

National Current Affairs – May 2019

Registration of all motor vehicles stopped

- The issuing of certificate of registration (RC) for all classes of motor vehicles has been blocked from May 02, in the country for not integrating high security registration plate (HSRP) with the ‘Vahan’ database.

In-flight connectivity likely in next three months

- International airlines could start providing Internet onboard over Indian skies in the next three months becoming the first to do so, while domestic passengers may have to wait for another “7 to 9 months” to start sending WhatsApp texts, browsing Twitter, streaming movies and making phone calls.

India, UK in talks to build Naval super carrier under ‘Make in India’

- The United Kingdom is in talks with the Indian government on building a new state-of-the-art aircraft carrier along the lines of Britain’s HMS Queen Elizabeth as part of the ongoing ‘Make in India’ project .

Sushma Swaraj, Shah Mehmood Qureshi to attend SCO meet

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi will attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Council of Foreign Ministers in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

United Nations funding to make Mysuru a ‘sustainable city’

- The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) has identified Mysuru as one of the pilot cities as part of a project titled ‘Sustainable Cities’ Integrated Approach’.

- Mysuru is the only city identified in the State while the four other cities selected in the country are Vijayawada, Guntur, Bhopal and Jaipur.

AAI moves to take over Jet office space

- Airports Authority of India (AAI) started the process of taking over offices of Jet Airways at various airports, along with cancelling Airport Entry Passes of employees.

WTO Ministerial Meeting of Developing Countries

- A WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries is being hosted by India in New Delhi on 13-14 May 2019. Sixteen developing countries, Six Least Developed Countries (LDC) and DG, WTO are participating in the meeting.

PepsiCo withdraws all cases against potato farmers

- PepsiCo has withdrawn all its cases against nine Gujarat farmers who grew its protected potato variety used to make Lays chips, including cases seeking damages of Rs.1.05 crore each from small farmers.

Supreme Court extends Ayodhya mediation

- A five-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi gave the Supreme Court-appointed mediation committee time till August 15 to continue with its efforts to resolve the prolonged and strife-ridden Ayodhya title dispute.

I&B Secretary Amit Khare leads Indian Delegation to Cannes Film Festival

- India Pavilion is set to be inaugurated at Cannes Film Festival, which will be held from 14th to 25th May 2019. The Indian Delegation this year will be led by Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Central government extends ban on LTTE for five years

- The Central Government has extended the ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for another five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) with immediate effect.

CTBTO invites India to be an observer at meetings

- The executive secretary of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Lassina Zerbo, has invited India to be an observer in the CTBT. Being an observer would give India access to data from the International Monitoring System a network which when complete will consist of 337 facilities

DNA database coming up for Indian rhino

- The Union Environment Ministry has embarked on a project to create DNA profiles of all rhinos in the country. By 2021, the project's deadline, the Indian rhino could be the first wild animal species in India to have all its members DNA-sequenced.
- There are about 2,600 rhinos in India, with more than 90% of the population concentrated in Assam's Kaziranga National Park.

'Not all animals migrate by choice' campaign launched

- Ahead of the International Day of Biological Diversity celebrated on May 22, UN Environment India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of India launched an awareness campaign 'Not all animals migrate by choice' to be displayed at major airports across the country.
- UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador and recently appointed Secretary-General's SDG Advocate, Dia Mirza inaugurated the campaign

India cuts off UN panel after Jammu & Kashmir report

- Reacting to a submission from the Geneva-based Human Rights Council (HRC) on the alleged violations in Jammu and Kashmir, India has informed the United Nations body that it will no longer entertain any communication with the HRC's Special Rapporteurs

Four Judges elevated to Supreme Court

- The Centre has cleared four names recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium for elevation as judges of the apex court. The four appointed judges are Justice Aniruddha Bose, Justice A S Bopanna, Justice B R Gavai and Justice Surya Kant.
- Supreme Court will reach its full sanctioned strength of 31 judges after the appointment of four new judges. As of now, the apex court is functioning with 27 judges including the Chief Justice.

NHA to collaborate with cancer grid

- In the first such move to bring in uniform standards of patient care to battle cancer, the National Health Authority (NHA) and National Cancer Grid (NCG) have signed an MoU under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

Four new Supreme Court judges sworn in

- Four new judges of the Supreme Court were take the oath of office by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi. With the swearing in of the four judges, the number of judges in the Supreme Court stands at 31, the full sanctioned strength of the top court.

Cabinet approves dissolution of the Sixteenth Lok Sabha

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, gave its approval to the Resolution advising the President to dissolve the Sixteenth Lok Sabha, which was constituted on 18.05.2014.
- Article 83(2) of the Constitution stipulates that the House of the People. The life of the present Lok Sabha is, therefore, to expire on June 3, 2019.

Election Commission of India submits list of newly elected members

- A copy of the Notification issued by the Election Commission of India in terms of Section 73 of the Representation of People's Act, 1951, containing the names of Members elected to the House of the People following General Elections to the 17th Lok Sabha was submitted by them to the Hon'ble President.

Narendra Modi to be sworn in as Prime Minister for second term on May 30

- Narendra Modi will be sworn in as the Prime Minister for the second time at 7 p.m. on May 30 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. President Ram Nath Kovind will administer the oath, a Rashtrapati Bhavan

Hindi version of ‘Digital Dilemma’

- John Bailey, President of Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences (popularly known as Oscar Academy), e-launched the Hindi translation of an Academy Publication, “Digital Dilemma”, in Delhi.
- John Bailey said that there are many challenges thrown by the technological changes in the film storage medium and this book will help film makers in understanding and planning the storage of born-digital material.

Indo-Pak meet on Kartarpur corridor

- Officials from Pakistan and India held a meeting to discuss the modalities for a corridor linking Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Punjab’s Gurdaspur district to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur across the border. The meeting took place at the Kartarpur Zero Point.

Goa celebrates its statehood day

- Goa celebrates its statehood day on May 30. It was on this day in 1987 Goa became the 25th state of the Indian Union. Before this, Goa, along with Daman and Diu, was a union territory.

Jammu and Kashmir Government unveils Healthcare Investment Policy-2019

- Jammu and Kashmir Government unveiled Healthcare Investment Policy-2019. As per the new Health Care Investment Policy, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir will promote and encourage the private parties and entrepreneurs for setting up healthcare infrastructure in the state by providing subsidies and incentives.

Action plan formulated to reduce infant mortality rate in J&K

- The Jammu and Kashmir Government has formulated a comprehensive action plan to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to a single digit by the year 2020 in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, an official spokesman said yesterday.

Indian peacekeeper to be honoured posthumously with UN medal

- An Indian peacekeeper is among the 119 military, police and civilian personnel who will be honoured this year with a prestigious UN medal this year for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty.

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