construction works**

- Tamil Nadu Government is promoting M-sand for construction works as an alternative to river sand.

**Rajasthan****5% quota bill for Gujjars, four other communities**

- Rajasthan government passed a bill to provide five per cent quota in jobs and educational institutions to Gurjars and four other communities.
- The government introduced the Rajasthan Backward Classes Amendment Bill, 2019, which was passed by the assembly.
- The government has also decided to increase the ceiling of creamy layer from Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 8 lakh.
- The bill seeks to increase the backward classes' reservation from present 21 per cent to 26 per cent.

**INTERNATIONAL****Afghan Taliban announce talks with US**

- The Taliban has said it will meet top US and Pakistani officials including Prime Minister Imran Khan in Islamabad as part of the ongoing Afghan peace talks.

**US aimed at withdrawing all US military support in Yemen**

- The US House has passed a measure aimed at withdrawing all US military support for the Saudi Arabia-backed war in Yemen.

**RANKINGS & INDEXES****Report on Determining Methodology for Fixing National Minimum Wage**

- The Ministry of Labour and Employment had constituted an expert committee on 2017, under the Chairmanship Dr. Anoop Satpathy to review and recommend methodology for fixation of National Minimum Wage (NMW).

- The Expert Committee has submitted its report on “Determining the Methodology for Fixation of the National Minimum Wage” to the Government of India.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

- Vice Admiral SN Ghormade, AVSM, NM - **Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command**

### **SCHEMES**

#### **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM- SYM)**

- Minimum Assured Pension: Each subscriber under the PM-SYM, shall receive minimum assured pension of Rs 3000/- per month after attaining the age of 60 years.
- Family Pension: During the receipt of pension, if the subscriber dies, the spouse of the beneficiary shall be entitled to receive 50% of the pension received by the beneficiary as family pension. Family pension is applicable only to spouse.

### **MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS**

#### **Cabinet approves continuation of Centre's tribal welfare schemes**

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the continuation of sub-schemes under Umbrella programme for the development of Scheduled Tribes from the period till March 2020.

#### **Cabinet approves Patna Metro Rail project**

- Cabinet approved the Patna Metro Rail Project.
- Cabinet has also hiked the Minimum Support Price of Raw Jute by 250 Rs to 3950 Rs per quintal for 2019 -20 season.

**Cabinet approves proposal for Extension of tenure of NCSK**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for Extension of tenure of the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis(NCSK) beyond 31st of March,2019 for three years.

**MoU between India and Saudi Arabia**

- The Union Cabinet approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding, MoU between India and Saudi Arabia on cooperation and mutual assistance in Customs Matters.
- It also approved the signing of MoU between the two countries in the field of tourism and establishing a mechanism for Investment Infrastructure in India.

**CCEA approves CLCS-TUS**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs,CCEA has approved the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Up-gradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS) with a total outlay of 2900 crore rupees.
- The scheme aims at improving the competitiveness of MSMEs by integrating various ongoing schematic interventions aimed at up-grading technology through Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS).

**Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Bill, 2019**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the introduction of Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Bill, 2019. The Bill provides for amendment of the legal framework to act as a deterrent to the erring NRI spouses and creating more accountability and offer protection against exploitation of Indian Citizens married to NRIs.

## DEFENCE

### Parallel Taxi Track

- In a first for the IAF, the “OTTERS” squadron of Western Air Command has undertaken Parallel Taxi Track (PTT) Operations with a full women crew in the Dornier 228 aircraft. The pilots, **Sqn Ldr Kamaljeet Kaur and her co-pilot Sqn Ldr Rakhi Bhandari** carried out successful parallel taxi track landing and take-off operations at Sirsa.

## SPORTS

### Gold Cup 2019

- Myanmar and Nepal will meet in the summit clash of the Women's Hero Gold Cup 2019 Football tournament at Bhubaneswar.
- This became evident after Myanmar defeated India 2-0 in the last Round Robin match and Nepal beat Iran 3-0 in the other match to enter the finals.

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