

IMPORTANT DAYS

October 10 - World Mental Health Day

- World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health.
- The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide. **Theme: Focus on suicide prevention**

October 10 – World Sight Day

- Established by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2000, World Sight Day is the main advocacy event for raising awareness about blindness and vision impairment for *VISION 2020: The Right to Sight*, a global initiative created by WHO and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB).
- This year World Sight Day will be on Thursday 10 October 2019 and the international theme is Vision First

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

WHO India Country Cooperation Strategy 2019–2023

- Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan launched ‘The WHO India Country Cooperation Strategy 2019–2023: A Time of Transition’. The Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) provides a strategic roadmap for WHO to work with the Government of India towards achieving its health sector goals, in improving the health of its population and bringing in transformative changes in the health sector.

Cabinet doubles honorarium for Asha workers

- Union Cabinet has doubled honorarium for ten lakh ASHA workers from the existing 1000 rupees to 2000 rupees per month. Briefing media persons after the Cabinet meeting, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said the government has also decided to provide other benefits to ASHA workers in addition to the hike in their monthly honorarium.
- Mr. Javadekar said the government will open 40,000 wellness centres across the country this year under Ayushman Bharat Scheme.

Government launches disaster warning device

- The government launched a device that will help provide information related to disaster warnings when fishermen move away from the coast beyond 10 to 12 kilometres
- After unveiling the device in New Delhi, Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said satellite-based communication is suitable to the dissemination of such emergency information.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**Second Annual Defence Dialogue with France**

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, who is currently on a visit to France, held the Second India-France Ministerial level Annual Defence Dialogue with his French counterpart, the Minister for the Armed Forces Ms. Florence Parly on October 8th in Paris.

Second Informal Summit between PM Modi, Chinese Prez Xi Jinping

- Mamallapuram in Tamil Nadu is getting decked up for the second informal meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping on October 11 & 12. After the success of first informal meeting between the two leaders in Wuhan in April 2018, this meet has raised the expectations of exploring new possibilities.

- The old seaport town of Mahabalipuram, now known as Mamallapuram, is a UNESCO World Heritage site and the meeting between the two leaders can open the doors for exploring the historical and cultural connection between Mamallapuram and China.

MoU & CABINET APPROVALS

MoUs signed between India and Foreign Broadcasters

- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given ex-post facto approval for the MoUs between India and Foreign Broadcasters in the field of Radio and Television.
- The MoUs with the Foreign Broadcasters will help Public broadcaster in exploring new visions; New Strategies to address the demands of new technologies and stiff competition; Media liberalization; and Globalization.

SCHEMES

Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme (PMILP)- ‘DHRUV’

- Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ launched the Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme- ‘DHRUV’ from Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Headquarters at Bengaluru.
- The objective of the Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme program would be to allow talented students to realize their full potential and contribute to society.

Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship Programme launched with IIM Bangalore

- To boost skill development at the district level, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) signed a contract with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore for introducing a two-year fellowship programme Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF) programme. Programme launched in 75 districts across Gujarat, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
- Designed under Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) the fellowship aims to address the challenge of non-availability of personnel for implementation of various programmes at national, state and district levels.

AWARDS**Nobel Prize Winners in Chemistry 2019**

- The 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino "for the development of lithium-ion batteries", the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced .
- Lithium-ion batteries have revolutionised the world of technology. The batteries power everyday products such as smartphones, laptops and even electric vehicles.

SPORTS**Mithali Raj becomes 1st female player to complete 20 yrs in international cricket**

- India women's cricket captain Mithali Raj became the first female player to last more than 20 years in international cricket. She achieved the feat while leading India to an emphatic eight-wicket win over South Africa Women in the first ODI at Vadodara.

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