

'Govt. to shame those defecating in the open'

Devendra Fadnavis

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday said the government has put in place a mechanism called 'ODF Watch', where people will be "shamed" if they defecate in the open.

Mr. Fadnavis was addressing a gathering here, organised to declare urban Maharashtra Open Defecation Free (ODF).

"Declaration of urban Maharashtra Open Defecation Free is not just a formality. A three-tier validation process had been adopted where the cities, which became ODF were first inspected by the local administration, then by the State government and lastly a Central agency gave its nod," Mr. Fadnavis said.

"Now we have a double responsibility at hand. We have to encourage people to use the record number of toilets created in the last two years," he said. "We have put in place a mechanism called 'ODF Watch' where people will be forced, encouraged to use a toilet. If they defecate in the open, a whistle will be blown and people will be shamed for not using a toilet."

By March next year, rural Maharashtra too would be declared ODF, he said.

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Laser tech to detect explosives

Scientists have developed a laser-based method that can accurately identify chemicals such as explosives and dangerous gases, an advance that can be used in airport security and monitoring environmental pollutants.

Researchers from University of Michigan in the U.S. used a method called multi-dimensional coherent spectroscopy that uses ultrashort laser pulses to read types of gases like a bar code.

To speed up the process while preserving its accuracy, researchers combined MDCS with another method called dual-comb spectroscopy. Frequency combs are laser sources that generate spectra consisting of equally spaced sharp lines that are used as rulers to measure the spectral features of atoms and molecules with precision.

A study of nearly 300 people living in different parts of India found that nine single-base variants (single-nucleotide polymorphisms or SNPs) account

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2017 Medicine Nobel Prize for work on biological clocks

Winners of the 2017 Nobel Prize for Medicine are displayed, from left, Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young, during a press conference in Stockholm on October 2, 2017. | Photo Credit: [AP](#)

Three Americans won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine on Monday for their discoveries about the body's daily rhythms, opening up whole new fields of research and raising awareness about the importance of getting proper sleep.

Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young won the 9-million-kronor (\$1.1 million) prize for isolating a gene that controls the body's normal daily biological rhythm. Circadian rhythms adapt the workings of the body to different phases of the day, influencing sleep, behavior, hormone levels, body temperature and metabolism.

They "were able to peek inside our biological clock and elucidate its inner workings," the Nobel citation said.

Mr. Rosbash is on the faculty at Brandeis University, Mr. Young is at Rockefeller University and Mr. Hall has been associated with the University of Maine.

The winners have raised "awareness of the importance of a proper sleep hygiene," said Juleen Zierath of the Nobel academy.

What is circadian rhythm?

Michael Hastings, a scientist at the U.K. Medical Research Council, said the discoveries had opened up a whole new field of study for biology and medicine.

"Until then, the body clock was viewed as a sort of black box," Mr. Hastings told The Associated Press. "We knew nothing about its operation. But what they did was get the genes that made the body clock, and once you've got the genes, you can take the field wherever you want to."

"It's a field that has exploded massively, propelled by the discoveries by these guys," he told AP.

The awardees' work stems back to 1984, when Mr. Rosbash and Mr. Hall, who was then also at Brandeis, along with Mr. Young isolated the "period gene" in fruit flies. Mr. Hall and Mr. Rosbash found that a protein encoded by the gene accumulated during the night and degraded during daytime. A decade later, Mr. Young discovered another "clock gene."

"The paradigm-shifting discoveries by the laureates established key mechanisms for the biological clock," the Nobel Assembly said in its prize statement.

"Our wellbeing is affected when there is a temporary mismatch between our external environment and this internal biological clock, for example when we travel across several time zones and experience 'jet lag,'" the statement said. "There are also indications that chronic misalignment between our lifestyle and the rhythm dictated by our inner time keeper is associated with increased risk for various diseases."

That misalignment may be associated with diseases, including cancer and degenerative neurological conditions.

"Circadian dysfunction has been linked to sleep disorders, as well as depression, bipolar disorder, cognitive function, memory formation and some neurological diseases," a Nobel background report said.

The Swedish news agency TT quoted Mr. Rosbash as saying he got the call about the award just after 5 a.m.

"I'm still shocked. I'm sitting here in my pajamas with my wife. I hadn't even had a thought about this," he said. "I haven't spoken with my colleagues yet. I haven't even had time to have a cup of coffee."

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Shri Nitin Gadkari will perform Bhoomi Poojan for Wardha Dry Port on 2nd October, 2017 at Sindi in Wardha, Maharashtra

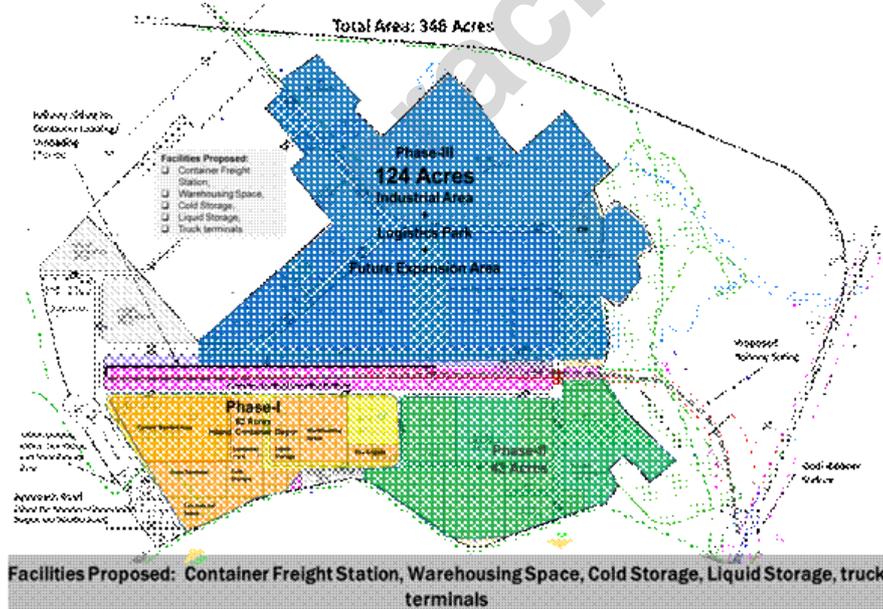
Shri Nitin Gadkari will perform Bhoomi Poojan for Wardha Dry Port on 2nd October, 2017 at Sindi in Wardha, Maharashtra

Wardha Dry Port will be constructed over an area of 350 Acres with an investment of Rs.500 Crore

The Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways and Water Resource, River Interlinking and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari will perform the Bhoomi Poojan ceremony of the Wardha dry port at Sindi (Railway) in Wardha, Maharashtra on 2nd October, 2017. The Dry Port is being developed by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) in a bid to cater effective logistics services to the industries in Vidarbha region and improve cargo throughput at the Port.

The proposed Wardha Dry Port is to be constructed over an area of 350 acres in phased development with a total estimated investment of Rs 500 Crore. The Phase-I would involve development of around 25 Ha of the total area, with an estimated cost of Rs.180 Crores (including private investment of Rs. 79 Crore).

The proposed dry port is estimated to generate traffic of almost 7,000-9,000 TEUs in next 5-7 years. The traffic is expected to ramp up gradually to around 30,000 TEUs in medium term (by 2030) considering the geographical location advantage, upcoming road and railway connectivity, increased focus on warehousing and other ancillary industries in the region. The project is expected to attract a direct employment of at least 1000 persons. The project would have the necessary facilities as one-stop shop for the EXIM based industries such as customs clearance facilities, Container Freight Station, Warehousing Space, Cold Storage, Liquid Storage, truck terminals etc.



The site is strategically located around the Industrial belt of Nagpur & Wardha and is well connected to the other industrial regions in Vidarbha. The dry port would benefit the rice exporters, textile and garments industry, steel and minerals traders, scrap trade, plastics and paper pulp, electrical machinery, automotive parts manufacturers etc. located in the region. Besides, domestic cargo movement is also expected to be routed through the dry port due to its logistical proximity to upcoming Nagpur-Mumbai super communication expressway, National Highways and railway connectivity. The dry port shall get connected to the Central Railways network through Nagpur-Wardha line, to Nagpur-Mumbai Super Communication expressway and six lane National highways connecting major cities of central, Southern and Northern India.

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Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be Held in Hyderabad, November 28-30**Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be Held in Hyderabad, November 28-30**

A high-level delegation from the Government of India and the United States met today, at NITI Aayog to plan the 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Summit, which will be held November 28-30 at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre in Hyderabad, India.

The Summit will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Advisor to the President, Ivanka Trump, who leads the U.S. delegation.

The GES is the preeminent annual gathering of emerging entrepreneurs, investors, and business leaders from around the world. Through networking, mentoring, and workshops, the GES empowers entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas, build partnerships, secure funding, and create innovative goods and services that will transform societies. This year, the focus will be on women entrepreneurs and the tremendous potential women bring to entrepreneurship.

GES 2017 will create an environment that empowers innovators, particularly women, to take their ideas to the next level. Women represent tremendous promise for economic growth and prosperity -- but in both developing and developed countries, also face tremendous barriers to building businesses. This year's theme is **"Women First, Prosperity for All"** to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit in all its strengths and diversity.

GES 2017 will be attended by over 1600 delegates, including entrepreneurs and investors, CEOs of major knowledge-based industries, representing the full measure of entrepreneurial talent from diverse backgrounds across the world. The participants will be truly global, representing 160 countries, with representation from every region of the world. Entrepreneurs will represent a diverse range of geographies, industries, business size and scalability. Investors and representatives from organizations that support entrepreneurs will be hand-picked to catalyze investment, networking and mentoring. There will be special emphasis on empowering young and women entrepreneurs and the role they play in making communities more prosperous and secure through enterprise.

NITI Aayog is taking the lead in organising this Summit for the Government of India. Amitabh Kant, CEO NITI Aayog stated that this is a unique opportunity for Indian Startups and Innovators to interact and network with the finest entrepreneurs of the world. He acknowledged the support of Government of Telangana in hosting the Summit at Hyderabad, and said "India, the oldest civilization, welcomes civilizations from across the world to GES 2017. We need to harness technology to solve some of the most pressing problems in healthcare delivery, education, energy, safe drinking water and agriculture, among others for the benefit of communities at large. Innovation and entrepreneurship will play a decisive role towards this end. I am sure this will be a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs to interact with the best."

Jennifer Arangio, Senior Director at the National Security Council, The White House, said "The United States is proud to partner with India for this year's GES. Uniting under the theme Women First, Prosperity for All, the Summit will highlight the Trump Administration's commitment to the principle that when women are economically empowered, communities and countries thrive. Hosting GES in India is a signature of the broad and enduring partnership between our two countries. We thank our co-host, the Government of India, for their support, energy and hospitality, and look forward to a high-impact Summit that brings together ground-breaking U.S. entrepreneurs and investors with their counterparts from around the world."

Innovations developed by entrepreneurs have transformed the world's economies by creating jobs, increasing productivity, and improving the quality of life for people everywhere. The summit will primarily focus on four thematic sectors: Energy & Infrastructure, Healthcare & Life Sciences, Financial Technology & Digital Economy, and Media & Entertainment sectors.

The GES 2017 agenda consists of breakout sessions, master classes, and workshops. Three networking sessions are planned in the schedule to enhance opportunities to interact with other GES 2017 participants. The summit will have **Breakout Sessions** where panelists will discuss key themes, innovative industries, and other aspects of entrepreneurship that are being highlighted in GES 2017. **Master Classes** are immersive, and typically focus in depth on a certain topic.

Workshops invite more hands-on, interactive conversations on a chosen topic between the panelists and the audience.

NITI Aayog and the U.S. Embassy are planning a series of 'Road to GES' events in collaboration with different agencies to generate enthusiasm and attract the attention of different stakeholders.

As part of the summit, there will be a virtual exhibition of India's innovative prowess in collaboration with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. It is also proposed to showcase India's heritage, social entrepreneurship and craftsmanship in collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Culture.

For more information, visit www.ges2017.gov.in and www.ges2017.org

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CWC sign MoU with IIT Roorkee and MNNIT Allahabad to support capacity building in dam safety areas under dam rehabilitation and improvement project**CWC sign MoU with IIT Roorkee and MNNIT Allahabad to support capacity building in dam safety areas under dam rehabilitation and improvement project**

Central Water Commission (CWC) has signed MoUs with IIT Roorkee and MNNIT Allahabad to support dam rehabilitation efforts of various implementing agencies and CWC.

Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has taken on board selected premier academic and research institutes, for capacity building in the areas of dam safety through World Bank assisted Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP). The scope includes strengthening the testing laboratories, enhancing analytical capabilities, exposure visits to best global institutions and on ground exposure to dam safety concerns to the faculty of these institutions.

CWC has already signed MoUs with IIT Madras, IISc Bangaluru, NIT Calicut and NIT Raurkela for supporting these institutes for the procurement of specified equipment and software for enhancing their testing and modeling capabilities. Last month, CWC facilitated the signing of MoUs by Madhya Pradesh Water Resources Department (MPWRD) and UJVN Limited (UJVNL), Uttarakhand with the Earthquake Engineering Department of IIT Roorkee for assisting MPWRD and UJVNL in the activities related to establishment of seismic instruments, certification of these installations, generation of post seismic event report having an intensity greater than 4.0 on Richter Scale and sharing of these reports with State and Central Agencies, data collection, processing, monitoring, analysis, interpretation, integration of the State Dam Seismological Network (SDSN) with Indian Dam Seismological Network (IDSN) being maintained by National Agencies to exchange the information and help to strengthen the existing seismological network for a strong national perspective plan, and conducting training programmes for the dam owning personnel.

