

December 04, 2018



### Indian Navy Day: 4 December



The Indian Navy is the marine branch of the Indian Armed Forces and is led by the President of India as Commander-in-Chief. Navy Day is celebrated annually on December 4 every year to honour the maritime operations by the Navy during the 1971 Indo-Pak war and

also work towards securing the country's marine borders and bolstering relationships with other countries through humanitarian missions, calamity relief and joint exercises.

### Odisha launches PEETHA to create awareness about various schemes



Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik 3<sup>rd</sup> December launched a new scheme named **People's Empowerment – Enabling Transparency and Accountability of Odisha Initiatives** (PEETHA) in the state. "This is an initiative aimed at creation of awareness about

various government schemes and improve transparency in distribution of individual and social benefits," the Chief Minister told reporters here. This is part of the government's 3T initiative–

**Technology, Transparency and Teamwork** and a sub-scheme of **Ama Gaon Ama Bikas** programme, he said.

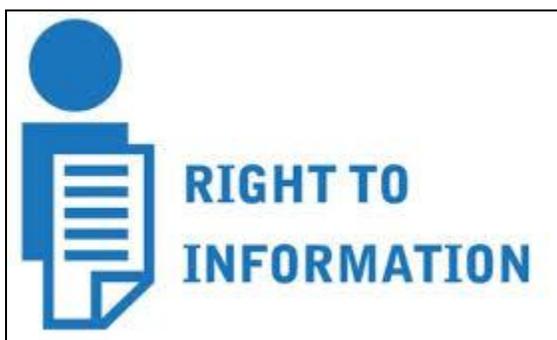
### **International Conference on Bears starts in Agra**



In **Uttar Pradesh**, more than 80 delegates from 11 countries are participating in an **international conference on bears** in Agra. The four-day conference is aimed at sharing knowledge on principles of the welfare of bears and other wild animals in zoos,

sanctuaries and rescue centres.

### **Maharashtra allows citizens to inspect government records under RTI**



The **Maharashtra** government has issued a government resolution allowing **citizens to inspect records** in district-level offices and local bodies across the state under the **Right To Information (RTI)** for two hours every Monday. Officials from the General Administration

Department (GAD) said the move was aimed at bringing transparency in the functioning of the government and to reduce RTI applications and appeals.

## EX SHINYUU Maitri-2018 with JASDF commences in Agra



The Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) is in India for a bilateral air exercise **SHINYUU Maitri-18** with Indian Air Force from 03-07 Dec 18 at A F Station Agra. The theme of the exercise is joint Mobility/Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) on Transport aircraft.



## SEBI extends deadline for transfer of shares in demat form to 1 April, 2019



Markets regulator **SEBI** on 3<sup>rd</sup> December extended the deadline for transfer of shares of listed companies only in demat form to April 1. The last date has been extended after taking into consideration representations from shareholders as the initial deadline was to end on December 5. Shares in the

demat form will help in maintaining a transparent record of shareholding at companies amid rising concerns over beneficial ownership of entities.

## Union Govt forms panel to look at selling of OIL, ONGC fields to private companies



The government has constituted a six-member committee to look at selling as many as 149 small and marginal oil and gas fields of state-owned ONGC and OIL to private and foreign companies to boost domestic output, sources said. The panel is headed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar and

includes Cabinet Secretary **P K Sinha**, Economic Affairs Secretary **Subhash Chandra Garg**, Oil Secretary **M M Kuttu**, NITI Aayog CEO **Amitabh Kant** and ONGC Chairman and Managing Director **Shashi Shanker**.

## 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the Policy Commission of the World Customs Organization (WCO) begins in Mumbai



The 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the Policy Commission of the World Customs Organization (WCO) has started today at Hotel Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai. The 3-day long session is hosted by **Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC)** and is being attended by

Customs heads of 31 countries from all the six regions of the WCO. The session was addressed by the **Finance Minister Arun Jaitley** via video link.

