

SEPTEMBER-07, 2017

-As part of labour law reforms, the Government has undertaken the exercise of rationalisation of the 38 Labour Acts by framing 4 labour codes viz Code on Wages, Code on Industrial Relations, Code on Social Security and Code on occupational safety, health and working conditions. On 10th August 2017, The Code on Wages Bill 2017 was introduced in Lok Sabha by Mr. Bandaru Dattatreya, Minister of State for Labour and Employment.

-On 7th September 2017, the seventh edition of India-Sri Lanka joint maritime naval exercise SLINEX 2017 started near Vishakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh in India on the Bay of Bengal. It will last till 14th September 2017.

SLINEX – Sri Lanka India Naval Exercise are a series of naval exercises between the Indian Navy and the Sri Lankan Navy

-Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has announced a new programme named 'Jala Siriki Haarati'. It is a programme offering prayers to water bodies and to create awareness among the public regarding water preservation announced on 6th sept. 2017

-The Gujarat government has signed a MoU with Google India for 'Digital Gujarat' movement under 'Digital India'. Under the MoU Google will train small and medium scale entrepreneurs the use of digital platform for business development under the 'Digital Unlocked' programme.

-Home Ministry announced that Chiefs of central armed police forces like Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Border Security Force (BSF) and other central agencies have been empowered to spend up to Rs.15 crore for executing major projects and Rs.1 crore for minor works, including repairing of residential buildings.

-Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HTT) has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) on 6th of Sept. 2017. The pact has been signed to connect Vijayawada and Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh in Guntur district.

-Online travel firm MakeMyTrip has announced the resignation of Co-Founder and President Ashish Kashyap. His resignation will come into effect from September 30. As per the settlement agreement, Kashyap will be under non-solicitation and non-competition obligation for the next two years.

-Viveck Goenka, Chairman and Managing Director of the Express Group elected as a Chairman of Press Trust of India and N. Ravi, a former Editor-in-Chief of The Hindu daily is elected as a Vice-Chairman. Goenka succeeds Riyad Mathew, who is Senior Assistant Editor and a member of the Manorama management and Ravi succeeds Goenka as Vice Chairman.

-To mark the first anniversary of Mother Teresa's canonization, the Archdiocese of Kolkata will declare the saint a co-patroness of the local Church announced on 6th of sept. Sister Prema inaugurated a two-day exhibition of paintings and sculptures on Mother Teresa organised by the Indian National Forum of Art and Culture in association with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

-India's first operational Smart City, Gujarat International Finance-Tec City (GIFT City), has won the prestigious Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Services Excellence Award in New Delhi.

-Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) partnered with Coriant, a US-based packet optical and mobile routing solutions company to study and deploy 5G-based industrial internet applications for enterprise customers in New Delhi.

-Tejasvi Duduka from Hyderabad won the women's singles of U.S. Open Grand Slam Carrom tournament. Earlier, she had won the Telangana State Women's singles title in Nizamabad.

-Indian Institute of Management Lucknow (IIM-L) and Yes Bank has tied up with the purpose of spreading climatic awareness

-A member of the World Bank Group, International Finance Corporation (IFC) has invested \$10 million as equity in e-commerce firm Power2SME

-Astronomers have discovered a pulsar spinning at more than 42,000 revolutions per minute. It is the second-fastest Spinning Pulsar identified so far.

-The book of Former Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran named "How India Sees the World: Kautilya to the 21st Century" launched by former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh .

-Dr. Inderjit Singh has been given the additional charge of the post of Chairperson, National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC). Dr. Inderjit Singh is a 1985-batch IAS officer of Kerala Cadre and at present he is serving as the Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat.

-Parali I island, one of biodiversity-rich uninhabited islands part of Lakshadweep has disappeared due to coastal erosion and another four such islands in Lakshadweep sea are shrinking fast. The researcher had conducted studies on assessment of biodiversity confining to five uninhabited islands– Parali I, II and III, Bangaram, Thinnakara in Lakshadweep, an archipelago of 36 islands in Lakshadweep sea.