DRIP is assisting rehabilitation of 225 dams in seven States which are experiencing different levels of distress. Owners of these dams require technical support for the investigation of dam conditions and supporting rehabilitation efforts. The Government of India has decided to enhance the capability of selected premier academic institutes in dam safety areas so that they, in turn, carry out field investigations and material testing, and provide training and consulting services to the dam owners in their dam rehabilitation

efforts. In addition to rehabilitation of dams, Project also has component of institutional strengthening wherein capacity building of all partners agencies as well as few selected premier academic institutions of country are being strengthened in dam safety areas by imparting trainings to operational efficiencies of these owner agencies, exposure visits to best global institutions and on ground exposure to the dam safety concerns to the faculty of these institutions. It is a holistic effort of the Government of India to equip our national institutions to develop capability and expertise at par with global institutions in the coming times to ensure self-reliance.

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Ministry of Health ranks first in Swachh Bharat initiative

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been adjudged as the best department for its contribution during 'Swachhta Pakhwada', an inter-ministry initiative of the Swachh Bharat Mission. The Ministry observed the Swachhta Pakhwada from February 1-15. The award was presented on the third anniversary of the Mission on October 2. Health Secretary C. K. Mishra received the award on behalf of the Ministry.

"Swachhta Pakhwada was observed within the Ministry offices, in Central Government Hospitals, and in public health facilities in all the States/UTs," noted a release issued by the Ministry.

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Cabinet approves renaming of Kandla Port as Deendayal Port

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The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval to the renaming of Kandla Port as Deendayal Port.

Ports in India are generally named after the city or town in which these are situated. However, the Government, in special cases, after due consideration, have renamed the Ports after great leaders in the past.

By renaming Kandla Port as "Deendayal Port, Kandla", a grateful nation would be remembering the invaluable contributions made by one of the greatest sons of India, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. This will inspire the People of Gujarat, particularly the Youth, who may not be fully aware of the contributions made by the great leader.

Background:

There have been public demands from various quarters in Gujarat, especially from Kachhh district, to rename 'Kandla Port' as 'Deendayal Port, Kandla'. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay (25.9.1916 - 1.2.1968) was a prominent leader, who pledged his life to the service of the nation. He devoted his entire life serving the nation and worked among the masses and dedicated and sacrificed his life for the upliftment of the Poor & Working Class at the same time. Upholding the values of democracy founded on tolerance, discipline, selflessness and respect for the law of the land, all his actions were based on the principles of 'Integral Humanism'. Throughout his life, he worked tirelessly for Indianisation of democracy, honouring the public opinion, selflessness and respect for law of the land. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay dedicated his entire life for public service and was the epitome of simplicity, honesty and selfless service for the poor and down-trodden.

Since the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was to be celebrated on 25th September, 2017, it was felt that it would be most appropriate if the decision to rename the Kandla Port as Deendayal Port was made as a part of the birth anniversary celebration of this great national leader.

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DRDO Transfers Technology for Bullet Proof Jacket**DRDO Transfers Technology for Bullet Proof Jacket**

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has transferred the technology of Bullet Proof Jacket (BPJ) to M/S MKU Limited, Kanpur for manufacturing these for the Indian Army and Para-Military Forces personnel.

Chairman DRDO and Secretary Department of Defence R&D Dr S Christopher handed over the technology at a function held in New Delhi, where documents and related licence agreement between DRDO and M/S MKU Limited, Kanpur were exchanged.

The Indian Army General Staff Qualitative Requirement (GSQR) No. - 1438 BPJ technology has been developed by Defence Materials & Stores Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), a Kanpur based premier laboratory of DRDO. This technology is challenging and one of the most significant matured personal protection systems developed by DRDO among the various GSQRs of Indian Army meeting NIJ III+ Standard.

Dr Christopher in his address urged M/S MKU, Kanpur to maintain a strict vigil on the quality of the Bullet Proof Jackets for the Indian Army and the Paramilitary Forces and to collaborate with DRDO to absorb the DRDO developed technologies.

The function was attended by Director General, Naval System & Materials Cluster of DRDO Dr S V Kamat; Director of DMSRDE Kanpur, Dr N Eswara Prasad; Managing Director of M/S MKU Limited Shri Neeraj Gupta besides various corporate Directors of DRDO headquarters.

MJPS/NM/DK**END**Downloaded from **crackIAS.com**© **Zuccess App** by crackIAS.com

Ganga Mission plans turtle sanctuary in Allahabad

The marquee National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) will establish a turtle sanctuary in Allahabad, as part of efforts to protect the rich aquatic biodiversity of river Ganga from “escalating anthropogenic pressures,” according to a press statement.

The project at an estimated cost Rs. 1.34 crore would contribute to the sustenance of more than 2,000 aquatic species, including threatened gharials, dolphins and turtles in the Ganga.

The Ganga and Yamuna at Allahabad are home to some of the most endangered fauna like turtles (*Batagur kachuga*, *Batagur dhongoka*, *Nilssonia gangetica*, *Chitra indica*, *Hardella thurjii* etc.), the National Aquatic Animal — Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*), the Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) and numerous migratory and resident birds. The government had planned such a sanctuary in Varanasi in 1989 under the Ganga Action Plan-I.

However, its future hangs in the balance as the Uttar Pradesh government and the Union Environment Ministry are considering de-notifying it over construction activities along the bank.

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What is 'Choppiness index' in Finance?

This refers to an index used by traders in financial markets to determine whether prices are trending in a particular direction, either upward or downward, or are moving sideways in a choppy manner. The choppiness index was created by Australian commodity trader E.W. Dreiss to determine the strength of a trend in any market. Traders generally prefer to trade in the direction of the trend, buying when prices trend up or selling short when prices trend down, and use the index to find the right entry and exit points for a profitable trade. The choppiness index is used in combination with other technical indicators to identify a change in the prevailing market direction.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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What is interconnection usage charge?

These charges are paid by a telecom services provider whose subscriber makes a call to the service provider whose subscriber receives the call. IUCs (termination, origination and transit charges), directly impact the call tariff.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) terms interconnection as the “lifeline of telecommunications” as it allows subscribers of one network to seamlessly communicate with those of another network or access the services offered by other networks.

Recently, TRAI came out with ‘Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations’ wherein it directed slashing mobile termination charges by 57% from 14 paise to 6 paise per minute from October 1, and completely doing away with these charges from January 1, 2020.

The decision follows a prolonged battle between the Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Jio and the top three telcos, Airtel, Vodafone and Idea. While the top operators had pitched for doubling the mobile termination charges to over 30 paise “to recover their cost,” the newer rival had suggested zero charges and shifting to the bill-and-keep regime, under which operators bill their own subscribers for outgoing calls and keep the revenue received. They do not pay any termination charges to each other.

The two sides have been involved in a war of words over the issue. The industry anticipates that TRAI’s decision to cut IUC and gradually do away with it will lead to a loss of over 5,000 crore annually to the three big incumbents, while resulting in an annual saving of around the same amount to Reliance Jio.

Among other things, it says that the reduction in MTC is likely to yield consumer benefits. The regulator has said that the average outgo per outgoing voice minute declined from 50 paise/minute in January-March 2015 to 31 paise/minute in January-March 2017, after the MTC was cut to 14 paise/minute from 20 paise/minute from March 1, 2015.

It adds that these charges work as a disincentive for deployment of new technologies such as VoLTE, or Voice over Long-Term Evolution, and migration to Internet Protocol networks by operators, wherein there are no interconnection charges.

TRAI points out that the cost of voice turns out to be fraction of a paisa/minute on over-the-top applications such as Skype or WhatsApp and it will be virtually impossible for a telecom service provider to compete against these if additional cost in the form of MTC is imposed.

The top telcos — who have alleged that the new rate has been arrived at in a “completely non-transparent fashion and benefits only one operator which enjoys a huge traffic asymmetry in its favour” — are likely to challenge the regulation in court. However, TRAI Chairman R.S. Sharma denies these allegations, says that the rate has been calculated in a transparent manner, and that the regulator will defend itself in court if challenged.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President’s plan

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What is 'Paris Club' in Economics?

This refers to an informal group of creditor nations focussed on dealing with borrower nations that face difficulty in paying back their loans. The origin of the club is traced to a meeting that happened in Paris between officials from Argentina, which had trouble paying back its debt, with a group of lenders in 1956. It is similar to the London club, which is a group of commercial bankers formed in 1976 to deal with the financial problems of Zaire, and is focussed on providing various forms of debt relief to countries that face financial distress due to their heavy debt load.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar inaugurates disabled friendly building of National Career Service Centre for Differently Abled (NCSC-DA) in Guwahati

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Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar inaugurated the disabled friendly building of National Career Service Centre for Differently Abled (NCSC-DA) in Guwahati today. The Union Minister expressed his desire to expand the Ministry's footprints in the North East Region with the motive of Labour Welfare at various levels.

Shri Gangwar reiterated that the NCSC-DA building would be an inspiration for others to emulate the model apart from bringing positive changes in the lives of Persons with Disabilities. He also applauded the contribution of the State Government not only for their support in the construction of building but also to have synergy in other areas too.

The Guwahati building has been constructed at cost of Rs. 10.40 Cr. The land for the building was provided by Government of Assam. The state-of-the-Art building is unique in nature of its kind in the State of Assam and is one among 8 buildings constructed so far for National Career Service Centres for Differently Abled (erstwhile VRCs).

The objective of the NCSC-DA is to evaluate the residual capacities of PwDs, impart non formal skill training & extend the vocational rehabilitation assistance for economically mainstreaming them.

Govt. of India is also implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to provide job matching and other employment services in a transparent and user friendly manner. The NCS Portal is hosted at URL www.ncs.gov.in and supported with a toll free number **1800-425-1514** to assist and guide the youth including PwDs. More than 100 Model Career Centres have been established.

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Nobel Peace Prize goes to ICAN

Nuclear disarmament campaign group the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for its efforts to rid the world of the atomic bomb, warning that Donald Trump's presidency showed how dangerous the weapons of mass destruction truly are.

More than 70 years since atomic bombs were used on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Nobel committee sought to highlight ICAN's tireless non-proliferation efforts as nuclear-related crises swirl around North Korea and Iran.

The decision sent a strong message at a time when Mr. Trump has threatened to tear up a 2015 deal curbing Iran's nuclear abilities. And the U.S. President last month alarmed delegates at the UN General Assembly by warning he may be forced to "totally destroy" North Korea because of its atomic weapons programme.

"We live in a world where the risk of nuclear weapons being used is greater than it has been for a long time," said Norwegian Nobel committee president Berit Reiss-Andersen in announcing the prize in Oslo.

"Some states are modernising their nuclear arsenals, and there is a real danger that more countries will try to procure nuclear weapons, as exemplified by North Korea."

However, she stressed that the committee's decision wasn't aimed at any particular world leader, adding: "We're not kicking anyone's leg with this prize."

Founded in Vienna in 2007, ICAN comprises more than 400 NGOs and has mobilised supporters and celebrities alike in its cause.

It was a key player in the adoption of a historic nuclear weapons ban treaty, signed at the UN by 122 countries in July.

Largely symbolic

However, the accord was largely symbolic as none of the nine known world nuclear powers put their names down. It still needs to be ratified before entering into force.

The U.S., Russia, Britain, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea are all thought to possess weapons of mass destruction.

Speaking to reporters in Geneva, ICAN's head Beatrice Fihn said Mr. Trump's movements over North Korea and Iran showed the clear danger posed by nuclear arms.

"The election of President Donald Trump has made a lot of people feel very uncomfortable with the fact that he alone can authorise the use of nuclear weapons," she said, adding that the U.S. leader had a track record of "not listening to expertise."

Although global atomic weapons stockpiles have plummeted — from around 64,000 warheads in 1986 at the height of the Cold War to more than 9,000 in 2017 according to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (BAS) — the number of nuclear-armed nations has grown.

Increasing pressure

Friday's award — the climax to a week of prize-giving honouring global luminaries in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine and literature — comes as a global nuclear deal with Iran is under increasing pressure from Mr. Trump.

The agreement struck in 2015 between Iran and world powers drastically curbed Tehran's nuclear enrichment capability in return for a lifting of punishing economic sanctions. Iran denies ever pursuing a bomb, insisting its nuclear programme is for peaceful energy production only.

But Mr. Trump has threatened to bin the accord altogether, and on Thursday criticised Iran's behaviour, telling military leaders in Washington that Tehran has "not lived up to the spirit of the agreement."

The U.S. leader, who has labelled the deal an "embarrassment", is planning to decertify it, the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* reported on Friday, potentially paving the way for renewed sanctions on the Islamic republic.

Tensions have also soared between the U.S. and North Korea, which has test-fired two missiles over Japan and conducted a string of apparent underground nuclear tests this year.

"This is a time of great global tension, when fiery rhetoric could all too easily lead us, inexorably, to unspeakable horror," ICAN said.

'Shared commitment'

EU foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini also congratulated ICAN, tweeting: "We share a strong commitment to achieving the objective of a world free from nuclear weapons."

But Russia, which according to BAS has the world's largest atomic stockpile, said there was no alternative to "nuclear parity" to guarantee world peace.

