

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Parliament adopts resolution levying 200% duty on Pakistani goods

- Parliament has adopted a statutory resolution for levying 200 per cent duty on all goods originating in or exported from Pakistan. The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha approved the amendment in the first schedule of the Custom Tariff Act in this regard. India had notified the basic custom duty to 200 per cent on all goods exported from Pakistan with effect from 16th of February this year.

Centre decides to extend ESI Act to entire country by 2022

- Government has decided to extend the ESI Act to the entire country by 2022. Labour and Employment Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar said out of the total 722 districts, the ESI scheme has been extended to 541 districts.
- He said under the ESIC 2.0 programme, ESI scheme was extended in newly implemented areas. The Minister informed the House that around 3 crores 60 lakh employees across the country are likely to be benefited by the measure.

SCIENCE

Department of Space gets 15% boost in Union Budget 2019-20

- Department of Space bags its highest budget share. The Budget 2019 has set aside Rs.12,473.26 crore about 15.6% higher amount than what was allocated for the 2018-19 fiscal. The newly formed Human Space Flight Centre - which spearheads the crewed Gaganyaan mission of 2022 - is part of this head.

BUSINESS**RBI board finalises 'Utkarsh 2022'**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) board, which met in New Delhi, finalised a three- year roadmap to improve regulation and supervision, among other functions of the central bank. This medium term strategy was named Utkarsh 2022 .It is in line with the global central banks' plan to strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**“Kaushal Yuva Samwaad”**

- Commemorating World Youth Skills Day on July 15, 2019 and celebrating 4th Anniversary of the Skill India Mission, the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship has announced launch of “Kaushal Yuva Samwaad” (A Youth Dialogue).
- To be organized between 8th and 10th July 2019, Kaushal Yuva Samwaad is aimed at creating an open dialogue with the youth across all skill training centres to hear their views, ideas, opportunities and recommendations which could help the Ministry in scaling the existing programs and improve overall efficiency of its projects.

MoU & CABINET APPROVALS**Nhai Signs MoU with NIIF for funding highway projects**

- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed an MoU with National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF). NIIF is a fund promoted by Government of India to give boost to the infrastructure sector in the country. The MoU is related to co-operation in formation of SPVs to execute the fund arrangement for large size road projects particularly green field projects to be executed by NHAI in future.

APPOINTMENTS**National Cricket Academy's Head**

- Rahul Dravid was formally appointed as the National Cricket Academy's Head of Cricket by the BCCI. Dravid will oversee all cricket related activities at NCA and will be involved in mentoring, coaching, training and motivating players, coaches and support staff at the NCA.

DEFENCE**INS Tarkash at Tangier, Morocco**

- Indian Naval Ship Tarkash arrived at Tangier, Morocco today for a three day visit. The visit is part of an ongoing Overseas Deployment by the Indian Navy to the Mediterranean Sea, Africa and Europe. The visit seeks to strengthen the bonds of friendship between India and Morocco.

Indigenous Aircraft Carrier Vikrant to be delivered to Navy by February 2021

- The country's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC), Vikrant, is in advanced stage of construction and will be delivered to the Navy in 2021 for advanced trials, according to Vice Admiral A.K. Saxena, Controller of Warship Production and Acquisition in the Navy.

RANKINGS & INDEXES**The Global Study on Homicide 2019**

- The Global Study on Homicide 2019 published on Monday by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said that about 4,64,000 people across the world were victims of homicidal violence in 2017, an increase from 395,542 in 1992. Asia, which accounts for 60% of the global population, recorded the lowest rate of homicide in 2017 with only 2.3 killings per 1,00,000 people while the Americas had the highest homicide rate, according to a UN report.

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