

**NATIONAL****ECI appoints Special Expenditure Observers for 6 States**

- Election Commission has appointed Special Expenditure Observers for six States in view of the forthcoming elections. These states are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Nagaland and Telangana.
- The poll body appointed former member of CBDT, Gopal Mukherjee as special expenditure observer for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana while former Director General I-T(Investigation), D D Goel has been deployed in Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.
- Shailendra Handa who was earlier appointed as special expenditure observer for Maharashtra has been given additional charge of Gujarat while Madhu Mahajan will supervise Karnataka in addition to Tamil Nadu.

**ECI appoints Special Central Police Observers for States**

- Election Commission of India has appointed former Director General of Border Security Force K K Sharma as a Special Central Police Observer for Lok Sabha polls in West Bengal and Jharkhand.
- Former IPS officer Mrinal Kanti Das as Special Central Police Observer for Tripura and Mizoram.

**INTERNATIONAL****Australia warns social media executives of jail over extremist content**

- Australia warned social media giants on Tuesday that executives could be jailed if they fail to quickly remove extremist material from their platforms.

**Trump sign proclamation recognising Israel's sovereignty over Golan Heights**

- US President Donald Trump has signed a proclamation recognising Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights and told that Israel has an absolute right to self-defence.
- Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 war but its sovereignty over the territory is not recognized by the international community.

**US, Russia lock horns over Venezuela**

- US and Russia clashed publicly over Venezuela, raising geopolitical stakes over the oil-producing nation after Moscow sent dozens of soldiers to Caracas amid what it alleged was a budding coup.

**SCIENCE****ISRO to launch 29 satellites**

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch 29 satellites including the primary payload EMISAT, on the first of April. Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C45 will take off from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota tentatively at 9:30 AM carrying the satellites onboard.
- EMISAT has been developed for monitoring radar network by India.

**BUSINESS & ECONOMY****RBI slaps Rs 2 crore penalty on PNB**

- The Reserve Bank of India has slapped a penalty of Rs 2 crore on Punjab National Bank for non-compliance of regulatory directions with regard to SWIFT operations. SWIFT is a global messaging software used for sharing information on inter-bank transactions by financial entities.

**ADNOC awards onshore block to Indian consortium**

- A consortium of two Indian oil companies, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited have been awarded the exploration rights for Abu Dhabi Onshore Block 1.
- The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, ADNOC, Monday signed agreements awarding the exploration rights.

**APPOINTMENTS**

- Rear Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, VSM - **Assumed the charge as the Flag Officer Commanding Maharashtra Naval Area**

**MOU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS****Government notifies Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules 2019**

- Health and Family Welfare Ministry have notified the Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019 with an aim to promote clinical research in the country. The new rules will change the regulatory landscape for the approval of new drugs and conduct of clinical trials in the country.

**DEFENCE****Navy's nuclear, biological, chemical training facility launched**

- Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba inaugurated the Indian Navy's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Training Facility (NBCTF) at INS Shivaji in Lonavala.
- The NBCTF, christened "Abhedya", impenetrable in Sanskrit, will help train personnel of naval ships fitted with nuclear, biological and chemical detection and protection systems.

**Military exercise Mitra Shakti**

- The joint training exercise MITRASHAKTI - VI between Indian and Sri Lanka Army is being held at Diyatalawa in Sri Lanka. It is one of the largest bilateral armies to army exercises conducted in the region.

**LIMA-19**

- Indian Navy's frontline ASW corvette, INS Kadmat arrived at Langkawi, Malaysia on a seven days official visit. The ship is scheduled to participate in the 15th edition of Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition, LIMA-19.

## Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Makalu

- First Indian Army Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Makalu (8485m) comprising five Officers, two JCOs and eleven OR was flagged off by Director General Military Training on 26 Mar 2019.

## APP & WEBPORTAL

### PWD app

- A mobile application called 'PWD' for making voting easier and implement the poll body's slogan of Accessible Elections for over two lakhs Divyang voters across the state.
- The app would facilitate Divyang voters special facilities including wheelchairs, ramps and transport from home at polling booths during the Lok Sabha elections.

## SPORTS

### India Open Super 500 Badminton

- India Open Super 500 Badminton started in New Delhi. PV Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth will look to regain form and reclaim a title.

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