"Russia is a responsible member of the nuclear club," a spokesman for President Vladimir Putin told reporters in Moscow.

The Nobel committee has rewarded anti-nuclear weapons drives on several previous occasions, handing out the prestigious prize to Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov in 1975, the international non-proliferation IPPNW group in 1985, and the IAEA's then head Mohamed El-Baradei 20 years later.

More than 300 people and organisations were thought to have been nominated for this year's Peace Prize, including the UN's refugee agency UNHCR, Syria's White Helmets rescue service and Congolese doctor Denis Mukwege.

The Peace Prize, which comes with a gold medal and a cheque for nine million Swedish kronor (\$1.1 million) will be presented in Oslo on December 10, the anniversary of the death of its founder, Swedish philanthropist and dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel.

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Union Home Minister and Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation laid foundation stone for roads and bridges construction projects at Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Union Home Minister and Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation laid foundation stone for roads and bridges construction projects at Andaman & Nicobar Islands

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-4 to a two-lane from Austin Creek to Kalara at Diglipur and Beodnabad-Ferrargunj Section of NH-4 at Bartang, construction of major bridge over Humphrey Strait Creek and Middle Strait Creek also at Baratang in Andaman & Nicobar Islands on October 6, 2017. The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, Lt. Governor of A & N Islands Prof Jagdish Mukhi, M.P. Shri Bishnupada Ray, Chief Secretary of A & N Islands Shri Anindo Majumdar were also present amongst the dignitaries on the occasion.

In his address at Diglipur, Union Home Minister said, India is emerging as a powerful nation in terms of economy and security and is being recognized and respected by other countries. Lauding the untiring efforts of the Armed Forces in protecting the borders of the country, he said, no nation, including any neighbouring country, can destabilize the security of the country as the Government is strengthening the security at all fronts. Stating that A & N Islands truly depict Mini India where people of diverse culture and languages live in peace and harmony, Shri Singh also said, these Islands have played significant role in the freedom struggle, where brave sons of India who fought for freedom were repatriated. Referring to the series of developmental activities taking place in A & N Islands, he said, Union Government under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi has taken initiatives for overall development of A & N Islands. He stated that Prime Minister desires that all states & union territories must be well connected to streamline the process of development and that out of 1382 islands in the country, 10 have been selected for infrastructure development of which 5 are located in the A & N Islands. He also stated that infrastructure development in these islands will boost tourism and generate employment. Later in the day, at Baratang, the Union Home Minister stated, A & N Islands are strategically important and thus the Central Government is developing these Islands while acknowledging its strategic importance. He also stated that an Island Development Agency (IDA) has been created for taking care of the development and security of these Islands. He further said, A & N Islands may be far from New Delhi geographically, but are close to New Delhi emotionally.

Speaking on the occasion at Diglipur, Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation stated, the Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi plans to invest Rs 15,000 crore for various developmental projects at A & N Islands, of which projects worth Rs 10,000 crores have already commenced. He also announced a series of projects that will be started in the Islands. At the other function held at Baratang, Shri Gadkari informed that for the first time in the history of A & N Islands, foundation for so

many development projects has been laid. He stated that NHIDCL has been constituted to create basic infrastructure facilities in remote areas and state-of –the-art infrastructure like tunnels and bridges being constructed in different states. He stated that 12 expressways are under construction in the country and road construction work has increased from 2 Km to 28 Km per day during the last three years. Referring to the tourism sector which has good prospects in the A & N Islands, Shri Gadkari said, better roads, round the clock power and good hotels are needed to boost tourism which will also generate employment for the youths.

The Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir stated that the naturally beautiful A & N Islands is poised to become most sought after tourist destination with better connectivity.

NP/MS/PC

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Hurricane Nate forms, heads to central Gulf of Mexico

Hurricane Nate gained force as it continued rapidly moving over the central Gulf of Mexico early on Saturday after drenching Central America in rain that was blamed for at least 21 deaths. Forecasters said it was likely to reach the U.S. Gulf Coast over the weekend.AP

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Demystifying Science — What is a quantum gas clock?

A quantum gas clock is an advanced version of atomic clocks, the most accurate time keepers. Each of the thousands of “ticking” atoms in atomic clocks behave and work largely independently. In contrast, the quantum gas clock uses a globally interacting collection of atoms to constrain collisions and improve measurements. At its heart is an unusual state of matter called a degenerate Fermi gas (a quantum gas for Fermi particles), first created in 1999. All prior atomic clocks have used thermal gases. The use of a quantum gas enables all of the atoms' properties to be quantised, or restricted to specific values, for the first time.

A study of nearly 300 people living in different parts of India found that nine single-base variants (single-nucleotide polymorphisms or SNPs) account

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Nearly 260 global scientists apply for VAJRA scheme

Nearly 260 global scientists filed applications for the government's Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty scheme, that invites foreign scientists in the Indian research and development ecosystem, a senior official said. 70 applicants would be shortlisted for the programme by the end of this month, the official added. The scientists selected will begin their work by December. PTI

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Union Home Minister to inaugurate NIA Hqrs Office Complex on 10th October**Union Home Minister to inaugurate NIA Hqrs Office Complex on 10th October**

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the new Headquarters Office Complex of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) here on October 10, 2017. The Ministers of State for Home Affairs, Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir and Shri Kiren Rijiju will also be present at the inauguration ceremony. The foundation stone of the NIA Headquarters was laid by Shri Rajnath Singh on September 10, 2015 and the work has been completed within the stipulated period of 24 months.

The NIA, which came into existence on December 31, 2008, initially began operations in Hotel Centaur, New Delhi and thereafter shifted its Headquarters to the NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi in June, 2013. In addition to the Headquarters, the agency has expanded its geographical outreach through a network of branch offices located at Lucknow, Hyderabad, Kochi, Guwahati, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur & Jammu. Apart from these, the NIA is having its camp offices at Chandigarh, Srinagar, Chennai, Bangalore, Vishakhapatnam, Ahmedabad, Bharuch, Jagdalpur, Patna, Siliguri, Malda, Ranchi, Vijaywada and Imphal.

The Ministry of Urban Development allotted 1.0356 acres (4,191 sqm) of land opposite CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi at a cost of Rs.22.78 lacs on December 23, 2013 for construction of the Office Complex of the NIA Hqrs. Following approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs on December 24, 2014, the MoU for construction of office complex building was signed with the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) Ltd on December 29, 2014. The Office Complex, comprising of Administration Building having nine floors & two basements with a total area of 1,14,056 sqft, has been built at a cost of Rs.35.13 crore.

The NIA is the Central Counter-Terrorism Investigation agency which came into the existence on December 31, 2008 in pursuance to enactment of the NIA Act, 2008, on 31.12.2008, with a mandate to investigate serious offences related to terrorist activities affecting the sovereignty, security and integrity of the Country. The NIA is investigating the crimes having national and international ramifications and NIA has all-India jurisdiction. The NIA started functioning on January 19, 2009. The first case was assigned to NIA in June, 2009 and by the end of July, 2017, a total 166 cases have been assigned to the NIA for investigation. These cases cover the entire spectrum of terrorism related challenges relevant to India and have involved investigative efforts in 26 States and UTs. Out of the 166 breakup cases, 63 cases pertain to 'jihadi' terrorism, 25 to terrorist acts by North East insurgents, 41 to cases of terror financing and fake currency, 13 to cases involving Left Wing Extremism while the remaining 24 cases relate to other miscellaneous terrorist acts/gangs. The investigations conducted by the NIA have helped to unearth an entire range of illegal activities involving terror funding to specific incidents of terror involving the killing of innocent persons.

KSD/NK/PK

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A pint in the pocket

If the endearingly named Sprocket pocket-size printer, were alive, you can almost imagine a sprightly impish creature leaping out of your bag and performing a bunch of silly stunts all over the room. And that's sort of what HP's palm-size, portable instant printer does. It takes you back to the late '80s, with its almost vintage-Polaroid printing quality. So it's not for serious photographers, but simply for a bunch of kids (or adults who leave the office behind and let go).

How it works

The printer, light at 172 grams, is a little larger than your box of Altoids, so will slip into any handbag or manbag. It comes in three colours: white, black, red. Charge it with a micro USB cable, download the app on your phone (Android OS v4.4 and higher and iOS v8.0 and higher), connect both devices via Bluetooth, and you're ready. Then, load the 2"x3" Zink sticky-back papers into the slot, placing the blue smartsheet at the bottom of the pile; print. It took 10 minutes to go through the process, if you count pulling the 10 print sheets out of the packaging and hunting down the charger adapter plug. You can 'pull out' photos from the phone gallery, Facebook, Instagram and Google.

Zink, zero-ink technology, gives you prints you can use as stickers too. Each paper is embedded with dye crystals that take on colour when exposed to heat. Because they are heat-sensitive, you don't want to expose the picture to heat after it's printed, lest you see a change in colour. They are water-resistant and tear-proof though.

What it does

The HP sprocket is targeted at the millennial who apparently wants to take selfies to the next level, print them out, and stick them all over the place. But #ReinventMemories and #HoldMyHeart are the hashtags that the device is marketed with, and that's really where the beauty lies. It's for all those goofy moments you capture and want to share – not across social media, but with a bunch of real people, when you meet and take a few pictures, inhibitions down, spirits up.

Spring out the device and give friends a print of the good times in about 20 seconds. It's great to fiddle around with the borders, filters, text boxes and stickers, but even without these, it still does its job. The filters, when used, printed a little flat, and mid-shots worked better than close-ups. But then, you're not using these for art-level photography.

When you'll need it

It's not inexpensive, at 8,999, but if you're at a 'responsible age' and have young kids, it's perfect for those times when your child announces at 10 p.m. that some pictures needed to have been bought and stuck in a notebook. Hunt them down on Google, print and stick. It'll probably take you less than 10 minutes and will spare you another why-didn't-tell-me-earlier lecture. It's also useful to create a moodboard for when you're redoing your home, or when you want little motifs to go on a Diwali or Christmas gift.

Should you really buy it?

Like the selfie stick, you probably won't buy it for yourself, but it's a great gift, especially if it's a landmark birthday, where you can pull it out of the wrapping and print instantly. Also like a selfie stick, it'll probably get used more than you know. Get it at amazon.in if you're so inclined.

After a US Senator wrote to Apple CEO Tim Cook, conveying concerns on users' security with Face ID biometric security in iPhone X, Apple has responded

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Cyclone Warning - Depression over Gangetic West Bengal intensifies into a deep depression**Cyclone Warning - Depression over Gangetic West Bengal intensifies into a deep depression**

The depression over Gangetic West Bengal has moved west-northwestwards with a speed of about 15 kmph in past 03 hours. It intensified into a deep depression and lay centred at 0830 hrs IST of today, the 09th October, 2017 over Gangetic West Bengal near Latitude 22.5° N and Longitude 88.4 °E, close to Kolkata. The system is very likely to move slowly west-northwestwards initially during next 24 hours and move northwards thereafter.

Warning:**(i) Heavy Rainfall warning:**

o Rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places and extremely heavy rainfall at isolated places is very likely over Gangetic West Bengal during next 24 hours and isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall during subsequent 24 hours.

o Rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places is very likely over north Odisha and Jharkhand during next 48 hours.

o Rainfall at many places with heavy rainfall at isolated places very likely over Chhattisgarh & south Odisha on 10th and over Bihar on 10th & 11th October.

(ii) Wind warning:

o Squally winds speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph would prevail along & off north Odisha and West Bengal coasts during next 24 hours.

o Squally wind speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph would prevail over Gangetic West Bengal and 30-40 kmph gusting to 50 kmph very likely over adjoining areas of Odisha & Jharkhand during next 24 hours.

(iii) Sea condition: State of Sea very likely to be rough to very rough along & off north Odisha and West Bengal coasts during next 24 hours.

(iv) Fishermen Warning: Fishermen along & off north Odisha and West Bengal coasts are

advised not to venture into Sea during next 24 hours.

RDS/nb

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Thaler wins economics Nobel

People's choice: Richard Thaler. Reuters/Carsten Rehder

U.S. economist Richard Thaler won the Nobel Economics prize on Monday for showing that economic and financial decision-makers are not always rational, but mostly deeply human.

Bridging the gap between economics and psychology, Mr. Thaler's research focuses on behavioural economics, which explores the impact of psychological and social factors on decisions by individuals or groups in the economy and financial markets.

"He's made economics more human," the Nobel jury said, calling Mr. Thaler "a pioneer" on integrating economics and psychology.

Mr. Thaler is well-known for co-founding the "nudge" theory, which demonstrates how people can be persuaded to make decisions that leave them healthier and happier.

"By exploring the consequences of limited rationality, social preferences, and lack of self-control, he has shown how these human traits systematically affect individual decisions as well as market outcomes," the jury's statement said.

"His empirical findings and theoretical insights have been instrumental in creating the new and rapidly expanding field of behavioural economics, which has had a profound impact on many areas of economic research and policy."

Movie appearance

His work even earned him a glamorous foray into the movie business when he made a cameo appearance, alongside Christian Bale, Steve Carell and Ryan Gosling, in the 2015 movie *The Big Short* about the credit and housing bubble collapse that led to the 2008 global financial crisis.

Mr. Thaler told the Nobel committee by teleconference he was "pleased" by the award.

"I no longer will have to call my colleague Eugene Fama 'Professor Fama' on the golf course," he joked, referring to his University of Chicago colleague who won the prize in 2013.

