

**IMPORTANT DAYS****31 August - Malaysia's Independence Day**

- Malaysia's Independence Day is celebrated on 31 August. The day commemorates the independence of the Federation of Malaya from British colonial rule in 1957. Malaysia was formed in 1963 when the former British colony of Singapore and the East Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, joined the Federation of Malaya.

**NATIONAL AFFAIRS****TAMILNADU****'Ek Bharat-Vijayee Bharat' from Sep 2**

- Vivekanand rock memorial has been an iconic landmark at the Tri-junction of Indian ocean, Bay of Bengal and Arabian sea in Kanyakumari. In order to commemorate 50th year of Vivekanand rock memorial, a major contact programme, "EK BHARAT-VIJAYEE BHARAT" has been planned from 2nd September across the country.

**Unique tribal eco tourism programme to restart from Sep 2**

- The unique tribal eco tourism programme, being conducted in various parts of the Western Ghats in Tamilnadu, will be restarted from Sep 2.
- The eco tourism programme is being conducted jointly by the tourism and SC/ST Welfare departments

**MEGHALAYA****Meghalaya CM launches ‘walk to work’ campaign in state**

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma took the lead to launch the campaign of Fit India Movement which has been launched in the country by the Prime Minister. The idea of 'walk to work' will have multiple benefits, cuts the cost of fuel including reduction of CO2 emission, reduce congestion in the city and more importantly for health and fitness, the Chief Minister said.

**CHHATTISGARH****India’s first garbage cafe to be opened in Ambikapur**

- In a unique initiative, the Ambikapur municipal corporation of Chhattisgarh, will open a first-of-its-kind 'Garbage Cafe' within a few days. This initiative is a step towards making the city plastic-free.
- In this unique Cafe' poor people and rag pickers will get free food in exchange for one kilogram of plastic, while breakfast will be provided if half a kilogram of plastic is brought to the cafe.

**KERALA****Malayala Manorama Conclave 2019**

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Malayala Manorama News Conclave 2019 in Kochi via video conferencing.
- Theme of Conclave - “New India.PM emphasized that New India is about participative democracy, a citizen-centric government and pro-active citizenry.

**INTERNATIONAL****India, Nepal organize training programme on EXIM Bank's guidelines**

- The Embassy of India in Nepal and National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) of Nepal organized a two-day training programme in Kathmandu on the Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of India's Line of Credit guidelines and procedures. Senior experts from the EXIM Bank of India conducted the training programme which was attended by 27 officials from Government of Nepal.

**Bangladesh Government to set up Model mosques in the country**

- Bangladesh government will set up 560 model mosques and Islamic cultural centres in districts and upzilas across the country. These centres will have a library and arrangement for Quran recitation in them. Government of Bangladesh intends to make the model mosques centres for preaching "accurate and correct" information of Islam to prevent militancy and extremism being spread in the name of religion.

**SCIENCE****Hurricane Dorian becomes a Category 4 storm**

- Hurricane Dorian powered toward Florida with increasing fury, becoming an "extremely dangerous" Category 4 storm but leaving forecasters uncertain whether it would make a direct hit on the state's east coast or inflict a glancing blow.

**BANKING AFFAIRS****Government announces mega merger of public sector banks**

- The government has announced the merger of ten public sector banks into four banks. It announced the merger of Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank with Punjab National Bank as well as the merger of Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank. The merger of Union Bank of India, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank and the consolidation of Indian Bank with Allahabad Bank was also announced.

**Asian Development Bank pledges \$7 billion for development activities in Pakistan**

- Cash-strapped Pakistan will get about \$7 billion in fresh assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for various development projects over the next three years. The ADB plans to provide Pakistan about \$7 billion in fresh assistance for various development projects and policy-based programmes during the next three years under the country operations business plan 2020—2022.

**SUMMITS & CONFERENCES****India, Pakistan to join SAARC event in U.S.**

- India and Pakistan are expected to participate in the Foreign Minister-level meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) in New York on September 26, a diplomatic source has confirmed. The meeting has remained on track despite the state of tension between the two countries. An earlier summit scheduled in Islamabad cancelled in view of terror attacks on India

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