

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **August 12 - International Youth Day**

- 12 August was first designated International Youth Day by the UN General Assembly in 1999, and serves as an annual celebration of the role of young women and men as essential partners in change, and an opportunity to raise awareness of challenges and problems facing the world's youth.
- **2019 Theme: "Transforming education"**

### **August 12 – World Elephant Day**

- **World Elephant Day is being observed on August 12.** On August 12, 2012, the World Elephant Day was launched to bring attention to the urgent plight of Asian and African elephants.

## **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **Vikram Sarabhai's 100th birth anniversary**

- Dr. Vikram Sarabhai is considered as the father of India's space program. Born in Ahmedabad in 1919, Dr. Sarabhai earned his doctorate at Cambridge. He founded the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad in November 1947.
- Dr. Sarabhai established the Indian National Committee for Space Research in 1962, which was later renamed the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). He helped set up the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station in Thiruvananthapuram, with its inaugural flight in November 1963.

**JHARKHAND****Jharkhand government launches direct money transfer scheme for small farmers**

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched the Jharkhand government's 'Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana' under which money will be directly transferred into the bank accounts of farmers in the state. Under the scheme, beneficiaries having farm land of less than one acre to five acres, will get 5,000 to 25,000 rupees in their bank accounts.

**PUNJAB****Punjab government to provide 28000 agro-machines to farmers**

- With a view to making Punjab a 'zero stubble burning state', the Punjab Agriculture Department has initiated a massive drive to provide more than 28000 agro-machines/farm equipment to farmers.
- The State government has focused to deliver machines to farmers including Super SMS, Happy Seeder, Paddy Straw Chopper/Shredder/Mulcher, Hydraulic Reversible Mould Board Plough and Zero Till Drill.

**INTERNATIONAL****Newly-discovered lake in Nepal likely to become world's highest**

- The Kajin Sara lake in Manang district was discovered about a few months ago by a team of mountaineers. It is located at Singarkharka area of Chame rural municipality. A newly-discovered lake in Nepal is likely to set a new record of being the world's highest lake replacing Tilicho, which is situated at an altitude of 4,919 metres in the Himalayan nation and currently holding the title.

**SUMMITS & CONFERENCES****2-day exhibition on DAE Technologies**

- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India, is organizing a two-day exhibition on DAE spin-off technologies for non-power applications at New Moti Bagh recreation club, New Delhi. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Shri Rakesh Gupta.

**BOOKS & AUTHORS****‘Listening, Learning and Leading’ book chronicling Vice President’s two years in office**

- The Book “Listening, Learning and Leading” was released by Union Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah. Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu received the first copy. The event was hosted by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

**SPORTS****Khelo India to be held in Assam from 10th to 22nd January**

- The third edition of Khelo India will be held in Assam from 10th to 22nd of January next year. Member Secretary of Sports and Youth Welfare Committee Lakhya Konwar said that 10 thousand youths will participate in the event.

**Bulgarian Junior International Championships**

- In Badminton, Indian junior shuttlers won six medals at the Bulgarian Junior International Championships which concluded in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria. The medals comprised of three gold, a silver and two bronze.

**Sourabh Verma wins Hyderabad Open title**

- In Badminton, reigning national champion, Sourabh Verma clinched the Men's Singles title in the Hyderabad Open. He beat Singapore's Loh Kean Yew 21-13, 14-21, 21-16 in a 52-minute final clash.

**Wrestling: Bajrang Punia wins gold at Tbilisi Grand Prix**

- India's top two wrestlers continued their impressive run this season with Bajrang Punia defending won gold at Tbilisi Grand Prix and Vinesh Phogat reaching her fourth final at Medved event.

**BCCI agrees to come under the ambit of NADA**

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) agreed to come under the ambit of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA). This landmark decision makes Indian Cricket's governing body a sports federation as per government norms despite being financially autonomous.

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