"I think the most important recognition is that economic agents are human, and economic models have to incorporate that," he said.

The 72-year-old takes home the nine million kronor (€944,000, \$1.1 million) prize sum, which he jokingly said he would "try to spend it as irrationally as possible."

Mr. Thaler is a professor at the University of Chicago — a school popular with the Nobel economics committee.

One of the founders of behavioural finance, which studies how cognitive limitations influence financial markets, Mr. Thaler developed a model for explaining how people tend to focus on the narrow impact rather than the overall effect of each decision they make, which is called limited rationality.

Endowment effect

This includes the study of how people's loathing of losses can explain why they value the same things more when they own them as opposed to when they don't, which is called the endowment effect.

Mr. Thaler has also shown that New Year's resolutions can be hard to keep — no matter how much people wish to fulfil them.

Using a planner-doer model, he showed how short-term temptations disrupt people's plans to save for their old age, rainy days or live a healthier lifestyle.

"In his applied work, Mr. Thaler demonstrated how nudging — a term he coined — may help people exercise better self-control when saving for a pension, as well in other contexts," the Nobel jury said.

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Ahmedabad Edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav Concludes RSM's Journey to Vadodara, Rajkot, Somnath and Dwarka Begins Tomorrow

Ahmedabad Edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav Concludes RSM's Journey to Vadodara, Rajkot, Somnath and Dwarka Begins Tomorrow

Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav(RSM) 2017, the celebrated festival organized by the Ministry of Culture in Gujarat from 07th October, 2017 closed its Ahmedabad component today with a dazzling grand finale of various art forms along with soulful performances of Teejan Bai and Ankit Chadha . Its further journey **to Vadodara, Rajkot, Somnath and Dwarka** starts from tomorrow.

The festival has been receiving continuous acclaim for playing a major role to effectively connect the Ahmedabad audience to the rich, diverse and undiscovered culture of India under the umbrella of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The festival brought together more than 200 performers to perform over 10 folk dance forms and showcased handicrafts created by more than 40 master craftsmen from all over India clubbed with, diverse cuisines prepared by traditional chefs, all under one- roof.

This RSM, which has been a diversified cultural Utsav to celebrate the idea of unity in diversity has coincided with the granting World Heritage status to the city of Ahmedabad which has lent a unique charm to the hosting of this festival.

This RSM under the broad umbrella theme of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat has covered a profusion of art forms from mystical bhajan's and folk music and dance, to literature and the visual arts . A handloom and handicrafts-utsav was part of this Mahotsav. The gastronomic culture of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and several other partnering states was showcased through a food festival. The people of Ahmedabad witnessed an unequalled shopping journey viz handicrafts, cuisines, rangoli painting, sculpture, photography, wood art and performing arts, all under one campus.

The 3rd day of the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav witnessed Pandvani by Padmabhushan Teejan Bai and mysticism with rendering of Dastangoi on Kabir by Ankit Chadha. The festival showcases a variety of tribal art forms from different cities and towns across the country accompanied by folk dance and music such as Karma & Shaila from Chhattisgarh, Kutchi Bhajan from Gujarat, Natua from West Bengal and Stick , Pung Cholan from Manipur .

The Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav's next journey to **Vadodara, Rajkot, Somnath and Dwarka** begins tomorrow and the same folk dances will be presented at the above mentioned four cities of Gujarat from 10th to 13th October 2017 respectively at the following venues:

Date	City	Venue	Time
10th October	Vadodara	Mahatma Gandhi Nagar Gruh,	

11th October
12th October
13 th October

Rajkot

Somnath

Dwarka

Mandvi
Hemu Gadhvi Natyagruh, Manhar
Plot
Somnath Temple Premises
Gomti Ghat, Dwarka

7.00 PM onwards

Sanjay Kumar/Culture/09.10.2017

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What is Bandwagon effect in Psychology?

This refers to the tendency among people to do something simply because others around them are doing it. The bandwagon effect causes people to ignore their own beliefs and independent thought process, instead leading them to find comfort in the wisdom of the crowd. It has been seen as the root cause behind the prevalence of irrational beliefs and practices among the masses, as everyone jumps onto the bandwagon of conventional opinion.

The most common example of the bandwagon effect is the prevalence of bullish and bearish sentiments in financial markets, which causes asset prices to deviate significantly from their underlying value.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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Paryatan Parv - A Call for Indian Diaspora – Dekho apna Desh

Paryatan Parv - A Call for Indian Diaspora – Dekho apna Desh

The soul of 'Paryatan Parv- DekhoApnaDesh' is spreading its wings and enticing overseas Indian Community to come and see 'Bharat- Apna Desh', the land where their forefathers were born. Ministry of External Affairs through Indian Missions Abroad has formulated a well-structured plan to promote Indian tourism to Persons of Indian Origin residing abroad. The Ministry of Tourism is pitching Paryatan Parv to the Indian Community living overseas for creating a sustainable and mutually beneficial engagement with them. The Indian Overseas community estimated at over 25 million is spread in every major region of the world having presence in almost 189 countries across the globe. The Indian Diaspora forms a significant and influential group in their respective country of residence and would provide an ideal platform to expand the reach of the Incredible India brand. Pooling of resources and synergised efforts of all stakeholders would contribute significantly for increasing foreign tourist arrivals to the country with Indian Overseas community serving as Ambassadors for Indian Tourism.

Day 6 of the Paryatan Parv started with a noble cause, India Tourism Kolkata has organised a Local Sightseeing Tour for children from an Orphanage in Sealdah.

Sirpur in Chhattisgarh witnessed a Cultural Evening, showcasing the rich heritage of the State with indigenous folk performances. A Familiarisation Tour of Tourist Spots of Chhattisgarh was arranged by Chhattisgarh Tourism Board for students of Indian origin settled overseas.

Maharashtra Government has inaugurated guide training course in Mumbai, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Pune. District level cultural programmes have been organised in Aurangabad and Goa by Ministry of Youth Affairs (NYKS).

Various events have been organised by Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and State Government of Uttar Pradesh in the land of Taj Mahal, Highlight of the event was Dastan-e-Amir Khusrau presented by Dr. Syeda Hameed, Ms. Zakia Zaheer & Ms. Rene Singh at Taj Khema Mound.

State Government of Madhya Pradesh as part of the Paryatan Parv has organised Photography and Cooking competition at Shajapur, Handicraft Bazaar at Gwalior, Discussion and Elocution Competition at Dhar, Quiz Competition on the theme 'Hamara Jabalpur, Hamari Pehchan and Tourism Awareness Rally and Painting Competition in Khajuraho.

Delhi Tourism organised Indian Folk Dance Performances at Dilli Hat INA, the event will continue every day till 12th October 2017. Dogri Food Festival has been organised at Hotel Jammu Ashok by ITDC, State Government of Uttarakhand organised Mussoorie Marathon, UP Government organized Swaranjali in Lucknow

Ministry of DONER in partnership with State Governments and North East Tourism Development Council has promoted Paryatan Parv by organising various events of sensitisation programme.

Other Central Ministries are also participating in Paryatan Parv by organizing various activities. The Railway Ministry has illuminated some of the major railway stations in the country. Under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, some of the major airports in the country have also been illuminated.

The Online contests on MyGov platform for Dekho Apna Desh Photo Contest, Incredible India Quiz, Dekho Apna Desh Blog Contest have elicited tremendous response. Winners of the contests will receive attractive prizes

Sanjay Kumar/Tourism/10.10.2017

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Cabinet approves MoU between SEBI and FSC**Cabinet approves MoU between SEBI and FSC**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Financial Services Commission (FSC), Gibraltar for mutual co-operation and technical assistance.

The MoU is likely to promote further development of economic links and cooperation between the two regulators and aims at creating conditions for an effective development of securities markets in the two countries. It would also contribute towards strengthening the information sharing framework between the two signatories. It is expected to add value to overseas mutual cooperation and regulation activities of SEBI and FSC, Gibraltar.

AKT/VBA/SH

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Cabinet approves signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Capital Markets Authority (CMA), Kuwait**Cabinet approves signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Capital Markets Authority (CMA), Kuwait**

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PM attends inauguration of birth centenary celebration of Nanaji Deshmukh**PM attends inauguration of birth centenary celebration of Nanaji Deshmukh**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today attended the inauguration of the birth centenary celebration of Nanaji Deshmukh at IARI at Pusa in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister visited an exhibition on the theme "technology and rural life." The exhibition showcases good practices and applications, as well as schemes and initiatives of the Ministry of Rural Development. He interacted with some innovators and beneficiaries.

The Prime Minister offered floral tributes to Nanaji Deshmukh and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan. He released a commemorative postage stamp on Nanaji Deshmukh.

The Prime Minister launched the DISHA Portal - a smart governance tool developed for MPs and MLAs for monitoring of implementation of various Programmes and Schemes of different Ministries in their constituency through a single portal. As on date, integration of datasets of 41 programmes and schemes of 20 Ministries has been achieved on this Portal.

He also launched Gram Samvaad - a citizen centric mobile app to serve and empower the rural citizens of India, by facilitating single window access for citizens to information at Gram Panchayat level, on various Rural Development programs. The App presently covers seven programs of the Ministry of Rural Development.

The Prime Minister digitally inaugurated 11 Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI) Buildings and a Plant Phenomics Facility at IARI.

The Prime Minister addressed an audience of over 10,000 people, drawn from Self Help Groups, Panchayats, water conservation innovators, and beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

He said that today marks the birth anniversary of two great leaders - Nanaji Deshmukh and Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan, who devoted their life to the betterment of the nation.

The Prime Minister said that Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan was deeply popular among youth. The likes of Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan and Dr. Lohia were active during the 'Quit India' movement, inspired by the clarion call of Mahatma Gandhi, he added. The Prime Minister said that Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan was never interested in power politics, and fought corruption. He said Nanaji Deshmukh also preferred to devote himself towards rural development and making our villages self-reliant, and free from poverty.

Just having the best ideas for development are not enough, the Prime Minister said. He added that initiatives have to be completed on time and the fruits of development must reach the intended beneficiaries. Efforts have to be comprehensive and 'outcome driven', not 'output driven', the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said that facilities that are associated with cities must also be made available to our villages. He said that the real essence of a democracy is Jan Bhagidari and integrating people in the development journey of cities, and villages. Regular interaction with governments is required, he added.

Noting that lack of sanitation facilities is adversely impacting the development journey of villages, the Prime Minister said that is why the Government have been working to build toilets in rural areas.

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Dr Mahesh Sharma Inaugurates 'Deep Dharohar'

Dr Mahesh Sharma Inaugurates 'Deep Dharohar'

Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture inaugurated "Deep Dharohar" organized by the Ministry of Culture here today. The festival was inaugurated by the lighting of 1000 *diyas* by the participating artists and artisans and children from organisations like the CCRT, SAPNA *Prayas* and Kailash Satyarthi's foundation, to the beat of *pakhawajs*, *nagadas*, *dhol*s etc. The Minister released a book entitled 'Living Traditions, Tribal and Folk Paintings of India' published under the matrix of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' by the Cultural Mapping team of M/o Culture and Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT). This book celebrates the rich living traditions of tribal and folk art of India and the seminal role they play in the day-to-day lives of tribal and rural people.

To reclaim the lost classical and folk traditions of Deepawali and with objective of transmitting, promoting and conserving India's diverse heritage, Ministry of Culture has organized this festival at the Matighar grounds at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts at Janpath, New Delhi between October 13-17 October 2017. The festival is drawing upon the rich repository of red, grey and black ware potters, reed (*sikki*) artisans, rural sculptors, weavers, *Madhubani*, *Gond*, *Phad* and *Pattachitra* artists, lacquer workers, bell-metal and bamboo artisans is also being projected as part of Paryatan Parv being organised by Ministry of Tourism.

A group of 100 artisans chosen by the Zonal Cultural Centres and knowledge partners from seven regions of the country are interfacing with organisations like the Asian Heritage Foundation, INTACH's Intangible Cultural Heritage team, Dastkaari Haat Samiti, Centre for New Perspectives, TRIFED etc. for creative collaboration in creating sustainable livelihood hubs/clusters. The *diyas* and other traditional Deepawali-linked products created by them are being sold at the venue.

In addition to the above, several performances, art and craft workshops and artist's corners have been planned between 11 am – 8.30 pm every evening.

Ø A performing arts stage is being shared by reputed artists and artisans selected during the talent hunt carried out under culture mapping.

Ø *Khulla Manch* for performances of the *Kavadiya Bhats* of Rajasthan, *Bhand Pather* and *Ladishah* of Kashmir, *Maniharo Ras* and *Siddhi Dhamal* from Gujarat, *Gotipua* from Odisha, *Tamang Shello* from Sikkim and *Dilli ka Bioscope*, a production representing 10 traditional performing arts skill from Delhi. A writer's and artist's corner, a space where artists, artisans and writers are narrating their life stories and *Deepawali* related anecdotes.

Ø Children's corner with interactive sessions on the potter's wheel, rangoli-making, *Deepawali* jewellery making with terracotta beads and flowers, *sikki*-toy making and papier-mache crafts. Art and theatre workshops on clean-swachh *Deepawali* are being held every day. A 2 days workshop on film making will be held on October 14th and 15th, 2017.

Ø Screening of films on India's tangible and intangible cultural heritage every evening.

Ø Celebration of different Deepawali traditions like the Dev-Deepawali of Varanasi, Govardhan Puja of Mathura and Nathdwara.