-The Union government has set up an online service facility that can be used by importers and exporters to resolve all foreign trade-related issues. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), which comes under Ministry of Commerce, has asked all exporters and importers to use the system - Contact@DGFT - for resolution of their matters. Traders can raise all matters related to the directorate or other agencies of the Centre and States through this facility activated at the DGFT website. Contact@DGFT system has been activated as a single point contact for resolving all foreign trade-related issues.

-The 13th edition of the joint military training exercise "Yudh Abhyas - 2017" will be conducted at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington, USA from September 14 to 27. The exercise is one of the largest joint running military training and defence corporation endeavors between India and USA. The exercise Yudh Abhyas will provide an opportunity to the armed forces of both countries to train in an integrated manner at Battalion level with joint planning at Brigade level.

-The Across Barriers-International Business Women's Summit (ABIBWS) will be organized by the South Asian Women Development Forum (SAWDF) at Kathmandu in Nepal from September 11. The basic objective of 2-day summit is to bring together women entrepreneurs from the SAARC, ASEAN, China and some other countries. The summit will be a regional hub for connecting women SMEs (small and medium enterprises) with public and private sector for exploring opportunities to identify joint business ventures. The summit will also offer a unique opportunity for business meetings with the members of the visiting international business delegates and Nepalese women entrepreneurs.

-The Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) has started at Russky Island, which is part of Russia's city of Vladivostok, on September 6-7, 2017. The delegates from at least 24 countries including the US, Japan, China, Australia, Canada, Britain and Germany are attending the gathering. From India, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj is attending the forum. The EEF is considered as the biggest international communication platform for cooperation between businesses leaders and senior government representatives from Russia, the Pacific Region and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

-SBI Life Insurance Company gets SEBI approval for Rs 8,400 crore IPO

-Punjab & Maharashtra Co-operative Bank (PMC Bank) to tie up with the Exide Life for savings products

-Ashok Leyland signed an agreement with Rosoboronexport, ELCOM

-Reliance Insurance gets IRDA Nod for IPO

-The Union Government has recently told Supreme Court that an expert committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of former apex court judge Justice BN Srikrishna to identify key data protection issues in India and recommend methods to address them. The government told the apex court that after the committee's report is submitted, there is a possibility that the law shall be passed regulating data protection. Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, state that the committee will study various issues and make specific suggestions for consideration of the government on the principles to be considered for data protection. The apex court has fixed the matter for further hearing on November 20, 2017.

-The Gujarat Government and Gujarat Milk Marketing Federation-Amul have recently signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to save the children of anganwadi from malnutrition. According to the MOU, under the 'Take Home Ration', district dairies in cooperation with the Gujarat milk marketing federation will provide nutritive foods to more than 42-lakh children of more than 53 thousand anaganwadis, pregnant-mothers, lactating mothers and young girls. Apart from this, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has flagged off statewide 'Narmada Mahotsav Yatra' from Surendranagar district to create awareness about the importance of increased water supply from Narmada canal-based projects in different parts of the state. The 10 days long Narmada Mahotsav Yatra will end at Dabhoi- in Narmada district in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday on 17th September.

-India and Japan have agreed to collaborate closely in defence production, including on dual-use technologies. Decision in this regard was taken at the India-Japan annual defence ministerial dialogue held in Tokyo.

-The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) retained top position among Indian Universities in the Times World University Rankings 2018, but its position fell in global rankings compared to its last year position.

Top 10 in Universities in World are Oxford University (1st, UK), Cambridge University (2nd, UK), California institute of Technology (3rd, US), Stanford University (4th, US), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (5th, US), Harvard University (6th, US), Princeton University (7th, US), Imperial College London (8th, UK), University of Chicago (9th, US), ETH-Zurich (10th, Switzerland)