



## National Affairs

### Government develops National Strategic Plan to eradicate TB by 2025

- The government has developed a National Strategic Plan with the goal for ending Tuberculosis (TB) by 2025. Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey said, India accounts for 27.4 lakh estimated new TB cases annually, which is the highest in terms of absolute numbers. He said, the estimated cases of TB in the country is 204 per lakh population for the year 2017 as per the last year's Global TB report. However, India ranks 35th in the world in terms of TB cases per lakh population. Over 5 lakh 62 thousand patients were cured of TB last year.

### Government set up 713 Krishi Vigyan Kendras to double farmers' income by 2022

- The Government has set up 713 Krishi Vigyan Kendras and 684 Agricultural Technology Management Agencies at the district level in the country for dissemination of technologies among the farming community. This is aimed at meeting the target of doubling the farmers' income by 2022.
- An inter-ministerial committee for the purpose has recommended the use of digital technology to transform and modernize agricultural activities. The technologies include Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Analytics and Block Chain Technology.

### PM asks target oriented five-year plan document for each Ministry

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked top bureaucrats to prepare a five-year plan document for each Ministry with well-defined targets and a significant impactful decision in each Ministry for which approvals will be taken within 100 days. He also urged secretaries to use technology to improve outcomes and efficiency in each department.

### India to be most populous by 2027: UN

- India is set to overtake China as the most populous country by 2027 and will have almost 1.64 billion inhabitants by 2050, says a United Nations report. Globally, people aged above 65 are the fastest growing age group, putting pressure on social protection systems as the proportion of the working-age population shrinks.

### DD India programmes to be available in Bangladesh, South Korea

- Government has decided to show BTV World, a channel owned by Bangladesh TV, on the Doordarshan Free Dish which will be available for the viewers of Doordarshan in our country. At the same time, DD India would be made available in Bangladesh for being viewed by the people in that country. An official release said this arrangement is a result of an MoU signed between Prasar Bharati and Bangladesh TV (BTV) on 7th of May.

**Integrated Grievance Cell & Call Center of Department of Pensions**

- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Integrated Grievance Cell & Call Center for Pensioners set up by the Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare. The Center has been launched for Central Government pensioners at Janpath Bhawan, in New Delhi.

**Centre lifts landholding limit, extends PM-KISAN scheme to all farmers**

- Central Government notified a decision to extend the benefit of Rs.6,000 per year under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme to all 14.5 crore farmers in the country, irrespective of the size of their landholding.
- The responsibility of identifying the eligible beneficiary farmers and uploading their data on PM-KISAN portal lies entirely with the State Governments.

**CPWD to install ‘solar trees’ in residential complexes of central govt employees**

- The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has directed its officials to explore the possibility of installing “solar trees” in residential complexes of government employees.
- The move intends to promote renewable energy and reduce carbon footprint by the CPWD, the prime construction agency of the central government. The concept of “solar trees” was first implemented at the National Salt Satyagraha Memorial built by the CPWD at Dandi in Gujarat.

**Training programme of Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change**

- The Hyderabad-based National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) has launched a training programme of Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change (SLACC) to help Rural Poor Farm Holds adapt to Climate Change and sustain their livelihoods.

**Cyclone VAYU intensifies into very severe cyclonic storm**

- Cyclone VAYU over East-Central Arabian sea has intensified into a Very Severe Cyclonic Storm. It currently lays centred about 420 kilometres west-northwest of Goa, 320 kilometres south-southwest of Mumbai and 420 kilometres south of Veraval in Gujarat.
- The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has mobilized 35 teams in Gujarat and four in Diu in coordination with local administration. Rescue teams of State Disaster Response Force, Army, Coast Guard and BSF are also on standby.

**IBSD opens up their state-of-the-art orchidarium in Shillong**

- In Meghalaya, the Institute of Bio-resource and Sustainable Development (IBSD) a national institute of Department of Biotechnology opened up their state-of-the-art orchidarium in their research facility in Upper Shillong.
- One of its kind orchidarium, the first in the country was constructed within a span of three months after the institute was established last year. The orchidarium houses over 20 varieties of orchids which are found in Meghalaya and its neighbouring States.

**Food Corporation of India plans to boost storage space**

- The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has commissioned a new roadmap to speed up silo construction to meet its target of 100 lakh tonnes of storage space by 2022.
- With record harvests and high procurement over the last few years, the FCI is sitting on a reserve stock of foodgrains that is almost double the required level, straining capacity and forcing the use of cover and plinth storage which is not entirely weather-proof.

