

December 01, 2018



President of India Inaugurates the 2nd International Ambedkar Conclave in Delhi



The President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the **2nd International Ambedkar Conclave** on 30th November in New Delhi as part of the **commemoration of Constitution Day**. The Conclave is being organised by the Forum of SC and ST Legislators and Parliamentarians and the

Dr. Ambedkar Chamber of Commerce.

Cope India 2019: India, US air exercise to be held in West Bengal



Air forces of the **United States and India** are scheduled to participate in a 12-day joint exercise '**Cope India 2019**' at two air force stations in **West Bengal** next month, the US Consulate said. The exercise will be held from December 3 to 14 at Air Station

Kalaikunda and Air Station Arjan Singh (Panagarh). The Cope India exercise is being held after a gap of eight years, with the last one having taken place in 2010.

India's first owl fest, held in Pune

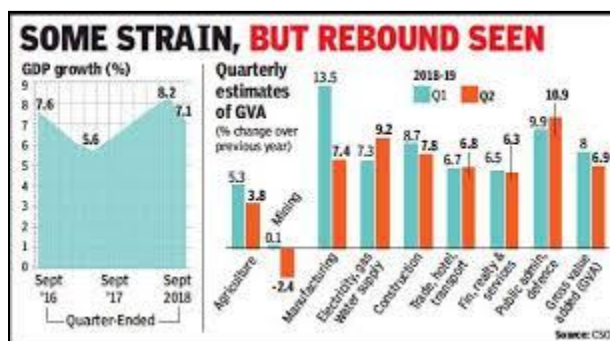


From 29th to 30th November 2018, the **Indian Owl Festival**, India's first owl fest, was held at Pingori village in Purandar taluka of **Pune, Maharashtra**. The festival was organized by **Ela Foundation**. It created awareness on owl conservation and feature art forms like

pictures, paintings, lanterns, lamp shades, posters, origami, stitched articles, poems and stories on owls.

Business

GDP growth drops to 7.1% in Q2; core industries rise to 4.8%



India's economy grew at 7.1% for the second quarter (July-September) of 2018-19 **from 8.2% in the 1st quarter** (April-June) according to data released by **Central Statistics Office** on 30th November. These estimates represent a sizable jump from last year's second quarter

growth rate estimates, indicating sustained acceleration in country's economic growth. The Gross Domestic Product, GDP at constant prices had grown at 6.3% in July-September quarter of the last fiscal. In another set of data released by the government, the growth of eight infrastructure sectors accelerated to **4.8% in October** from 4.3% in September.

Appointments

Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey takes over as Revenue Secretary



Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey on 30th November took over as the **Revenue Secretary** of the country. Dr. Pandey is a Maharashtra cadre officer of Indian Administrative Services of 1994. He will continue to head the **UIDAI** as its CEO and will also hold his position as the **chairman of Goods and Services Tax**

Network.

Awards

Abhinav Bindra becomes first Indian to get highest shooting honour - The Blue Cross



Ace Indian shooter **Abhinav Bindra** added yet another feather to his illustrious cap. The 36 year old who is still India's only individual **Olympic gold medallist** was awarded the coveted **ISSF Blue Cross** on 30th November. The Blue Cross is the highest recognition conferred by the parent body of

international shooting, the ISSF. The award is conferred for outstanding contribution to the sport of shooting and honours distinguished members of the international shooting fraternity.

ISSF Headquarters: **Munich, Germany**



13-year old Esha Singh bags hat-trick of gold medals in Shooting Championship



Telangana's 13-year-old Esha Singh created history by winning **three gold medals** in the ongoing **62nd National Shooting Championship Competitions (NSCC)** at the Vattiyoorkavu Shooting Range, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala on 29th November. The youngster won gold in the 10m air pistol senior women, 10m air pistol junior and 10m air pistol junior categories.

Ankita Raina-Karman Thandi pair wins Pune Open doubles crown



Karman Kaur Thandi brought her 'A' game to the fore at the right time to get the better of **Ankita Raina** before combining with her to lift the doubles crown in the \$25,000 **ITF Pune Open women's tennis championships** in Pune on 30th November.



International

PM Modi, US President Trump & Japan PM Abe participate in 1st ever 'JAI' trilateral



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on 30th November held their first trilateral meeting on the sidelines of the **G-20 summit in Buenos Aires**, amidst China flexing its muscles in the strategic Indo-Pacific region. Prime Minister Modi said, "When you look at the acronym of our three countries Japan, America, and India it is '**JAI**', which stands for success in Hindi." The prime minister said the 'JAI' meeting was a convergence of vision between the three nations. "This is a very good occasion for the three countries which have shared values, democratic values. We will continue to play a big role together for world peace, prosperity and stability," he said.

Georgia elects Salome Zurbishvili as first woman president



Salome Zurbishvili has won **Georgia's presidential election**, becoming the **first woman** to hold the office. With nearly all votes counted, the French-born ex-diplomat had 59% of the vote with rival Grigol Vashadze on 40%. Ms. Zurbishvili was backed by the ruling

Georgian Dream party, while M.r Vashadze was a united opposition candidate.

Capital: **Tbilisi**

Currency: **Georgian Lari**

Maldives Parliament passes motion to repeal age limit of presidential candidacy



Maldives Parliament has passed a motion with the required three-fourths majority to repeal the age limit of the **presidential candidacy**. The motion which proposed to repeal the constitutional amendment banning those above 65 years of age from contesting the presidential elections, was

passed 72 members voting in its favour in 85-member Majlis. It states that only those aged 35 and above will be allowed to contest for Presidency.

Capital: **Male**

Currency: **Maldivian Rufiyaa**

World AIDS Day: 1 December



World AIDS Day is celebrated around the world on **December 1st** each year. It has become one of the most recognized international health days and a key opportunity to raise awareness, commemorate those who have passed on, and celebrate victories, such as increased access to

treatment and prevention services. On 1 December 2018, WHO will join global partners to commemorate World AIDS Day under the theme "**Know your status**".

RIP **Obituary**

Former US President HW Bush, who steered America through Cold War, dies at 94



Former US president George HW Bush, who helped steer America through the end of the Cold War, died on 30th November at age 94, his family announced. George Herbert Walker Bush is an American politician who served as the **41st President of the United States from 1989 to 1993.**