Sanjay Kumar/jk/Culture/13.10.2017

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Central team of multi-disciplinary experts to investigate outbreak of febrile illness in Tamil Nadu

Central team of multi-disciplinary experts to investigate outbreak of febrile illness in Tamil Nadu

Under the directions of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi a central team of multi-disciplinary experts has been deputed to Tamil Nadu to investigate the outbreak of febrile illness (dengue) in the state. The team will provide technical assistance to the State in dengue case management and vector control.

The Central team includes doctors from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), New Delhi, Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), New Delhi. The team will not only assess the situation but will also provide necessary guidance to manage and address the recent upsurge. The central expert team will hold meetings with the State Health Minister and other senior officers of the state.

It has been noted that during 2017 (till 12.10.2017), a total number of 12324 dengue cases and 18 deaths due to dengue have been reported from the State of Tamil Nadu. Maximum number of cases are reported from Thoothukudi (1178), Chennai (1138), Sankarankoil (1072), Coimbatore (942), Thirupur (782) and Kanyakumari (777). Deaths due to Dengue have been reported from Thirupur (4), Erode (3), Salem (3), Coimbatore (2), Karur (2), Trichy (1), Sankarankoil (1), Namakkal (1) and Dharmapuri (1).

MV/SK

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Dilli Seminar 2017 Edition Commences at Indian Naval Academy**Dilli Seminar 2017 Edition Commences at Indian Naval Academy**

1. The 2017 edition of the annual Dilli seminar on 'India and Southeast Asia – Maritime Trade, Expedition and Civilisation Linkages' commenced this morning at the Indian Naval Academy (INA). Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Retd), Advisor Naval History Project to Integrated Headquarter Ministry of Defence (Navy) and former Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command delivered the keynote address in the inaugural session. The two day seminar is being attended by a large delegation of serving senior Naval and Coast Guard officers, eminent academicians, distinguished luminaries, representatives from Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and cadets of INA.

2. The seminar proceedings commenced with an introductory movie on the theme of the seminar followed by an opening address by Vice Admiral SV Bhokare, AVSM, YSM, NM, Commandant, INA. Vice Admiral Anup Singh (Retd) in his inaugural session deliberated that the peninsular geography of our country facilitated links of commerce, culture, and comity with our extended neighbourhood. Prof (Dr) Ruby Maloni, Head of History Department, University of Mumbai, deliberated on how Gujarati mercantile and maritime activity played a significant role in the formation of intricate patterns of trade practices, traditions and routes operating in the Indian Ocean in her paper 'Maritime Commercial Connections between Gujrat and Southeast Asia in the early modern period'.

3. The cadets and distinguished audience present during the seminar were visibly influenced by the papers that were presented during the first day. The five papers that were presented on the inaugural day largely elucidated and provided a detailed insight on the impact of historic maritime trade that existed between India and Southeast Asian countries on their society, religion, spirituality, art, architecture, language, literature, administration and other areas of civilization.

4. On the concluding day of the two day seminar tomorrow, Friday, 13 October 2017, Prof Ajay Pratap Singh, Head of Department, History and Faculty of Social Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, would deliberate on the 'Economic background to India's early maritime trade, Mr Kailash Negi, Deputy Inspector General, Indian Coast Guard will deliver a paper on the topic 'Look East to Act East policy of India – Vision and Prospectus' and a syndicate of cadets of INA would present a paper on 'The Chola Naval Fleet – Shipbuilding, Navigation and Maritime Campaigns'

5. The Dilli seminar 2017 edition, continues to serve its purpose of apprising the Indian Naval Academy cadets about the rich maritime history and heritage of the nation and promises to remain prominent in the calendar of maritime history studies / seminars of the country.

DKS/RGA

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A new anti-HIV strategy

An anti-HIV strategy

with potential

Improving on a previous attempt, scientists have developed a new strategy that could potentially be used to re-engineer a patient's own immune system cells to fight HIV. The approach, described in *PLOS Pathogens*, shows benefit in human cell cultures and in mice. They did this through developing a new technique that builds on an earlier approach that made it to clinical trials. This relied on a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) — a synthetic protein that when added to T cells allows them to fight a specific foe more effectively. In treatment, T cells extracted from a patient's blood would be reengineered in the lab to express HIV-specific CARs, and then infused back into the patient to fight the virus. Other CAR-based techniques successfully enhance T cell attack of some cancer cells. — Eurekaalert

Lifestyle-related risk factors are being cited, compounded by an inadequate number of treatment centres in the region

Without policies to stop the worrying spread of antimicrobial resistance, the mortality rate could be disturbing

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Adopt A Heritage During Paryatan Parv

Adopt A Heritage During Paryatan Parv

11th Day of Paryatan Parv Celebrated Across the Country

India has always been renowned for its rich cultural heritage. India's glorious past and cultural diversity make a potent blend which attracts millions of tourists each year to its tourist destinations. India's rich heritage is abundantly reflected in the form of numerous temples, palaces, monuments, forts etc. This has led to an increase in India's tourism particularly at the heritage sites. Tourism in India has registered a considerable growth in the last few years, ever since additional initiatives were taken by the Government of India to boost India's image as a destination for tourism.

Ministry of Tourism in close collaboration with Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) envisages providing world class tourist facilities at the various heritage sites / monuments and other tourist sites across the country under the "Adopt A Heritage" initiative.

The project would begin with ASI ticketed monuments and would be expanded to other cultural sites across India. It envisages entrusting of heritage sites/monuments and other tourist sites to private - public sector companies, or individuals for the "Monument Mitras" development of tourist friendly amenities and facilities.

DAY 11 OF PARYATAN PARV

Highlight of day eleven was an exhibition organized titled the Khadi March: Just Five Meters by Ministry of Culture and NGMA in Bengaluru . Exhibition titled Reflections of Man and Nature in the Paintings of Bireswar Sen has commenced from today in Delhi. Kolkata witnessed an exhibition titled Calcutta Ephemera – A selection of 40 digital prints of memorabilia of Old Calcutta.

India Tourism Varanasi in association with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has organized various programmes like , heritage walk from AsiGhat to HarishchandraGhat, Sensitization Programmes for Stakeholders, Quiz / Essay / Painting Competitions for Students ,Yoga Session from 6:00 am to 6:30 am in association with Subah-e-Banaras. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has organized Cultural Evening at Lal Khan's Tomb Varanasi and at Kapilvastu.

The State Government of Uttarakhand has organized BadrinathMahotsav at Chamoli and various

other programmes like Cleanliness Drive at ThandiSadak, Naini-jheel, Yoga Session at Flats, Mallital, Paragliding at Naukuchiatal, Folk Dance Performances at Tallital, Boating Competition at NainiJheel, Inter-School Dance & Drama performances and Quiz Competition, Food and Cultural Festiva at Mallital and a vibrant cultural evening showcasing rich heritage and folk dance and music of the State. District Level Cultural Programme organized by NYKS at Nainital.

The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has organized various events like Food Festivals, Nature Walks, Sensitization programme, at various places of the State. State Government of Kerala has organized Essay and Painting Competitions for Students at Idukki District. State Government of Rajasthan has organized Lantern Festival at Udaipur.

The State Government of Bihar has organized various programmes like Cleanliness Awareness, Cultural evening at Gaya. Youth Parliament : Lectures and Discussions on importance of Tourism and youth involvement organized by NYKS at Vaishali

Odisha Travel Bazar a travel industry event organized by the State Government of Odisha in collaboration with FICCI at Bhubaneshwar.

Ministry of DONER in association with State Tourism Children Festival at Energy Park, Story Telling, Photography Workshop, Adventure Tourism activities, Quiz Competition, Painting Competition for hearing and visually impaired students at Itanagar .

India Tourism Offices in association with IHMs and IITTM has organised various activities like Sensitization programmes, NukkadNatak, Heritage walks, Yoga Sessions Workshops for local public and stakeholders at locations across the country.





Sanjay Kumar/Tourism/15.10.2017

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Union Home Minister inaugurates West Zone Regional Training Centre of IB in Jodhpur**Union Home Minister inaugurates West Zone Regional Training Centre of IB in Jodhpur**

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the West Zone Regional Training Centre of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), in Jodhpur, Rajasthan today.

The Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Law & Justice and Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Shri P.P. Chaudhary, Forest & Environment Minister, Government of Rajasthan, Shri Gajendra Singh Khimsar, Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) Minister, Government of Rajasthan Shri Surendra Goyal and other dignitaries were also present on the occasion.

The purpose of the training centre is to strengthen and professionally empower the State Police Special Branches. The West Zone will include states of Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

While inaugurating the centre, the Union Home Minister expressed belief that this training centre will play an important role in enhancing the professional and behavioral skills of the police officers posted in west region. He said that intelligence plays an important role in the effective execution of internal security system of the country.

Shri Rajnath Singh said that IB has been playing an important role in tackling the challenges of terrorism, separatism and Left Wing Extremism. He appreciated the officials of IB for fulfilling their duties within limited resources. He also said that either Centre Government or IB alone cannot meet all challenges of internal security. Role of states' police is very important for internal security, he added. He also emphasized on coordination among special branch of state police, IB and police forces for meeting the challenges.

IB places lot of emphasis on continuous upgradation of professional skills of IB employees through regular In-service training courses. In the 21 month period between January, 2016 and September, 2017, a total of 12, 142 personnel were given training in intelligence and national security related subjects. Out of these, 462 were CAPF personnel and 1320 were State Police/Special Branch personnel. The remaining 10, 360 personnel were from IB.

KSD/NK/PK

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It is the duty of every person in the country to provide our children the opportunity and experience of being citizens of a better India, says President

It is the duty of every person in the country to provide our children the opportunity and experience of being citizens of a better India, says President

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, graced and addressed the closing ceremony of the Bharat Yatra for a 'Surakshit Bachpan-Surakshit Bharat' being organised by Shri Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (October 16, 2017).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that he believed that even if one child is unsafe, all society is guilty. Therefore, this Yatra for a 'Surakshit Bachpan-Surakshit Bharat' is a big step towards providing a safe environment for children in our nation. It is the duty of every person in the country to connect with the objectives of this Yatra and provide our children the opportunity and experience of being citizens of a better India.

The President said that Shri Kailash Satyarthi has been contributing towards the cause of human rights of children for almost 40 years. He said he had been made aware that more than 85,000 children have been rescued from atrocities by the efforts of Shri Satyarthi. They have received educational opportunities and have been helped to start their lives afresh.

The President said that there are policies and laws to ensure the rights of children in our country. However, these rights can only be ensured through the awareness and sensitivity of the entire society. Millions of people, from south to north, have been made aware of this issue through this Bharat Yatra.

The President said the country must come together to ensure every child receives education and achieves his or her full potential with freedom and dignity, while being healthy and secure. Shri Kailash Satyarthi's Foundation is always striving to achieve these objectives. He appreciated the Foundation and all those associated with it. He hoped that together we would build an India where there will be no scope for sexual abuse and human trafficking of children.

Speaking on the occasion, Nobel Prize Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi said the Bharat Yatra for 'Surakshit Bachpan-Surakshiti Bharat' was a non-violent war on sexual abuse, rape and trafficking of children. He said that the voices of children cannot be silent any more. On Diwali this year, he urged all to light a lamp in the name of protection of children.

On the occasion, the President also lit a symbolic Diya – 'Bal Suraksha Jyoti'. A photo exhibition was hosted at the venue and a short film that provided a glimpse of the Bharat Yatra was also screened.

AKT/SH/VK

[Click here for Text of President's speech](#)

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SAIL supplies special grade steel for INS Kiltan**SAIL supplies special grade steel for INS Kiltan**

Partnering nation's 'Make in India' drive, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has supplied defence grade DMR 249A steel plates for the indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvette INS – Kiltan which was commissioned today into Indian Navy. It is the third of the four indigenously built AWS stealth corvettes under project 28 (Kamorta class) to join Indian Navy after sister ships INS Kamorta and INS Kadmatt. SAIL's integrated functioning across all its Plants has again successfully supplied the required quantity of steel for this significant project. Steel Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh has congratulated SAIL for this feat.

DMR 249A is a low carbon micro-alloyed grade of steel with stringent toughness requirement at sub-zero temperature. SAIL developed this warship grade steel Plates for Indian Navy in collaboration with Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory, Hyderabad. SAIL has been supplying steel for Defence sector for a long time and its steel has been used in various other prestigious ship building projects. So far SAIL has supplied more than 50000 Metric Tonnes of DMR 249A defence grade steel for Naval Ships against various requirements.

YSK/MI

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Institutions like Harijan Sevak Sangh doing yeoman service and deserve a helping hand: Vice President

Institutions like Harijan Sevak Sangh doing yeoman service and deserve a helping hand: Vice President

Rededicates Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya

The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has said that Institutions like Harijan Sevak Sangh doing yeoman service and deserve a helping hand from philanthropists, corporate and other resource persons. He was addressing the gathering at an event to rededicate Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, unveiling the renovated Statue of Thakkar Bapa and unveil the plaque for pile foundation of Didi Nirmala Deshpande Nilayam, in Chennai, Tami Nadu today. The Governor of Tamil Nadu, Shri Banwarilal Purohit and the Minister for Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Tamil Nadu, Shri D. Jayakumar were present on the occasion.

