

29th February 2020 Current Affairs

EXAMSDAILY

National Affairs

Prime Minister to launch 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) all over the country

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi shall launch 10,000 Farmers Producer Organisations all over the country at Chitrakoot, 29th February 2020.

The event shall also witness the completion of one year of the launch of PM-KISAN scheme.

Modi Government has launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme as an income support scheme for farmers to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs.

Shri Amit Shah chairs the 24th Meeting of Eastern Zonal Council at Bhubaneswar

Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah chaired the 24th meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council at Bhubaneswar (Odisha).

Other Dignitaries attending the meeting included Chief Minister Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, as Vice Chairman and host; CM Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar; CM West Bengal, Ms. Mamata Banerjee; Finance Minister, Jharkhand, Shri Ramesh Oraon and senior officers from the Central and State Governments.

About Odisha:

- Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik;
- Governor: Ganeshi Lal.

President gives away Awards to 21 Winners on National Science day Celebrations

The President announced three key initiatives for gender advancement and equality in academic and research institutions on the occasion of National Science Day in a function held at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi today. This year the theme for National Science Day is “Women in Science”.

About Vigyan Jyoti:

Vigyan Jyoti is an initiative that will create a level-playing field for the meritorious girls in high school to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in their higher education.

About GATI:

The Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI) will develop a comprehensive Charter and a framework for assessing the Gender Equality in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Government approves Rs 162 crore under Operation Green Scheme

The government approved Rs 162 crore under Operations Green(OG) Scheme which was announced in 2018-19 budget with an outlay of 500 crore to stable the supply of TOP crops(Tomato, Onion & Potato) & to confirm their availability throughout the year without price volatility. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries(MoFPI) launched the scheme.

About NAFED:

- Headquarter– New Delhi, India
- Chairman– Dr. Bijender Singh

State Affairs**Maharashtra****Smart gram yojana to be named after ex-minister R R Patil**

The Maharashtra government's "smart gram yojana" will be named after former Deputy Chief Minister the late R R Patil, the assembly was informed on Thursday.

Since November 2016, the "smart gram yojana" (smart village) is being implemented in the state whereawards are given to gram panchayats at taluka and district level for their performance on certain parameters.

The scheme seeks to transform rural Maharashtra through development initiatives. Villages performing well in a range of areas, including cleanliness, health, education, environment, use of infotech and renewable energy sources, rewarded by the state government.

About Maharastra:

- Capital – Mumbai
- Governor - Bhagat Singh Koshyari
- Chief Minister - Uddhav Thackeray

Banking & Finance**Airtel rolls out Aadhaar enabled payment system**

Airtel Payments Bank said on 27 Feb that it has launched the Aadhaar enabled payment system (AePS). This will help people to do transactions at over 2,50,000 of its banking points across India.

The system will enable customers, having Aadhaar- linked accounts of any bank, to do transactions at the designated points of the Airtel Payments Bank.

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with IndiGo

The card is being launched in partnership with Mastercard, which is the largest issuer for HDFC Bank

With over 14 million active cards, HDFC Bank is by far the largest credit card issuer in the country, and hopes to sell 1 million Ka-ching cards over the next three years

About HDFC Bank:

- CEO – Aditya Puri
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Founded: August 1994.

About IndiGo airlines:

- Founded– 2005
- Headquarters– Gurugram, Haryana
- Whole Time Director & CEO– Mr. Ronjoy Dutta

RBI mandates linking new loans to medium enterprises to external benchmark

With an aim to strengthen monetary policy transmission, RBI said that all new floating rate loans to the medium enterprises would be linked to the external benchmarks. The fresh loans extended by banks to medium enterprises from April 1, 2020, would be linked to the benchmarks.

The RBI linked all new floating rate personal or retail loans (housing, auto, etc.) and floating rate loans to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) extended by banks with effect from October 1, 2019, to external benchmarks.

About RBI:

- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das;
- Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

Economic Affairs

India surpasses France, UK to become world's 5th largest economy: IMF

India became world's fifth largest economy in 2019 in terms of nominal GDP, leapfrogging France and the UK, according to data from the IMF's October World Economic Outlook.

India's economy now has a nominal GDP of \$2.94 trillion. The report said, "India's economy is the fifth largest in the world with a GDP of \$2.94 trillion, overtaking the UK and France in 2019 to take the fifth spot".

The UK economy amounts to \$2.83 trillion and France with \$2.71 trillion.

Agreements

Xiaomi to bring ISRO's NavIC technology to smartphones in 2020

Chinese tech major Xiaomi will bring ISRO's Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System, NavIC technology to its smartphones. The capability has been currently enabled by Qualcomm Technologies Inc on several of their Qualcomm Snapdragon Mobile Platforms and will be made available across multiple Xiaomi smartphones in India.

About ISRO:

- ISRO Director: K. Sivan,
- Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- Established: 1969.

Appointments

Abhishek Singh becomes India's next Ambassador to Venezuela

Abhishek Singh has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. He is currently serving as Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India in Kabul, Afghanistan. He will succeed Rajiv Kumar Nepal, who passed away recently. He is a 2003-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer.

About Venezuela:

- Capital: Caracas.
- Currency: Petro Bolivar Soberano.
- President: Juan Gerardo Guaido Marquez.

SN Shrivastava appointed Delhi Police Commissioner

Senior IPS Officer (1985 batch) of Arunachal-Goa-Mizoram Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre, S N Shrivastava will hold the additional charge as Delhi Police Commissioner succeeding Amulya Patnaik.

He was serving as a Special Director in Central Reserve Police Force.

Awards

Jadav Payeng honoured with Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award 2020

Forest Man of India Jadav Payeng will be awarded Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award 2020 in New Delhi. He was awarded the 6th Karmayogi Award for his consistent efforts in creating a real man-made forest through massive reforestation.

The award is composed of a trophy, a recitation and a reward of Rs 1 lakh.

Payeng is famously known as the Forest Man of India. He was also honoured with a Padma Shri a few years ago.

Sports

Bangalore Central University bags Men's Hockey Gold In ongoing Khelo India University Games

In the ongoing Khelo India University Games, Bhubaneswar, Odisha Bangalore Central University beat Bangalore University 5-4 in a nail-biting shootout to take home the men's hockey gold.

In another event, Gurpreet Ralh of Sant Baba Bhag Singh University, Jalandhar won the gold medal in men's 89 kg weightlifting. Meanwhile, Kunvar Vishwajeet Singh of Barkatullah University, Bhopal won silver while Lokchand of Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore won bronze medals.

Obituaries

Famous Historian and Professor S Settar passed away at 85 in Karnataka

Shadakshari Settar(85), a famous Historian, Linguists, who conducted research in the field of epigraphy, anthropology has passed away at a private hospital in Karnataka, where he was undergoing treatment for respiratory problems.