

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### February 21 - International Mother Language Day

- International Mother Language Day has been observed every year since February 2000 to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.
- The theme of this year's International Mother Language Day will be indigenous languages as a factor in development, peace and reconciliation.

## NATIONAL

### Andhra Pradesh

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated an All India Radio FM Station at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

### Himachal Pradesh

#### CM lay foundation stone of Central University in Kangra district

- Union Human Resource Minister Prakash Javadekar and Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur laid foundation stone of Central University at Dehra in Kangra district.

### New Delhi

#### President Ram Nath Kovind promulgates four Ordinance

- President Ram Nath Kovind promulgated four Ordinances. Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Second Ordinance, the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Second Ordinance, the Companies (Amendment) Second Ordinance and the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Ordinance, 2019.

**Digital Bharat, Saksham Bharat**

- A Digital India Compendium on Digital Bharat, Saksham Bharat was released by Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice, Sh. Ravi Shankar Prasad at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

**“Waste to Wonder” Park**

- The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said that waste disposal should be done properly for which the Municipal corporations will have to play a lead role. He was speaking at the inauguration of the “Waste to Wonder” Park under the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC).

**Tamil Nadu****NHRC issues notice to TN government**

- The National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, has issued notice to the government of Tamil Nadu over reported denial of basic amenities to garment industry workers in the state.

**President Ram Nath Kovind unveils 15.2 feet tall statue of Gandhi Ji in Chennai**

- President Ram Nath Kovind unveiled a 15.2 feet tall statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the premises of Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha in Chennai. The event was organized in view of 150th year of Gandhiji and centenary year of the Sabha. The Sabha has been established by Mahatma Gandhi in 1918 in Madras, which is now Chennai.

**Uttarakhand****Union Minister inaugurates, lays foundations of various schemes in Haridwar**

- Union minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid foundations of various schemes amounting to 5894 crore rupees in Haridwar. He also inaugurated

snan ghat in Chandi ghat and pumping station to stop the drainage system from polluting the Ganga.

## INTERNATIONAL

### **Australia announces two-year ban on entry of its citizens**

- In Australia, Government has announced a two-year ban on the entry of its citizens who fought for Islamic State in Iraq and Syria and now want to return following the fall of the terror group there. The Australian government has introduced a bill to amend the law in the Federal parliament in this regard.

### **'Festival of India'**

- In Nepal, a month-long 'Festival of India' began in Kathmandu to familiarise the new generation of the country about the similarities between the two countries. Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Rabindra Adhikari and Indian Ambassador to Nepal Manjeev Singh Puri jointly inaugurated the event.

### **Trump signs order to establish US space force**

- US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order to establish its Space Force as a new armed service within the Department of Air Force. The Space Force will include both combat and combat support functions to enable prompt and sustained offensive and defensive space operations in all domains.

### **Saudi Arabia to invest 100 billion dollars**

- Saudi Arabia will invest 100 billion dollars in India in range of areas including energy, refining, petrochemicals, infrastructure, agriculture and manufacturing.

**India Korea startup hub in Seoul**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India Korea startup hub in Seoul. PM said, his government has introduced flagship program Start-up India with 1.4 billion dollars fund for four years to create a startup eco-system in India.

**BUSINESS & ECONOMY****EPFO hikes interest rate on provident fund**

- Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, EPFO has decided to provide 8.65 per cent interest on Provident Fund deposits for 2018-19 against 8.55 per cent in the last year. The Central Board of Trustees (CBT) headed by Labour Minister is the apex decision making body of the EPFO which finalises rate of interest on PF deposits for a financial year.

**RANKINGS & INDEXES****All India Citizens Survey of Police Services**

- Ministry of Home Affairs has commissioned the Bureau of Police Research and Development to conduct a pan-India survey called, All India Citizens Survey of Police Services. The survey will be conducted through the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi.
- The aim is to understand public perceptions about Police, gauge the level of non-reporting of crimes or incidents to Police, timeliness and quality of police response and action, assess citizens' perception and experience about women and children's safety.

**SUMMITS & CONFERENCES****4th India-Asean Expo and Summit**

- Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, inaugurated the 4th India-ASEAN Expo and Summit 2019 in New Delhi.

## Joint seminar in Seoul

- The Indian Chamber of Commerce in Korea (ICCK) and India Forum organized a joint seminar in Seoul to strengthen the economic relationship between India – Korea. It is the first time that South Korea has clearly designed a foreign policy initiative for India and officially documented it.
- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi at Yonsei University in Seoul.

## India-Russia Forum on SMEs

- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu addressed Interactive Forum between Small and Medium Enterprises of India and Russia in Bengaluru.

## 2nd Meeting of National Tourism Advisory Council (NTAC)

- Shri K.J. Alphons, Union Minister for Tourism chaired the 2nd meeting of the reconstituted National Tourism Advisory Council (NTAC) at ‘Statue of Unity’, Kevadia, Gujarat. The NTAC acts as think tank of the Ministry of Tourism and advises the Government on various tourism related policy matters.

## SCHEMES

### Scheme for Adolescent girls

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched Scheme for Adolescent girls. The scheme focuses on girls aged between 11 to 14 years who have left studies and will take steps for proper nutrition and special care for them.
- The state government also decided to observe Adolescent girls day on 8th of every month at Anganwadi centres across the state. State Government will also launch Nutrition Campaign for the adolescent girls on 8th March.

**Atmospheric Water Generator (AWG)**

- Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has unveiled its new product, the Atmospheric Water Generator (AWG), an innovative solution to meet the ever-increasing need for drinking water worldwide, at Aero India 2019.

**MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS****President Ram Nath Kovind approves changes in Stamp Act**

- President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the amendments in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, which will rationalise and harmonise the system of levying stamp duty and help curb tax evasion.
- The Amendments to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, were introduced as part of the Finance Act 2019, and was approved by Parliament.

**MoU between India, Sri Lanka**

- India and Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a business centre for ICT incubators in Jaffna through grant of 25 crore Sri Lankan rupees from India.

**DEFENCE****Maiden Drone Olympics Competition**

- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) made a spectacular entry at the Aero-India 2019 with the first ever 'Drone Olympics' competition for UAV's held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru.
- **Theme - 'The Runway to a Billion Opportunities'.**

## SPORTS

### ISSF Shooting World Cup

- Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore will inaugurate the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup in New Delhi. Various events in the world cup will start from February 23rd and end on the 27th.

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