The Vice President said that Didi Nirmala Deshpande, who headed this organization till her last breath, was a dedicated Gandhian, who set an example to thousands of people not only in India but all over the globe. He further said that she had participated in the Bhoodan Movement and undertook 40,000 km padayatra along the length and breadth of the country to popularize the message of Mahatma Gandhi's Gram Swaraj. She was a true messenger of peace and also strove for communal harmony, he added.

The Vice President expressed his happiness over unveiling the plaque of Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust for their kind contribution. He congratulated all the awardees who have extended their help to revive and continue this service on the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi.

The Vice President said that Harijan Sevak Sangh and its units are participating in a big way on the Swachh Bharath Programme launched by Prime Minister. He congratulated them for taking up this noble cause with enthusiasm and vigor.

Following is the text of Vice President's address:

"I deem it a privilege and an honour to be associated with the premier Gandhian Institution, the Harijan Sevak Sangh-- the constitution, rules and regulations for which were written by Mahatma Gandhi himself in 1932. I am particularly happy to rededicate Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya and unveil the plaque for pile foundation of Didi Nirmala Deshpande Nilayam today as it also happens to be the birthday of Didi Nirmala Deshpande, who was known to me for decades.

Didi Nirmala Deshpande, who headed the organization till her last breath, was a dedicated Gandhian, who set an example to thousands of people not only in India but all over the globe. She

had participated in the Bhoodan Movement and undertook a 40,000-km padayatra along the length and breadth of the country to popularize the message of Mahatma Gandhi's Gram Swaraj. She was a true messenger of peace and also strove for communal harmony.

I was quite distressed to know that Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya was ravaged by floods and went under eight feet of water in 2015 and was again damaged by the cyclone in 2016. It is all the more saddening that 10,000 books on Gandhiji were destroyed in the floods. However, I am happy to know that following an appeal several people have donated books on the Father of the Nation to the Vidyalaya. I am also happy to know that the Vidyalaya's workshop and machinery have been renovated to the maximum extent.

The statue of Thakkar Bapa, who was a close associate of Gandhiji, was also submerged and had been renovated. I deem it an honour to unveil the renovated statue. I am told that the statue was originally unveiled on November 29th, 1962.

It is indeed a matter of pride that stalwarts like Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri Rajagopalachari, Shri Venkataraman and Didi Nirmala Deshpande were associated with this Institution.

This Institution, which commenced as an Industrial School for Harijan boys in 1935, is now admitting students of all sections and integrating them as desired by Gandhiji, while giving priority to brothers and sisters of the community. I am delighted to know that this campus also has a school providing free education from pre-K.G to primary level, a working women's hostel providing a home away from home and a Gandhi public library.

Didi Nirmala Deshpande Nilayam of Harijan Sevak Sangh is being built to provide accommodation to girls pursuing higher education. I am glad to know that the Sangh is helping by providing them free boarding and educational facilities with the support of kind-hearted, philanthropic persons and organizations. For a few students, boarding grant is being given by the Government of Tamil Nadu. I am told that the building is planned to be completed by 2020 to provide accommodation to more than 200 girls.

I understand that there is a great demand for this hostel from the girls hailing from rural areas with a difficult socio-economic background.

I am told that the present hostel building is in a highly dilapidated condition and gets flooded even during moderate rains. Under the leadership of Prof. Shankar Kumar Sanyal, the new building project has commenced.

It gives me great pleasure to know that Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust has initiated the new building construction by sponsoring the pile foundation costing 65 lakhs. I congratulate them and I am sure that this will serve hundreds and thousands of girls in the years to come. And I am glad to unveil the plaque of Shree Geeta Bhavan Trust for their kind contribution.

I congratulate all the awardees who have extended their help to revive and continue this service on the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi .

I am told that the proposals of both Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya and Harijan Sevak Sangh as part of CSR initiatives are under consideration of various public and private sector companies like Neyveli Lignite Corporation, ONGC, Coal India, LIC Golden Jubilee Fund, Asian Paints, RCC DIVA [Rajashtan Association], Lions Club and others. I am sure these organizations will take up the projects to help Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya and Harijan Sewak Sangh.

As Mahatma Gandhi said "Service to humanity is Service to God". These institutions have been doing yeoman service and deserve a helping hand from philanthropists, corporate and other resource persons.

I also know that Harijan Sevak Sangh and its units are participating in a big way on the Swachh Bharath Programme launched by Prime Minister. I congratulate them for taking up this noble cause with enthusiasm and vigor.

Finally as an associate of Didi Nirmala Deshpande, I appeal to one and all to extend a helping hand to this great and noble institution for which Gandhiji himself has written the constitution.

Thank you."

KSD/BK

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Ministry WCD launches campaign on 'women for women': #IamThatWoman

Ministry WCD launches campaign on 'women for women': #IamThatWoman

In an attempt to end Gender bias in women against women, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is undertaking an online campaign **#IamThatWoman**.

Through the campaign, the Ministry seeks to highlight the various aspects of women standing 'by' and 'for' women. Ministry of WCD has urged people to shun stereotypes associated with women harming other women. Twitter and Facebook users have been encouraged to tag and share stories of women helping women with a photograph and post online with the hashtag #IamThatWoman.

Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi said, "When a woman has the support of her womanhood, she can be unstoppable. Through this campaign, we aim to shed light on the enormous contributions made by women for women. A mother-in-law can be her daughter-in-law's best companion. It is time we did away with the 'in-law' in 'daughter-in-law'. A woman manager can easily empathise with her female juniors and help her climb the ladder of success. Likewise, a landlady's affection towards a female tenant makes a world of difference in making the young girl feel at home, away from home. Join the '#IamThatWoman' campaign and spread the message that a woman can move mountains for another woman."

Posts can be made on the links given below:

Twitter Minister: @ManekaGandhiBJP;

Twitter Ministry: @MinistryWCD;

Facebook Minister: @ManekaGandhiOfficial;

Facebook Ministry: @MinistryWCD

NW/SK/UD

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Jaipur and Srinagar Airports rated Best Airports in the World in 2-5 million Passenger category in ACI-ASQ Survey

Jaipur and Srinagar Airports rated Best Airports in the World in 2-5 million Passenger category in ACI-ASQ Survey

The Jaipur and Srinagar Airport got First and Second rank respectively in the category of 2-5 million passengers in ACI-ASQ Survey. Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Chairman, Airports Authority of India along with his team received the ACI-ASQ Award at a function held in Mauritius on 17th October 2017. The Chairman congratulated both APDs for their stupendous achievement and challenged more AAI airports to compete and win at ACI-ASQ Awards in their respective categories in future.

This is for the second consecutive time that Jaipur Airport has been rated the Best Airport in the World in the traffic volume of 2 to 5 million passengers per year. Jaipur was ranked as the Best Airport in the World catering to a traffic volume of 2 to 5 million passengers per year in 2016 also.

The Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards are the aviation industry's most prestigious accolades. The awards recognize the airports which have achieved the highest passenger satisfaction ratings in the ASQ Survey - the world's benchmark measure of airport excellence. It is the only worldwide programme to survey passengers at the airports on their day of travel. Every year, the programme delivers some 600,000 individual surveys in 41 languages in 84 countries. It measures passengers' views on 34 key performance indicators, including airport access, check-in, security screening, restrooms, stores and restaurants. Each airport uses the exact same survey, creating an industry database that allows airports to compare themselves to other airports around the world. The ASQ programme also has a feature that facilitates sharing of best practices among airport operators.



(from Left to Right) Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Chairman, AAI with ACI official receiving the award of Best Airport along with Mr. J.S. Balhara, APD, Jaipur Airport accompanied by Mr. I.N. Murthy, Member (Operations), AAI

NP/MS

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New species of large gecko discovered

A photo of the Kanger valley rock gecko *Hemidactylus kangerensis* .Zeeshan Mirza

Geckos or house lizards usually evoke in us varying degrees of disdain. But a team of scientists' fascination for these reptiles led them to discover a new species from the Eastern Ghats. The Kanger valley rock gecko *Hemidactylus kangerensis* is the newest addition to India's lizard species.

According to a paper published in the taxonomic journal *Comptes Rendus Biologies* on Wednesday, researchers, led by Zeeshan Mirza of the National Centre for Biological Sciences, discovered the gecko from Chhattisgarh's Kanger Ghati National Park. Though named after this park, the species is also found in Jagdalpur and Sukma in Chhattisgarh and in Khamman in the adjoining State of Telangana, which are part of the Eastern Ghats.

Growing to over eight inches long, the adult Kanger valley rock gecko is fairly large. The researchers found them in abandoned houses in the national park and juveniles on termite mounds and tree trunks. Though several researchers and reptile buffs had spotted the species before, they had mistaken it for the commonly-found rock gecko which it resembles.

The distinct black-bordered beige bands that the new species sports right from its neck to its tail tip and specific scales on its thighs (which are visible only on closer inspection) set the Kanger valley rock gecko apart from the commonly-found rock gecko.

According to the researchers, the discovery highlights the need for dedicated surveys across the Eastern Ghats, where biodiversity has not been quantified too well. Most areas here also need protection from various anthropogenic pressures, they add.

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What is Dutch disease in economics?

This refers to the phenomenon wherein countries that are rich in natural resources witness uneven growth across sectors. According to the thesis, when resource-rich countries export their resources to the rest of the world, it causes the exchange rate of their currency to appreciate significantly; this, in turn, affects other sectors in the country by discouraging their exports while encouraging the import of cheaper alternatives. The term was coined by *The Economist* in 1977 to describe the decline of the manufacturing industry in the Netherlands. The idea, however, was first proposed by economists Peter Neary and Max Corden in a paper published in 1982.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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English rendering of PM's speech at foundation stone laying ceremony of Kedarpuri
Reconstruction Projects in Kedarnath, Uttarakhand

**English rendering of PM's speech at foundation stone laying ceremony of Kedarpuri
Reconstruction Projects in Kedarnath, Uttarakhand**

Join me chanting in full strength," Jay Jay Kedar".

My best wishes to all the brothers and sisters in the divine land of Uttarakhand; I have just one desire, may Baba Kedar continue to bless everyone.

The auspicious festival of Deepavali was celebrated in the country and across the world only yesterday. I convey my best wishes to all the brothers and sisters in the country and around the world for this auspicious festival from this holy land of Kedarnath.

There are some states like Gujarat where the new year starts today. Greetings on the occasion of the new year; many congratulations! I convey my best wishes to all those families around the world who begin their new year today. Greetings to all of you on the occasion of new year. Happy new year! Once again Baba has summoned me. Once again I have reached here at the feet of the lord. Once again I got the opportunity to meet the old acquaintances. Today, they again reminded me what they would have heard of me.

This Garuda Chatti, at one point of time I got an opportunity to spend several years of my life here. But, perhaps, it was not the Lord's will that I spend my whole life at his feet and that's why he sent me back. Perhaps the Lord thought, why should I serve just one god as there are 1.25 billion gods in the country to serve. There is a saying that service to the people is just the same as the service to God. And that is why the service to 1.25 billion people is equal to the service of the Lord, it is equal to the service of Badri Vishal, it is equal to the service to Mandakini and it is equal to service to mother Ganges. And that is why once again after making a solemn pledge with new energy from here and with the blessings of Bhole Baba, with a clean mind and concrete determination every Indian makes a solemn pledge to take the country to the top of the world by 2022, the 75th anniversary of India's independence.

With this solemn pledge, at the outset I pay my tributes to all those people who lost their lives in this holy land due to the natural calamity. They came from all the states. At that time I was chief minister of a state and I had no right to encroach upon the work of other states. I can never think of doing that thing. However, I could not help myself. Whether I was right or wrong, this will be decided by the history. But I reached out to those victims and I came here.

And I made a request to the government at that time that please allow the Gujarat government to carry out the work of rebuilding Kedarnath and I will try to meet the expectations of my fellow countrymen. We were sitting in a room, the then chief minister of the state agreed, all the officers also agreed and they said that Modi Ji it will be good if Gujarat took the responsibility. And I expressed my pledge before the media after coming out of the meeting. The news flashed on TV that Modi was now taking the responsibility of rebuilding Kedarnath. I don't know what kind of upheaval it created in Delhi. Within an hour such a pressure was built on the state government that it had to announce that it did not need help of Gujarat to deal with the issue. It's fine, if the people sitting in Delhi were feeling problem then why should I trouble anyone? I stepped back. However, perhaps the lord had decided then that this work will be done by one of his sons.

And when Bhartiya Janta Party's government was formed here and the people of Uttarakhand overwhelmingly supported us then it strengthened my belief that now the Lord has decided that I would have to finish this task and that is why I have come back here before the closure of the temple's doors and once again I make a pledga at the Lord's feet. Today the foundation is being

laid for a grand redevelopment work within the stipulated time. What kind of pilgrim centre it should be, what kind of arrangements should be made for the priests, how to take care of all the needs of the priests, how to make arrangements for a more comfortable life for them that is bigger than the hardships suffered by them, how to make arrangements for it? The roadmap for redevelopment has been prepared while keeping all these in mind. I myself took the meetings, I was taking care of everything; what kind of design it will be? What will be the architecture? How the rebuilding work will be carried out while following the architecture of our temples and also following all those rules and regulations? The roadmap for its development has been prepared keeping all these things in the mind.