**Green Mizoram Day celebrated throughout the state**

- In Mizoram, Green Mizoram Day was celebrated throughout the state today with distribution and planting trees and taking pledge to work for green environment and maintaining ecological balance. The state has been celebrating the day for the last 20 years.

**Tripura state government imparts training to rural women on making bamboo based handicrafts**

- To make the state economically rich with bamboo-based products, the state government is imparting training to rural women on making bamboo based handicrafts with new designs and polishing. Some entrepreneurs have also come up with Startup ventures for widespread marketing of handicraft and handloom products. Two engineering graduates Shiba Prasad Ghosh from NIT Warrangle and Shubhajit Chowdhury from NIT Agartala have begun a startup venture, through e-commerce platform, namely, Yongmung Commerce Ltd and their web portal OGOCRAFT.COM.

**Voluntary blood donation becomes social movement**

- In Mizoram, voluntary blood donation has become a social movement. In this movement, youths are playing a key role. The number of enthusiastic youths towards voluntary blood donation is getting increased year after year. So far, 85 percent of state demands of blood units have been met through voluntary donations in 2018- 19. The Church and NGOs along with government blood transfusion cells are playing a big role in motivating youths towards blood donations.

**Extension of President's rule in J&K for another six months**

- The Cabinet has approved extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir for six months with effect from 3rd of next month. The present term of President's rule is expiring on 2nd July and the Governor has recommended that the President's rule in the state may be extended for a further period of six months. The extension has been approved based on the prevailing situation in the state

**Main event of International Yoga Day celebrations to be held in Ranchi**

- The main event of International Day of Yoga 2019 celebrations will be held at Prabhat Tara in Ranchi on 21st of this month. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the main function.
- Jharkhand government has planned to celebrate the day in grand manner by organising a week-long programme starting June 15.

**J&K approves 2nd phase of comprehensive plan for flood management work on Jhelum**

- The Jammu and Kashmir administration has approved the second phase of a comprehensive plan for flood management work on the Jhelum river at a cost of over 5,400 crore rupees. This multi-pronged strategy was adopted for flood mitigation in Kashmir Valley following the devastating floods of September 2014 and on the recommendations of a high-level committee, constituted by the Centre

**Manipur man detects WhatsApp bug, enters FB 'Hall of Fame'**

- Facebook has honoured a Manipuri man for discovering a WhatsApp bug that violated the privacy of a user.
- Zonel Sougajam, a 22-year-old civil engineer, said that the social media giant awarded \$5000 to him and also included him in the 'Facebook Hall of Fame 2019', for detecting the WhatsApp bug.
- Mr. Sougajam's name is currently at the 16th position in a list of 94 people, in the 'Facebook Hall of Fame' for this year.

**Dzukou Valley becomes Plastic Free Zone**

- In Nagaland, the scenic Dzukou Valley has become Plastic Free Zone on the occasion of World Environment Day. The much-appreciated initiative on declaring this scenic valley as a 'plastic-free zone' was taken by Southern Angami Youth Organisation (SAYO) in accordance with its pledge to conserve and protect the environment.

**NDMA to conduct Multi-State Earthquake Mock Exercise in Delhi**

- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the State Governments will conduct a Mock Exercise on earthquake preparedness on June 28, 2019. The exercise aims to improve preparedness and response mechanisms of the local administration in the event of an earthquake. It will cover Delhi (all 11 districts), Haryana (4 districts - Jhajjar, Faridabad, Gurugram and Sonapat) and Uttar Pradesh (3 districts - Gautam Buddh Nagar, Ghaziabad and Meerut).

**J&K Government to open 18 AMRIT stores**

- Jammu and Kashmir Government is planning to open 18 AMRIT (Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment) stores in all the Medical colleges' Hospitals and prominently associated hospitals of the State. The purpose of the initiative is to provide quality and affordable medicines to the end users.
- AMRIT pharmacies, operating under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, offer more than 5200 drugs, implants, surgical disposables and other consumables at average discounts up to 60% of the maximum retail price. In the previous year, 118.52 lakh people in country availed its services at a lesser price than its MRP.