World Customs Organization (WCO) HQ: **Brussels, Belgium**

## Appointments

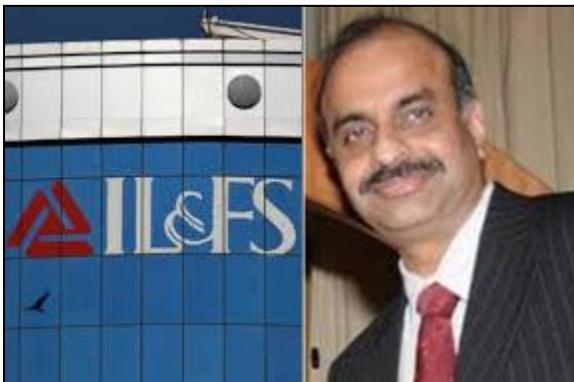
### Ajay Narayan Jha is the new Finance Secretary



**A N Jha**, Secretary, Expenditure, has been appointed as **new Finance Secretary**, a government order said on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, December 3. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** led Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has cleared Jha's appointment to the post after

incumbent **Hasmukh Adhia**, a 1981-batch Gujarat cadre officer of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), retired on November 30.

### IL&FS Group appoints N Sivaraman as COO



**Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS)**, on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, announced the appointment of **N Sivaraman**, a former L&T Group veteran, as **Chief Operating Officer**. The COO, who has expertise in mergers and acquisitions as well as building a financial services institution, will be a part of the Core

Operating Committee. He will report to **Vineet Nayyar**, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director, IL&FS Group.



## MoUs



### Gol and ADB sign \$85 million loan to support Odisha Skill Development Project



The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$85 million loan on 03.12.2018 to improve the skill development ecosystem in Odisha and establish an advanced skill training center, the World Skill Center (WSC), in the state capital Bhubaneswar.



## Science



### Russia's Manned Soyuz MS 11 successfully blasts off towards ISS



Russia's state space agency, Roscosmos, successfully launched the manned Soyuz MS 11 spacecraft from the Baikonur Cosmodrome with Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko, Canadian space agency's astronaut David Saint-Jacques and NASA's Anne McClain towards the International Space Station (ISS) on 3<sup>rd</sup>

December.



## Awards



### Delhi minister Imran Hussain gets PETA 'Hero to Animals' award for banning Chinese manjha



Delhi Minister of Food Supplies, Environment and Forest and Elections **Imran Hussain** was awarded by the **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)**-India for banning the **Chinese manjha**, or the glass-coated kite strings, across Delhi -- on December 1. The award, named '**Hero to Animals**,' was also given to three other individuals and companies that have pushed animal rights forward.

### Luka Modric wins Ballon d'Or, ending decade of Ronaldo and Messi triumphs



**Luka Modric**, the diminutive midfield maestro who won the Champions League title with Real Madrid and then helped lead **Croatia** to the World Cup final, was honored 3<sup>rd</sup> December with the **Ballon d'Or** as world player of the year. Modric's victory ended a 10-year run in which **Cristiano Ronaldo** and **Lionel Messi** traded possession of the award, considered one of world soccer's top individual honors.

## Sports

### Ullas Narayan clinches India's first-ever medal in ultra running



Ullas Narayan on Sunday became the first ever medal winner from India in an international ultra running event by bagging the **bronze medal** in the **2018 International Association of Ultra Running (IAU) 24-Hour Asia and Oceania Championships**. He ended in the third place by completing a distance of 250 km after Japanese runners **Yoshihiko Ishikawa** (253 km) and **Nobuyuki Takahashi** (252 km).

## International

### Qatar to withdraw from OPEC in January 2019



Qatar announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December that it will withdraw from the **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries in January**, as the Persian Gulf state faces a prolonged regional clash with rival Saudi Arabia. Qatar framed the surprise decision, which ended nearly six decades of membership in OPEC, as a move to focus the country's resources on exports of liquefied natural gas. The decision also comes amid a more than year-long feud between Qatar and its neighbors.

Led by Saudi Arabia, a coalition of Arab Gulf states broke off relations with Qatar and imposed an economic and travel blockade in June 2017 after accusing Qatar's government of sponsoring terrorism.

Qatar Capital: **Doha**, Currency: **Qatari Riyal**

OPEC HQ: **Vienna, Austria**