In a way, the houses that will be given to the priests, they will be three-in-one. The arrangement for serving the travelers should be made on the ground floor, all such arrangements will be made there. They themselves will stay on the first floor and their guests and personal guests will stay on the floors above that level. Round the clock electricity and water will be provided and all the arrangements for cleanliness will be ensured and this entire road will be made very wide. And then a separate facility will be created for the priests. We will also create facilities for buying worship related stuff, for buying pilgrimage related stuff for a very large number of travelers if they need to buy something after coming here; we will have that facility. We will make all the arrangements be it a post office or be it a bank or facility of telephones and also the facilities for using computers.

Today, five projects are starting here. First, as I just said, the widening of this road, it will be made of RCC and it will have all the modern facilities. As soon as a traveler starts his journey, he will get to listen the music being played at the banks of Mandakini, he will walk towards this side while listening that music lost in the devotion.

The work of constructing a wall on the bank of Mandakini will be done. In a way it is related to providing the seating facility to the travelers, this kind of arrangements should be there so that they can hear the sound of the flowing river. As I just said, the approach road, such an approach road will be constructed that will make it very grand, will make it look like divine. And its lighting will be similar to the lighting arrangement made at the retaining wall on the bank of river Mandakini. And one more embankment will be constructed because the power of the source of water can be experienced on both the sides. So on the one side is mother Saraswati; so the retaining wall and embankment for it will also be constructed, it will be done. And a lot of money will also be spent on that thing.

And one more thing. A boy who was born 2500 years ago in Kerala's Kagadi –he left home at the age of 7 and wanders through Himachal, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari reaches the land of mother Bharti; who on the Tilak on his forehead carries the soil of all the regions on his forehead comes to Kedar. He also completes his life here. The Adi Shankaracharya, whose philosophy has continued to inspire India for hundreds of years, whose sepulcher; that too was destroyed in this calamity. The design work for that structure is ongoing. I invite devoutness and architecture that such a grand place should be built for Adi Shankar, such a grand sepulcher should be built for him; and it should be built in such a manner that people should not feel that it is separate from Kedar. But the travelers should feel a kind of spiritual awakening along with the tradition of that great mortification as soon as they reach near the Adi Shankar. The work is ongoing in that direction to create such a structure. Today, the foundation is being laid for that thing also.

I'm aware that money will be required but I have full confidence that once Indian pilgrims decide this thing with a sense of devotion then it is my belief that this country will not fall short in providing the funds for the kind of redevelopment work as desired by the pilgrims. And I also invite the state governments of the country to participate in this thing. I would also invite the people from industry, business people to lend their support for the corporate social responsibility.

I'm grateful to JSW which has decided to take the responsibility for the initial work. But different kind of dreams keep coming into my mind, new and newer things keep getting added into them

therefore I would also request the people for this thing and also for the CSR.

When this kind of massive fund will be invested here, massive work for creating infrastructure will be carried out here then all the rules related to environment will be followed in that thing. The place will be rebuilt as per the interest, as per the nature and tendency of this place. It will be modern but its soul will be the same that has been preserved by the land of Kedar inside it for hundreds of years; this kind of redevelopment work will be done here.

When I had come here at the time of opening of the doors of the temple I had the intention of sending a message to the country that we should get out of the shadow of that calamity. Sometimes we think at the time of starting the journey whether facilities have now been created there or not? Can we reach there or not? And that is why the number of pilgrims had come down. However, I'm happy that this time more than 4.5 lakh pilgrims have come to the feet of the lord in such a short span of time. And once again this pilgrimage has been revived. And you can write it down that the next year this number will not be less than 10 lakh because people's trust has been restored, the message has been conveyed as the entire country saw that on TV and the message will be conveyed once more due to today's programme and when the doors will be opened again, when the journey will start again then once again the plenty of pilgrimage will be undertaken with the same strength. Once again Uttarakhand which is our divine land, which is the land of our brave-hearts; Uttarakhand, there cannot be a better place to express the devotion of my brave mothers.

In our country, Himalaya has a lot of unique features. There is so much potential for development and every region of Himalaya has a different spirit in it. If we go to Sringeri, then we have a different experience of Himalaya; and we experience another thing if we go to Mata Vaishno Devi or Amarnath. The same Himalaya is in Himachal Pradesh, but if we go to Shimla, Kullu, Manali then we experience something different but if we come to the land of Uttarakhand in the lap of the same Himalaya then we experience a spiritual awakening. The same Himalaya, but we experience a different thing when we go to Darjeeling and we experience different thing when we go to Sikkim. You can imagine the same Himalayas, the same mountains, the same snow but we experience different spirit in different regions.

I'm a person who has wandered a lot in the lap of Himalayas. I have experienced the spirit of every region distinctively. And that is why I'm able to talk about this thing myself. I don't know what can be weighed in which manner in a science laboratory but the way I have experienced the Himalaya; that Himalaya, if anyone has interest in flora and fauna of this place then a very wide landscape is available to him to keep discovering new things throughout his life. If someone has interest in adventure then Himalayas invite every adventurer of the world. If someone has interest in herbs and herbal medicine of this place then such natural gems have been present in every single lap of Himalaya that it can make someone feel a new spirit and the kind of usage of herbal medicine are there that the rural people of this place are being aware of. And I have seen that this scorpion herb, if a scorpion stings by chance then a villager would immediately ask not to cry and use this herb or apply that herb and it will give relief. And he puts a leaf on it and it provides relief. And both of them grow together. What a wonderful arrangement has been made by the lord. And that is why the deeper we dwell into these things; and that is why the government of India has started a massive research work in Dehradun on our natural assets, on the assets of Himalaya, this research is going to be of great use in the future.

In the entire world, I see a huge potential for organic farming in the lap of our Himalaya. Sikkim is a small state. It has a population of just 6-7 lakh people but nearly 12-15 lakh tourists visit the state and it also has problem of road connectivity and it doesn't have an airport either. But now I'm constructing it and it will be constructed soon. But despite that tourists come in such a large numbers. Sikkim has converted the entire state into an organic state. It continuously worked for 10-12 years as per the international parameters. The entire Himalayan region should be freed from the use of chemical fertilisers, all the Himalayan states should stop using chemicals and should

use herbal compost. If we continue to work for the next 10-12 years with patience then this is the power of organic farming that the world will be ready to pay one dollar for the same agricultural produce of yours that now just fetches one rupee.

I invite Uttarakhand, I call upon the government of Uttarakhand and the officers of Uttarakhand to take up this task and you should move ahead with the dream to turn Uttarakhand into an organic state, you should set a target for 2022 and start working on it from today itself. It may take 10 years to get the certification as it has its own rules. But once you decide this thing that you will create public awareness, you will bring about the change; you can imagine that today the entire world is moving towards holistic health care and only then we can move our agriculture produce away from the world of chemicals and then what a great service it will be to the mankind. We also need to strengthen this power of Himalayas.

There is plenty of scope for tourism but it should not jeopardize spiritual strength of this land even a bit and tourism can be simultaneously developed along with it. We can develop new and newer areas so that the nature is protected, environment is protected and the devotion for the god too has been maintained.

There is an old saying in the hills that hills have their unique features. The youth and water of hills never come to the use of the hills. We have taken up the task to change this saying. The youth of the hills and the water from the hills should be used here. The electricity should be generated from the hill water and the same water should be used for adventure tourism and water sports. And new tourist destinations should be developed on the basis of the same water that has never been used for the hills and that the same water should become capable of inviting the youth from all over the world and it should become useful for the hills. And the youth those who used to get downs from the hills and go to the plains in search of livelihood, we should create such opportunities in the hills that these youth will not have to leave the hills. The government of India is taking one step after another so that the youth of the hills should become useful for the hills.

The government of Uttarakhand has taken several important decisions, several important initiatives in such a short span of time and it's the result of these things that today the development is scaling new heights; a new confidence is being generated.

People of Uttarakhand have enough strength and sense of discipline.. There is not a single family which does not have someone in the armed forces. There is not a single village where there will not be 250-300 retired armed forces personnel. And when ex-servicemen are present in such a large number then the discipline of that area becomes commendable. And this discipline is a big support, a big strength for the tourists. And we should publicise this thing, we should create scheme for this purpose. We should create a system for using the experience of ex-servicemen for instilling confidence in the tourists which can become a big source of support for us and others. There is an immense potential and development of Uttarakhand by exploiting that potential should be done so that Uttarakhand becomes the biggest attraction in the country, so that it becomes the most favored tourist destination so that for tourists it is: Uttarakhand, for adventure it is: Uttarakhand, for travelers it should be Uttarakhand, for adventure it should be Uttarakhand, for the nature and for those people who have a desire to stay in the lap of nature it should be Uttarakhand, for those who conduct research and develop things, for them it should be Uttarakhand.

I invite all of you to start a new account on these days of Diwali and the beginning of new year. In our tradition, the entire country closes its books of accounts on Diwali and starts new books of accounts, so a new book of account of development starts today. We will move ahead to take this development journey to new heights. Even today, I have given some suggestions. The state government will go through them one more time and I will meet them again in a month or two. I will lay emphasis on those other things that I have in my mind for this area. But it is our collective responsibility to protect the environment. It is our collective responsibility to protect the nature. I

can guarantee this thing that if we protect the environment then it will protect us. I would like to assure you that if we protect the nature then it will protect us. The history of hundreds of years is a testimony to the fact that whenever, wherever the nature has been protected no problem was created there due to the nature. Wherever the environment has been protected no problem was created there due to the environment. And it is that land from where we can provide that strength to the people.

We took upon us the task of providing gas connections to the poorest of the poor under the Pradhanmantri Ujjwala Scheme to set them free from using the wooden stoves, to stop logging of the forests. It was a massive campaign for protection of environment. The government of India and Uttarakhand government have taken it forward in a significant manner by working together.

Now we have taken upon us another task. Today, there are four crore families in the country that don't have electric bulb in their houses. Even today they have been condemned to lead the life of 18th or 19th century. This is the 21st century and whether the poorest of the poor family should have an electric bulb or not? Whether electricity should be provided to that poor family or not whose kids want to study in the night? If a poor too wants his wheat or grain to be milled in a wheat grinder then why should he has to go 10 kilometers, instead of that if there is electricity operated grain mill in his village then the work of milling of wheat and millet will be done in the village or not? In order to bring about change in the lives of poor, I have taken upon this task on myself to provide electricity connection to 4 crore poor households under the Pradhanmantri Saubhagya scheme. There are thousands of families in Uttarakhand those are yet to get electricity connection.

I call upon the government of Uttarakhand please adopt this scheme of the government of India. And there should be a competition among the states that which one of them will complete the Saubhagya Scheme before others? Which state will complete the Ujjwala scheme before others? Which state promotes the tourism to the maximum possible extent? In the coming time there should be a healthy competition among the states for different sectors of development. I call upon all the Himalayan states for a competition. Let's have a healthy competition with each other and take the development to new heights.

I would also like to congratulate Uttarakhand for this thing – toilets, freedom from open defecation; some days ago I was told that Uttarakhand has completed the work of making its rural areas free from open defecation. Now no one has to go to defecate in open in villages of the state. In cities, the work is ongoing and Uttarakhand is getting ready to completely become open defecation free including cities.

I congratulate all of you for providing the momentum to this work so far. But I'd like to urge you people to run this scheme under the mission mode. Nobody should be compelled to relieve himself in open area in the cities as well.

I had visited Uttar Pradesh some days ago. Yogi Ji's government has taken up the responsibility of Uttar Pradesh. Now they have changed the name of toilets. Now they no longer call a toilet - toilet, they don't call it Sandas, they have named toilet as Izzatghar (the place of honor).

I think those mothers and sisters who have been compelled to relieve themselves in open they fully understand the meaning of this word – Izzatghar. We should also run a campaign for building these Izzatghars. Toilets are in themselves a great facility for restoring the honor of mothers and sisters. It provides a great service to their health as well. And recently Unicef has conducted a survey of 10,000 villages in India. The survey covered both kind of houses that had toilets and that didn't have toilets. It covered those villages which were aware about the toilets and also those villages which were not aware; Unicef studied all those villages. It's an organ of United Nations and they found that different kind of diseases that afflict the household due to lack of toilet, and due to the disease if the kid falls ill then mother gets busy, father gets busy in tending the kid; the

kid can't go to school and father can't go out for work; and if the mother falls sick then the entire family falls sick and if the wage earner of that house falls sick then the income of that family stops and the entire family starves. After taking into account all these things, they conducted this survey that if there is no toilet in the household then what are the expenses on diseases and what are the expenses when a toilet has been constructed. And Unicef has calculated that construction of toilet saves Rs. 50 thousand of a poor family on diseases. You just imagine if a family is able to save Rs. 50 thousand annually then what kind of strength it will provide to that family.

A toilet can change lives and that is why I have to run a campaign to construct toilets across the country with the same commitment with which I will have to carry out rebuilding work of Kedarnath Dham of the Lord only then my country will move ahead. We should march with the same commitment.

Once again I welcome the government of Uttarakhand, I thank them. And all the pilgrims from across the country who come on the pilgrimage of Char Dham Yatra, and those who are aware that we have started construction work for the new roads to connect the four pilgrimage centres at a cost of Rs. 12,000 crore; we have started the work on providing modern connectivity.

So now this Kedarnath Dham will be constructed in this manner. My Kedarnath will become grand, it will become divine and it will become a good source of inspiration. It is becoming a source of devotion for 1.25 billion countrymen. Every son has a desire to once take his old parents on the pilgrimage of Char Dham.

Today, this government is carrying out that work that is dream of 1.25 billion countrymen; it has been working to realise those dreams. Although this work is being executed on the land of Uttarakhand but it is being done for every single Indian. And I'm having a feeling of extreme divine satisfaction in my life while starting that work before you people.

