

SEPTEMBER-4, 2017

- Dharmendra Pradhan, the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, has been promoted as Cabinet Minister and got additional charge of Union Ministry of Skill Development
- Satish Kumar, the decorated West Bengal wrestler, has been awarded Rs 25 lakh as compensation by the Delhi court for being wrongly restrained from taking part in the 14th Asian Games-2002 at Busan in South Korea under the mistaken impression that he had taken performance-enhancing drugs.
- Nepal has recently signed a \$635 million United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2018-2022 to lay out the country's development strategy.
- The Indian pair of Rohan Kapoor and Kuhoo Garg bagged the mixed doubles title at the Hellas Open International badminton series after registering a straight-game victory in Livadia.
- Lewis Hamilton, British racing driver who races in Formula One for the Mercedes AMG Petronas team, has won the 2017 Italian Formula One Grand Prix at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy.
- Hardeep Singh Puri: Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- Satya Pal Singh: MoS Human Resource Development and MoS Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- Shiv Pratap Shukla: MoS Finance Ministry.
- Alphons Kannanthanam: MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Tourism; and MoS in Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- Raj Kumar Singh: MoS (Independent Charge) of Ministry of Power; and MoS (Independent Charge) of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- Virendra Kumar: MoS in Ministry of Women and Child Development; and MoS in Ministry of Minority Affairs
- Anantkumar Hegde: MoS in Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- Piyush Goyal: Railway Ministry.
- Nirmala Sitharaman: Defence Ministry.
- Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi: Minority Affairs Ministry.
- Dharmendra Pradhan: Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry.
- Breakthrough Listen project has detected 15 fast radio bursts (FRBs) coming from a dwarf galaxy about 3 million light years away from earth. The new detection was made with help of Green Bank Telescope (GBT) in West Virginia.
- President Ramnath Kovind laid foundation stone for link-4 of Saurashtra Narmada Avataram Irrigation Scheme (SAUNI) Yojana in Rajkot district, Gujarat.

-The Cell for IPR Promotions & Management (CIPAM) under Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has launched social media campaign “#LetsTalkIP” to promote Indian Geographical Indications (GIs).

CIPAM-DIPP launches social media campaign to promote Geographical Indications. CIPAM, which works under the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in the ministry, has started an “#LetsTalkIP” initiative. Cell for IPR Promotions and Management (CIPAM) has launched a social media campaign to promote Indian Geographical Indications. It has been launched to make more people aware about the importance of intellectual property rights (IPRs).

-The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has entered into four more Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs), pertaining to sectors like telecom, banking, manufacturing and education .

Out of these four agreements, three were unilateral and one was bilateral. The bilateral APA was for international transactions between an Indian company and UK-based company. With this, total number of APAs entered into by CBDT has reached 175. This includes 162 unilateral APAs and 13 bilateral APAs

-Gurugram Metro Station to get 1,000 new e-rickshaws

-North Korea's missile program led to urgent United Nations Security council (UNSC) Meeting

-Karnataka Bank has bagged the 'best bank' award among small banks for the use of technology for financial inclusion

-RBI has included HDFC in the list of 'too big to fail' lenders, referred to as D-SIB or domestic systemically important bank.

India's largest lender SBI and private sector major ICICI Bank were classified as D-SIBs in 2015. With the inclusion of HDFC Bank in the list, there will now be three 'too big to fail' financial entities in the country. SIBs are subjected to higher levels of supervision so as to prevent disruption in financial services in the event of any failure

-The Jammu and Kashmir Government introduces the electric buses for two cities of Srinagar and Jammu under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme.

It is done with an aim to curb pollution in these two cities which were recently declared 'smart cities'.

-Pulitzer-prize winning poet John Ashbery, a post-modern American trailblazer, has passed away at age of 90 in Hudson, New York.

His 1975 collection “Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror” made history when he became the lone writer to earn three major accolades the same year for the same work: the Pulitzer in addition to a National Book Award and a National Book Critics Circle Award.

UNESCO Confucius Prize 2017

-Confucius Prize recognises the projects that benefit rural populations and out-of-school youth, particularly girls and women. This year, the UNESCO Confucius Prize will be given to:

AdulTICoProgram: This program was the initiative of the Secretariat of Information and Communications Technologies of Armenia (Colombia) for teaching digital competencies to seniors.

The Citizens Foundation (Pakistan): The foundation was chosen for its Aagahi Literacy Programme for Women and Out-of-School Girls that includes digital educational needs assessments and provides teaching services to support the education of younger girls and older women.

FunDza (South Africa): The organisation launched readers and writers project to develop a culture of reading and writing for pleasure through an online platform that provides reading courses and writing competitions.

-King Sejong Literacy Prize 2017: The King Sejong Literacy Prize is dedicated to mother-tongue literacy education. The winners of King Sejong Literacy Prize 2017 are:

Centre for the Study of Learning & Performance (CSLP): The Centre at Concordia University (Canada) was chosen for its 'Using Educational Technology to Develop Essential Educational Competencies in Sub-Saharan Africas project'.

We Love Reading (Jordan): This program offers online read-aloud trainings for parents, mobilizes volunteers to read aloud in community spaces to children.

All these five winners will each receive a medal, a certificate and USD 20000. The awards will be handed over to them on the occasion of International Literacy Day on 8 September 2017.

-‘Ye India ka time hai’ event was organized at National Institute of Technology, Raipur Chhattisgar

-Joint India-Nepal army exercise begins in Saljhandi, Nepal.Nepal India Joint Military Exercise Surya Kiran has launched and it is to be held from September 3 to 16. This is the 12th edition of the exercise. Joint military exercise, Surya Kiran Nepal Army Battle School at Saljhandi.It will have around 350 troops from each side, focusing on counterinsurgency and counter-terror operations.

-Seychelles ratifies the ISA Framework Agreement and became the ninth member of ISA Framework agreement.The ISA will need the ratification of just six more countries to become a recognized inter-governmental body.

-Global brokerage firm UBS has lowered India’s GDP growth forecast to 6.6 per cent from 7.2 per cent. The brokerage said that the growth is expected to rise in coming quarters as the economy is getting normalised post implementation of the GST.

-Singapore based bank DBS has got final approval to operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary (WOS) in India. Diesel DBS was the first foreign lender to apply for the new operating WOS model two years ago and its approval was delayed due to lack of precedent. The application has been pending with the finance ministry. Now as the problems got sorted out DBS is the second bank after State Bank of Mauritius to receive the nod for its operation in India

-The first consignment of 30 MT of High Speed Diesel was sent on 4th of Sept from India to Myanmar by land route. Numaligarh Refinery Ltd. (NRL), which has been supplying HSD to Bangladesh, despatched the first diesel consignment through NH 37 across the Moreh Custom Check Point on the Indian side and Tamu Custom Check Point on the Myanmar side.

-Astronomers had discovered seven Earth-sized planets orbiting a relatively nearby dwarf star. The system is called TRAPPIST-1. It is especially appealing because it has three planets in the habitable zone it means that these worlds could potentially support liquid water and perhaps even life. TRAPPIST-1 has become one of the most studied exo-systems in the relatively short history of exoplanets.