

NATIONAL AFFAIRS**Two-day International Workshop on Environmental Flows Assessment and Implementation**

- International workshop on Environmental Flows Assessment and Implementation for India was inaugurated by Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister for Jal Shakti at Delhi. The exchange of Indian, European and International Experiences was brought together by National Mission of Clean Ganga (NMCG) along with the Indo-German Cooperation with its project “Support to Ganga Rejuvenation” (SGR).

Most advanced Electronic Interlocking System installed

- Most advanced Electronic Interlocking System has been installed on the Grand Chord route. The measure is expected to help Indian Railways speed up trains and to achieve its future objective of reducing the travel time between Delhi and Howrah to about 12 hours from the existing 17-19 hours.
- Grand Chord is part of the Howrah-Gaya-Delhi line and Howrah-Allahabad-Mumbai line. This new Electronic system replaces outdated 65-year old mechanical signaling system at Tundla Junction in Uttar Pradesh on the route.

Fertilizer Application Awareness Program

- In order to disseminate knowledge to farmers on optimum usage of fertilizer nutrients based on various parameters to sustain agricultural productivity and to make farmers aware of new developments in the field of fertilizer usage and management, the Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar along with Union Minister for Chemical and Fertilizers Shri D. V. Sadananda Gowda jointly inaugurated the bi-annual Fertilizer Application Awareness Program at Pusa in New Delhi. The event is organised jointly by both the Ministries before Kharif and Rabi season each year with the help of State Governments.

TAMILNADU**New attractions at Amirthi zoo**

- Sambar deer and a few pelicans are the recent arrivals at the Amirthi Zoological Park, which is situated about 25 kilometres from Vellore. The zoo is one of the major attractions for schoolchildren and educationists in Vellore and the adjoining Tiruvannamalai district.

INTERNATIONAL**India and Switzerland decide to carry forward working together in the area of Rail Transport**

- India and Switzerland decide to carry forward working together in the Rail Transport sector. The two sides at meetings that concluded last evening have followed upon the 1st meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) held between two sides after the MoU for cooperation in rail sector was signed in 2017.

Jagmeet Singh emerges as ‘kingmaker’

- Indian-origin Canadian politician Jagmeet Singh, whose New Democratic Party (NDP) won 24 seats in the general election, is set to emerge as the “kingmaker” while Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s Liberal Party lost majority.
- PM Justin Trudeau, who lost majority, needs the support of Singh’s left-leaning NDP to form the govt.

Japanese Emperor Naruhito formally proclaims ascension to throne

- Emperor Naruhito formally declared his ascension to the Chrysanthemum Throne as the nation's 126th emperor. The emperor, 59, officially began his reign in May after the abdication of his father, the then-Emperor Akihito. But, after a series of traditional rituals inside the imperial palace in Tokyo, his ascension has now been formalised.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**Regional Labour conference**

- Regional Labour Conference was held in Bhubaneswar. Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar said that 'Labour' comes under Concurrent list and Central and State Governments makes coordinated efforts for welfare of workers.
- Regional Conferences help in creating better coordination between Central and State Governments.

AWARDS**National Panchayat Awards 2019**

- Minister of Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar conferred the National Panchayat Awards 2019 at a function in New Delhi.
- The Awards will be given to awardee Panchayats and States in various categories. These categories are Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar, Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Sabha Puraskar, Gram Panchayat Development Plan Award, Child-Friendly Gram Panchayats Award and e-Panchayat Puraskar.
- The awards are given to the best performing Panchayats in recognition of their good work at different levels including the delivery of services and sanitation

DEFENCE**IAF fires two BrahMos missiles at Trak Island in Andaman Nicobar**

- Two BrahMos surface to surface missiles were fired by Indian Air Force at Trak Island in the Andaman Nicobar group of islands. The missiles were fired. The twin firings have been carried out as a part of the routine operational training.
- The firing of the missiles has enhanced Air force capability to engage the grounds targets with pinpoint accuracy from a mobile platform.

SPORTS**UTT National Ranking (East Zone) Table Tennis Championships**

- Vishwa Deenadayalan of Tamil Nadu lifted the junior boys' crown in the National Ranking (East Zone) table tennis championship at Howrah indoor stadium to complete a hat-trick of titles in his age-group category this season. Diya Chitale of Maharashtra claimed her first Junior Girls crown.

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