I convey my good wishes to all you. I once again bow down to Bhole Baba (the lord Shiva). And I once again call upon you to join me chanting with your full strength Jay Jay Baba Bhole, Jay Jay Baba Bhole,

Jay Jay Baba Bhole, Jay Jay Baba Bhole.

Thank you very much.

AKT/AK/KT/DG/AK

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Demystifying Science: What is a Visual Turing Test?

A Turing Test, named for mathematician Alan Turing, centres on the idea that if a computer was able to trick a human into believing that it was human, then the machine was deemed to be “intelligent” or indistinguishable from people. But passing a ‘Visual’ Turing Test involves computers being able to recognise objects in photographs and other images and “understanding” the relationships or implied activities between them. Researchers have recently devised a method of evaluating how well computers perform at that task. Researchers from Brown and Johns Hopkins Universities, U.S. have come up with a new way to evaluate how well computers can divine information from images.

In an apparent attempt to crack down on revenge porn, Twitter has introduced a new policy that states that no one can post or share “intimate photos

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India's Space mission to Moon 'Chandrayaan- II' in 2018: Dr Jitendra Singh**India's Space mission to Moon 'Chandrayaan- II' in 2018: Dr Jitendra Singh**

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh has said that India's Space Mission to Moon, "Chandrayaan-II", will take place in 2018, most likely in the first quarter of the year.

Addressing the inaugural session of the 5-day Asian Conference on Remote Sensing here today, Dr Jitendra Singh said that India has today emerged as the world's frontline nation in the field of Space Technology. This, he said, is in itself a glorious vindication of the dream seen by the founding fathers of India's Space Programme, like Vikram Sarabhai and Satish Dhawan.

Giving credit to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for giving fresh impetus to Space Research, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it was during the last three years that India could launch a South Asian Satellite which would be also providing inputs and benefits to the neighbouring countries. In addition, he said, the biggest achievement in the last over three years is that the Prime Minister personally intervened to arrange a brainstorming of Space Scientists with each of the different Ministries and Departments in Government of India to promote the application of Space Technology in infrastructure and development works. In this context, he referred to widespread application of Space Technology in carrying out the Urban Development programmes, including Smart City programmes, the use of Space Technology for geo-tagging of MGNREGA and the assistance from ISRO for the manning of Railway crossings.

Chairman ISRO, Shri Kiran Kumar, who was the Guest of Honour on the occasion, spoke about the various achievements of India's Space capability in the field of Disaster Management. Veteran Space Scientist and President of the Indian Association of Remote Sensing, Dr Shailesh Nayak also spoke on the occasion. At the event, awards were presented to outstanding Space scientists under different categories. The 5-day conference is being attended by over 500 eminent foreign delegates and some of the world's most distinguished faculty in the field of Space Science.

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India's First Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra for Skilling in Smart Cities**India's First Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra for Skilling in Smart Cities****Launched under Skill India Mission in collaboration with NDMC**

To bring momentum in skilling through collaborative efforts, the Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh along with Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan here today inaugurated India's first Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) for Skilling in Smart Cities, in collaboration with New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). The ministers also laid the foundation for a Skill Development Centre at Moti Bagh and a Centre of Excellence at Dharam Marg, New Delhi.

Affirming synergies with the Government of India's flagship programs, the new skill development centres underscore the commitment of the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Housing (MUHA) and the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to support skilling in smart cities. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), an executive arm of MSDE, has collaborated with New Delhi Municipal Council Smart City Limited (NDMCSCL) to extend cooperation for setting up of PMKK Centres for Smart Cities, to provide skill training for unemployed youth through its short-term training (STT) module and contribute to the capacity building of municipal employees through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program.

The event also had graceful presence of dignitaries such as Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, New Delhi; Shri Naresh Kumar, Chairman, NDMC; Shri Karan Singh Tanwar, Vice – Chairman, NDMC; Shri Surender Singh, MLA & Member, NDMC and other senior officials from MUHA, MSDE, NSDC and NDMC.

Inaugurating the skill development centres, Shri Rajnath Singh said, "India which has the privilege of being a young nation, would gain from this demographic dividend to become a superpower and be amongst the top three counties in the world by 2030. The key to reach this milestone is by investing in our youth and making them skilled." Shri Rajnath Singh added, "A skilled person gets respect, recognition and honor due to his hard work. I strongly believe that these skill development centres would aspire youth to take up vocational training to make themselves self-reliant."

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said, "Collaboration is the need of

the hour to support inclusive and sustainable development in the country. Today's event signifies integration and convergence approach towards Respected Prime Minister's two most ambitious projects – the Skill India Mission and the Smart City Mission. Skilled workforce is required for effective development of any big or small project. We aim for recognition and respect to this workforce through skill training.”

Special Guest at the event Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, MP Lok Sabha said, “I would like to applaud the efforts of both the ministries and its nodal agencies NSDC and NDMC for pioneering steps to bring in equitable growth and development. I am confident that such centers would deliver quality by extending access to trained youth, which would catalyse the creation of smart cities in the country.”

President, NDMC Shri Naresh Kumar said, "National Skill Mission will prove to be a milestone for the developed India. NDMC supports inclusive development by introducing best practices in skilling and is determined to leave no stone unturned to achieve the mission”.

The newly inaugurated Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra leverages NDMC infrastructure for skilling initiatives. Located at Mandir Marg, New Delhi, the NDMC-PMKK Centre for Skilling in Smart Cities is an exemplary heritage building of approx. 30,000 sq.ft., with a capacity of skilling 4,000 youth annually. Catering to healthcare and solar energy sectors, the centre will be managed by one of NSDC's affiliated training partners - Orion Edutech, which has an impeccable record of training nearly 3 lakh candidates through its network of over 275 skill development centres across the country. On this occasion, a solar-power lab powered by Schneider Electric was also inaugurated.

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Expressway built with SAIL steel lands Air Force's super hercules transport aircraft

Expressway built with SAIL steel lands Air Force's super hercules transport aircraft

Steel Authority of India (SAIL) supplied 33500 metric tonnes of steel for the construction of the Agra - Lucknow expressway which facilitated the touch-and-go landing of planes of the Indian Air Force, today. SAIL had primarily supplied long products consisting of earthquake resistant TMT bars for this project. SAIL's branded earthquake resistant EQR TMT Bars have superior qualities and come in various customized specifications.

IAF conducted the touch and go landings on a stretch of the expressway today, starting with a 35,000-kg C-130J Super Hercules aircraft. This is the first time that the C-130J transport aircraft joined the Indian Air Force's special drill to land planes on the expressway. The IAF had earlier landed its Mirage 2000 and Sukhoi-30MKI fighter jets on the Yamuna Expressway and the Lucknow-Agra Expressway. Keeping with the spirit of SAIL's tagline, 'There's a little bit of SAIL in everybody's life', the Company is increasingly focusing to produce world-class steel products befitting the requirements of every segment and market including the specific needs of rural and urban areas to meeting the necessities of niche segments like defence sector too. SAIL steel has been integral in projects of national importance spanning from Sardar Sarovar Dam, Dhola-Sadiya bridge, Chenani-Nashri tunnel to various metro projects, power plants and upcoming Statue of Unity at Gujarat. YSK/MI

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Come 2019, the kilogram will get a new measure

In 2019, the kilogram will get more accurate. For 125 years, a salt-shaker-sized cylinder housed at the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), Paris and weighing exactly a kilogram served as the definition of the measure. India's National Physical Laboratory too has a replica of this, since 1957, and it has served as the reference for a variety of industries to keep their weights accurate.

However an international conference of heads of metrology institutes decided, on October 19 in Sevres, France, that the kilogram will no longer be pegged to this cylinder made of 90% platinum and 10% iridium.

In the last 60 years, several standard units — the second, metre, ampere, Kelvin, mole, candela and, the kilogram — have all ceased to be defined by physical objects.

One metre, for instance, was a platinum-iridium bar of that measure. In 1960, the metre was defined as the distance travelled by light in vacuum in $1/299,792,458$ seconds.

No more artefacts

In essence, the units were freed from being defined on the basis of artefacts, as these being objects, were subject to wear and tear and sources of eventual error. The new artefacts, according to the International Committee for Weights and Measures, ought to derive from the constants of nature that are all interdependent.

These include constants such as the Planck constant — the ratio of the electromagnetic radiation from a photon to its frequency — and the charge of an electron.

Until this month, the kilogram was the only one among the units still pegged to a real object and now — after a formal vote in 2018 — the world is set to redefine the kilogram in terms of the Planck constant, the second and the metre.

Kibble balance

The undoing of the cylinder has been the Kibble balance.

It is a set of scales, which uses the force produced by a current-carrying wire in a magnetic field to balance the weight of a mass.

Through this, accurate measures of the Planck constant — the fulcrum of several of the standard units — can be made.

“At the level of large objects nothing changes,” said Dinesh Aswal, Director, NPL and India's representative at the conference, “But when measures at the level of micrograms need to be made such as in preparing drugs, these errors hugely matter.”

It shows better energy efficiency than digital models

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What is 'pump and dump' in Finance?

This refers to a form of financial manipulation where investors in a stock, or any other financial security, try to temporarily increase its price in order to sell their holdings at a favourable price. Stock manipulators usually bring about a sharp spike in the price of the targeted stock by spreading exaggerated news that is favourable to the stock. It is usually targeted at small and mid-cap stocks which have low liquidity, and so can be influenced more easily by manipulators. Even large-cap stocks, however, can be manipulated temporarily by bigger investors wanting to make a quick buck. Pump and dump schemes have been outlawed in markets across the world.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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'Fish-lizard' fossil from Kutch is a Jurassic first

Ancient resident The ichthyosaur fossil discovered in the arid region of Gujarat.

A near-complete Jurassic-era fossil of an intriguing animal that looks like a mashup of a dolphin and lizard has been unearthed in Kutch, Gujarat.

Ichthyosaurs or 'fish-lizards' in Greek were large reptiles that lived at the same time as dinosaurs. While many ichthyosaur fossils have been found in North America and Europe, the fossil record in the Southern Hemisphere has mostly been limited to South America and Australia.

Guntupalli Prasad, a geologist at the University of Delhi, said when a fossil bone from the animal's skeleton was first found by an Indo-German research team in Kutch in 2016, they suspected it to belong to a dinosaur. "But the bone was too long and later the whole skeleton was unearthed. It's the first Jurassic ichthyosaur find in India," he told *The Hindu*.

The 5.5 metre-long skeleton is thought to belong to the Ophthalmosauridae family, which lived likely between 165 and 90 million years ago, when the arid Kutch was a sea. The remains were found among fossils of ammonites and squid-like belemnites, and the way the creature's teeth were worn out suggest it ate animals with thick, bony coverings, the team of scientists report in the October 25 edition of *PLOS ONE*.

Dr. Prasad, one of the authors of the report, notes: "This also throws light on the evolution and diversity of ichthyosaurs in the Indo-Madagascan region of the former Gondwanaland and India's biological connectivity with other continents in the Jurassic."

Sparse evidence

Earlier too researchers have discovered evidence of ichthyosaurs in prehistoric India. Remnants were reported from Ariyalur in Tamil Nadu in 2016 but these were only fossils of teeth and part of the vertebra. In Kutch, the team reported the finding of vertebral column, ribs, neural spines and a part of the snout.

A study of nearly 300 people living in different parts of India found that nine single-base variants (single-nucleotide polymorphisms or SNPs) account

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What is 'taylor rule' in Economics?

This refers to a rule used by central banks to determine the right interest rate for the economy based on changes in price inflation and other economic conditions. It was proposed by American economist John Taylor as a tool to conduct rules-based monetary policy. The Taylor rule is often proposed as a solution to the problem of discretion involved in the framing of monetary policy due to the influence of political populism. It provides a formula to determine how much a central bank should target an increase or decrease in interest rates depending on the economy's health.

The new U.S. Fed Chairman is unlikely to opt for policies that might upset the President's plan

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Shri Giriraj Singh launches MSME Delayed Payment Portal – MSME Samadhaan

Shri Giriraj Singh launches MSME Delayed Payment Portal – MSME Samadhaan

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Shri Giriraj Singh launched MSME Delayed Payment Portal – MSME Samadhaan (<http://msefc.msme.gov.in>) here today, empowering micro and small entrepreneurs across the country to directly register their cases relating to delayed payments by Central Ministries/Departments/CPSEs/State Governments. Shri Arun Kumar Panda, Secretary, Ministry of MSME along with other dignitaries and senior officials from the Ministry were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Giriraj Singh said that the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 contains provisions to deal with cases of delayed payment to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs). As per the provisions, the buyer is liable to pay compound interest with monthly rests to the supplier on the amount at three times of the bank rate notified by Reserve Bank in case he does not make payment to the supplier for the supplies of goods or services within 45 days of the day of acceptance of the goods/service or the deemed day of acceptance.

Background:

The Portal will give information about the pending payment of MSEs with individual CPSEs / Central Ministries, State Governments, etc. The CEO of PSEs and the Secretary of the Ministries concerned will also be able to monitor the cases of delayed payment under their jurisdiction and issue necessary instructions to resolve the issues. The portal will greatly facilitate the monitoring of the delayed payment in a more effective manner. The information on the portal will be available in public domain, thus exerting moral pressure on the defaulting organisations. The MSEs will also be empowered to access the portal and monitor their cases.

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