**Vaishno Devi shrine to get dedicated in-house disaster response force**

- In Jammu and Kashmir, Mata Vaishno Devi shrine will get a dedicated in-house disaster response force by September next year. The shrine board is planning to train 180 employees by September next year to prepare a dedicated disaster response force for the shrine. The shrine board is also planning to set up an emergency operation centre as part of its disaster preparedness. Mata Vaishno Devi shrine is a religious pilgrimage atop the Trikuta hills in Reasi district of Jammu region that attracted 86 lakh pilgrims from across the world last year.

**Centre to provide CNG, PNG infrastructure in 406 districts**

- The Centre has chalked out a plan to provide CNG and PNG infrastructure in 406 districts of the country. The Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, till 2014, only 66 districts of the country were covered under Compressed Natural Gas and Piped Natural Gas infrastructure. He said that after expanding this facilities, 70 per cent of the population will get clean energy.

**Government to launch Universal Smart Card Driving License**

- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to modify the format of driving licenses to laminated card without chip or smart card type driving licences.. The Ministry has prescribed a common standard format and design of the Driving Licence for whole of the country which includes the placement of information, standardization of fonts etc.

**Government moving towards One Nation One Ration Card**

- Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan said, the government is moving towards One Nation One Ration Card. He said the national portability of Ration cards will ensure all beneficiaries especially the migrants in getting access to Public Distribution System (PDS) across the nation.

**WAPCOS celebrates Golden Jubilee**

- WAPCOS, which was incorporated as Public Sector Enterprise in 1969 by the Government of India celebrated its Golden Jubilee at Siri Fort, New Delhi. In commemoration of this historic occasion, the Company organized Golden Jubilee Celebrations with a theme titled “Transcending Boundaries-Touching Lives”.
- WAPCOS is a leading technology driven consultancy and EPC organization with strong global presence in the fields of Water, Power and Infrastructure Sectors. WAPCOS has successfully completed/on-going consultancy assignments in countries covering Asia, Africa, Middle East, South America and Pacific Island and is operating in more than 47 Countries, at present.

**Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festivals**

- In the Ladakh Region of Jammu and Kashmir, Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festivals is being celebrated on the bank of Indus River in Leh. Governor Sayta Pal Malik inaugurated the festival. The main attraction of the festival is local Folk songs and dances, exhibitions of handicrafts, and ethnic food items.

**Bihar cabinet sanctions Rs 384 cr for old age pension scheme**

- In Bihar, the cabinet has sanctioned 384 crore rupees for payment of pension under the Chief Minister Old Age Pension Scheme for the financial year 2019-20. Those who are in the age group of 60-79 will get 400 rupees per month while those above 80 will get 500 rupees per month as pension under the scheme.

**Gujarat govt to increases DA of employees and pensioners by 3%**

- Gujarat government has decided to increase the Dearness Allowance (DA) of its over nine lakh employees and pensioners by three per cent. Now, the employees and pensioners will get a total 12 percent dearness allowance from the existing 9 per cent with retrospective effect from the 1st of January this year.

**National Communal Harmony Awards**

- Nominations for the National Communal Harmony Awards-2019 are being invited from eligible individuals and organizations for their outstanding contribution for promotion of communal harmony and national integration. The National Communal Harmony Awards have been instituted by the National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

**Sahitya Akademi announces Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar 2019**

- Sahitya Akademi has selected 22 writers for the Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2019 and 23 writers for Yuva Puraskar 2019.
- For the Bal Sahitya Puraskar, the Awards relate to books first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of Award (i.e. between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2017). However, during the initial ten years i.e. from 2010 to 2019, the award may also be given to an author based on his/her total contribution to Children Literature.

**Awards for Outstanding Contribution for Promotion & Development of Yoga 2019**

- Prime Minister's Awards for outstanding contribution for Promotion and Development of Yoga - 2019 has been announced. Ayush Ministry in a release said, Swami Rajarshi Muni of Life Mission, Gujarat, Ms. Antonietta Rozzi of Italy, Bihar School of Yoga, Munger and Japan Yoga Niketan, Japan are the recipients of the Award. The award is given for outstanding contribution for promotion and development of Yoga.

**General Knowledge Study Materials** [Click Here for Download](#)

**All subject Study Materials** [Click Here for Download](#)

**2018 Current Affairs Download** – [Click Here](#)

**Whatsapp Group**  [Click Here](#)

**Telegram Channel**  [Click Here](#)