

December 05, 2018



India's heaviest communication satellite GSAT-11 launched successfully from French Guiana



Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) heaviest and most-advanced high throughput communication satellite **GSAT-11** was successfully launched from the **Spaceport in French Guiana** during the early hours today.

The launch vehicle **Ariane 5 VA-246** lifted off from Kourou Launch Base, French Guiana at 02:07 am (IST) carrying India's GSAT-11 and South Korea's GEO-KOMPSAT-2A satellites, as scheduled. Ariane 5 is one of three launch vehicles operated by Arianespace along with Soyuz and Vega.

ISRO Chairman: **K Sivan**

India's first Fully Private Satellite 'ExseedSAT-1' placed in orbit by SpaceX



The **ExseedSat-1**, which was fully conceived, designed and made by **Indian start-up Exseed Space** without taking any help from the state-owned space agency ISRO, built with the contributions of several ham operators and with the help of small Indian firms, is expected to play a major role during natural

disasters as it facilitates effective two-way communication through a simple hand-held walkie-talkie with a beam antenna. Euphoria gripped India's southern city of Hyderabad on 4th December after **SpaceX** announced that all 64 satellites on board the **Falcon-9 rocket** had been successfully placed on orbit.

Delhi government launches 'One' card for commute on metro, buses



The **Delhi government** on 3rd December launched a **common mobility card** with a tagline of '**One Delhi One Ride**' which would enable city commuters to access Metro and bus services with a single card at a 10% discount. Known as 'One', the newly designed card will be available for sale on

all Delhi Metro stations and DTC pass counters from 4th December.



HDFC Bank launches 'DigidhanYatra' in J&K



HDFC Bank on 4th December launched '**DigidhanYatra**' in **Jammu and Kashmir**. '**DigidhanYatra**' is an educational film created by the bank to raise awareness on the dangers of borrowing money from the unorganised sector, particularly in rural areas. This film has been

launched under the aegis of Swachh Banking, HDFC's latest CSR initiative.

Unilever gets Boost with Horlicks



India's largest consumer goods company **Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL)** is set to become the country's largest listed foods company, powered by a Rs. 31,700 crore all-stock acquisition of **GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Ltd** that will give the local unit of Unilever brands such as **Horlicks, Boost and Viva**.

Appointments

SBI ropes in Swapna Barman as brand ambassador for YONO



State Bank of India has roped in **Asian Games gold medalist Swapna Barman** as brand ambassador for its digital app **YONO**. YONO, the bank's digital platform that makes both lifestyle and banking available through a single app, was launched exactly a year back. Swapna

won gold medal in Heptathlon in Jakarta Asian Games with a score of 6026 and is looking to break the 6200 score barrier to qualify for Tokyo 2020 Olympics.



Awards

Anushka shrivastava of Sagar Public School, Bhopal receives APJ Abdul Kalam IGNITE18 Award



Anushka Shrivastava, student of Sagar Public School, Saket Nagar, **Bhopal** received **APJ Abdul Kalam IGNITE 2018** award by **Pranab Mukherjee**, former President of India in Gandhi Nagar. The competition is organized by the National Innovation Foundation (NIF) in which over 90,000 submissions of students from 643 districts of all States and Union Territories of India were received out of which only 21 projects got selected in 2018.

Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu awards Miss Deaf Asia 2018 Nishtha Dudeja



On the occasion of **International Day of Disabled persons** (3rd December), Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** awarded **Miss Deaf Asia 2018 Nishtha Dudeja** the 'National Award for **Empowerment of Disabled persons** (Divyangjan) at Vigyan Bhawan. She was awarded under the 'Role Model' category for her overall achievement and excellence in the fields of education, sports and art & culture.



Science



World's first baby born via womb transplant from dead donor



A woman in Brazil who received a womb transplanted from a deceased donor has given birth to a baby girl in the first successful case of its kind, doctors reported. The case, published in The Lancet medical journal, involved connecting veins from the donor uterus with the recipient's veins, as well as linking arteries, ligaments and vaginal canals. It comes after 10 previously known cases of uterus transplants from deceased donors - in the United States, the Czech Republic and Turkey - failed to produce a live birth.



Sports



Gautam Gambhir announces retirement from all forms of cricket



Former India opening batsman **Gautam Gambhir** has announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket, saying his time to continue with the game is over. The 37-year-old Delhi batsman announced his decision in a video post on his Twitter handle. Gambhir played in 58 Tests between 2004 and 2016, scoring 4,154 runs at an average of 41.95, with the help of nine hundreds and 22 fifties.

IPL: Delhi Daredevils renamed as Delhi Capitals



Delhi Daredevils was renamed as **Delhi Capitals** on 4th December with a hope that it would bring a change in fortunes of the franchise after a poor track record over the past 11 IPL seasons. Co-owners Parth Jindal, representing JSW Sport, and Kiran Kumar Grandhi of GMR, unveiled the new name of the team. **Shreyas Iyer** will continue to lead the team

despite the presence of Shikhar Dhawan. Dhawan returns to Delhi for the 2019 season after being traded by Sunrisers Hyderabad. Australian great **Ricky Ponting** will continue to coach the team.



World Soil Day: 5 December



While we can see many of the changes we have made to our planet, some of our impacts are virtually invisible, and soil pollution is a good example. Be the Solution to Soil Pollution campaign for **World Soil Day 2018** aims to raise awareness and call people to

#StopSoilPollution. One third of our global soils are already degraded. Yet we risk losing more due to this hidden danger. Soil pollution can be invisible and seems far away but everyone

everywhere is affected. With a growing population expected to reach 9 billion by 2050, soil pollution is a worldwide problem which degrades our soils, poisons the food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe.

International Volunteer Day: 5 December



International Volunteer Day (IVD) mandated by the **UN General Assembly**, is held each year on **5 December**. It is viewed as a unique chance for volunteers and organizations to celebrate their efforts, to share their values, and to promote their work among their communities,

non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies, government authorities and the private sector.

IVD 2018 theme – "**Volunteers build Resilient Communities**"

EAM Swaraj co-chair India-UAE JCM for Economic and Technical Cooperation



External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Foreign Minister of UAE **Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan** co-chaired 12th **India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting for Economic and Technical Cooperation**. The leaders held exhaustive discussions on cooperation in energy, security,

trade, investments, space, defence & consular, among others. Following the talks, India and UAE signed two documents. While one agreement was signed on Currency Swap, another MoU was signed for Development Cooperation in Africa. Sushma Swaraj also co-inaugurated the

Gandhi- Zayed digital museum along with the Foreign Minister of UAE Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Currency: **United Arab Emirates dirham**

Capital: **Abu Dhabi**

President: **Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**