

14th February 2020 Current Affairs

EXAMSDAILY

National Affairs

President Kovind paid homage to martyrs of Pulwama

President Ram Nath Kovind paid homage to martyrs of Pulwama. In Jammu, a memorial to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel was inaugurated at Lethpora camp on 14 February. On the memorial, the names of all the 40 martyrs along with their pictures are engraved as a part of the memorial along with the motto of CRPF 'Seva and Nishtha' (Service and Loyalty).

Amit Shah inaugurates two-day BIMSTEC 'Conference on Combating Drug Trafficking', in New Delhi

The Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the two-day long BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) 'Conference on Combating Drug Trafficking', in New Delhi. It was organized by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs. This conference was held on the lines of the commitment made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 4th BIMSTEC summit in Nepal's Kathmandu in 2018.

About BIMSTEC:

- It is an acronym for Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
- Members– 7 (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand , Nepal and Bhutan)
- Secretariat– Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Secretary General– M Shahidul Islam

'Engiexpo 2020' To Be Held In Vadodara, Gujarat

The 6th edition of the mega industrial exhibition 'Engiexpo 2020' is being organised in Vadodara, Gujarat.

The three-day mega exhibition will be organised by the Federation of Small-Scale Industries (FSSI), to promote 'Made in India' products.

Gujarat:

- Capital: Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister: Vijay Rupani
- Governor: Acharya Devvrat

Government renames two prominent Institute after Sushma Swaraj

The Government of India (GoI) has renamed two institutions (Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra and Foreign Service Institute) after Sushma Swaraj in honour of the late External Affairs Minister.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra is a cultural centre which reflects India's connection with its diaspora around the world.

The Foreign Service Institute is an institution where the training of the diplomats takes place.

President of Portugal Marcelo Rebelo De Sousa Arrives In New Delhi

Portugal President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa arrived in India on a 4-day visit.

The 2 countries have active & growing cooperation in the field of economy & business, science & culture, & they share convergences on international Issues.

About Portugal:

- Capital: Lisbon.
- Currency: Euro.
- Prime Minister: Antonio Costa.
- President: Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

International Affairs

State of the World's Children Report 2019 of UNICEF

As per UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2019, the Under 5 Mortality Rate India is 37 per 1000 live births against Global average of 39 per 1000 live births in 2018.

As per the UNICEF 2019 report, Globalization, Urbanization, Inequities, humanitarian crises and climate shock are driving unprecedented negative changes in the nutrition situation of children around the world.

State Affairs

Odisha MSME Dept signs MoU with HDFC Bank

The Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department of government of Odisha has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Bank Limited to provide smart banking solutions to Startups recognised by the Startup Odisha and will also extend incubation and acceleration support to all Startups, banking with them.

About HDFC:

- Managing Director– Aditya Puri
- Head Office– Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Establishment– 1994

Awards

Indian activist Gita Sen wins Dan David Prize

India's renowned feminist scholar and activist Gita Sen has won the prestigious Dan David Prize, which annually awards three prizes of \$ 1 million to inspiring individuals and organisations across the world. The Dan David Foundation is headquartered at Tel Aviv University, Israel.

Gita Sen is also the Director of a Public Health Foundation of India. She has worked hard in the fields of women's rights, reproductive and sexual health and poverty eradication.

BioAsia 2020 announces Genome Valley Excellence Award

American immunologist and oncologist Dr. Carl H June and Novartis CEO Dr. Vasant Narsimhan will be presented the Genome Valley Excellence Award of BioAsia 2020. The function will be organized by the Telangana government annual global biotechnology & life sciences forum on February (17 to 19, 2020).

Genome Valley Excellence Award was instituted in 2004 to recognize and honour eminent individuals & organisations for their exceptional contribution to the life science research & public health.

About Telangana:

- Capital- Hyderabad.
- Chief Minister (CM)- Kalvakuntla Chandrashekar Rao.
- Governor- Dr. Tamilsai Soundararajan.

Appointments

Govt appoints Rajiv Bansal as CMD of Air India for the second time

The government has appointed Rajiv Bansal as the Chairman and Managing Director of Air India for the second time, ahead of the national carrier's privatisation. Bansal is currently the additional secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. He is replacing Ashwani Lohani who completed his one-year tenure as the head of the airline.

Tata Trusts Appoints Old Timer Srinath Narasimhan As CEO

Tata Trusts named Tata group veteran Srinath Narasimhan as their first chief executive.

Narasimhan, currently managing director of Tata Teleservices Ltd and Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Ltd, will take over his new assignment from 1 April. Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) came into being in 1919.

ISRO space scientist G Narayanan becomes chairman of NSIL

Veteran ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) space scientist G Narayanan has been named as the Chairman of NSIL (New Space India Limited), a Public Sector Unit (PSU) of Government of India.

Narayan served as Deputy Director (systems reliability & quality assurance) in LPSC (Liquid Propulsion Systems Center), a Thiruvananthapuram-based unit of ISRO that designs, develops liquid propulsion stages for launch vehicles.

About NSIL:

- Founded- March 6, 2019.
- Headquarters- Bengaluru, Karnataka.

Summits & Conference

Mobile World Congress cancelled Over Coronavirus fears

The Mobile World Congress, the annual telecoms industry gathering that draws more than one lakh visitors to Barcelona, was cancelled over coronavirus fears. The event was hosted by the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSMA) telecoms association. The decision comes after dozens of tech companies and wireless carriers dropped out, with the latest cancellations by Nokia, Vodafone, Deutsche Telekom and Britain's BT.

MWC was due to be held in Barcelona on 24-27 February. More than 100,000 people usually attend the annual event, about 6,000 of whom travel from China. Sports Affairs

About GSMA:

- Chief executive - John Hoffman
- Headquarters - London, UK

Sports Affairs

Amit Panghal ranked No 1 by IOC's Boxing Task Force rankings for Olympic Qualifiers

World silver-medallist Amit Panghal has been ranked number one in the 52 kilogram category for Olympic Qualifiers, making him the first Indian pugilist in

over a decade to achieve the global top position in the category. The list was released by the International Olympic Committee's Boxing Task Force today ahead of next month's Olympic Qualifiers.

Amit became the 1st Indian to claim a silver medal at the world championship, he also clinched gold medals at the 2018 commonwealth and Asian Games.

In the women's rankings Indian Boxer Mary Kom Occupies 5th spot in the 51kg category ranking.

About International Olympic Committee (IOC):

- Headquarters- Lausanne, Switzerland
- President- Thomas Bach

Indian hockey captain Manpreet Singh named Player of the Year 2019

The Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh was today named Player of the Year for 2019 by the International Hockey Federation.

Manpreet, a midfielder, became the first Indian to win the accolade since the awards were introduced in 1999.

National Winter Games to be held in Gulmarg

The National Winter Games is to be held in Gulmarg from March 7, 2020. The games are to be held for five days in Gulmarg, the world-famous Ski destination. It is being held under Khelo India.

About Khelo India:

Khelo India was first held in 2018. The main aim of Khelo India event is to hunt grassroot level talent all over India. The talent are identified by the Talent Hunt Committee. Such identifies sports persons are provided with scholarship of Rs 5 lakhs for 8 years.

The first Khelo India was held in Delhi and the second event was organized in 2019 and in 2020 it was held in Guwahati, Assam.