

January 05-07, 2019



Bezbaruah committee set up to implement Clause 6 of Assam Accord



Former bureaucrat **M.P. Bezbaruah** will head a nine-member high-level committee constituted by the Union government to look into the implementation of **Clause 6 of the Assam Accord** of 1985 that provides for constitutional guarantees to protect the state's indigenous communities.

Zero percent interest for loans upto Rs. 3 lakhs for Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the Mission Shakti scheme: Odisha CM



On January 5, 2019, **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** announced **interest-free loans of up to Rs.3 lakh** for six lakh women self-help groups (WSHGs) benefitting about 70 lakh women in Odisha. The '**Mission Shakti**' programme was launched in 2001.

Secunderabad Railway Station Hoists Tricolour, South Central Zone's First



category railway stations.

Secunderabad Railway Station became the first railway station of **South Central Railway (SCR)** zone to hoist a huge **tricolour on a 100-foot tall pole** at its main entrance in Hyderabad on Wednesday. This is in keeping with the Railway Board's order to hoist the national flag at A1

NCR launches 'Rail Kumbh Seva Mobile App' to help people navigate through Prayagraj city during Kumbh Mela



run during the period.

The **North Central Railway, NCR** has launched a mobile application to help people navigate through **Prayagraj city** during **Kumbh Mela** starting from January 15. Public relation officer of NCR **Amit Malviya** said, the '**Rail Kumbh Seva Mobile App**' will also provide information regarding all the 'Mela special' trains that will be

Overview of PM Narendra Modi's one-day visit to Palamu, Jharkhand



pipeline irrigation scheme.

The following events took place during his visit:

- PM Modi witnessed the **e-Grih Pravesh** of **25,000** beneficiaries under **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana**.
- He laid the Foundation Stone for the revival of **North Koel (Mandal Dam)** project, Kanhar Sone

Union Minister for HRD Shri Prakash Javadekar inaugurates 27th Edition of New Delhi World Book Fair in Pragati Maidan with Sharjah as Guest of Honour



On 5th January, the 27th edition of the **New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF)**, which has the UAE's third largest emirate **Sharjah** as its 2019 guest of honour, inaugurated in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event will conclude on 13th January. To promote the idea of inclusive learning through a series of exhibitions of audio, silent, tactile and Braille books, the Book Fair's theme is "**Books for Readers with Special Needs**".

Arunima Sinha, First Female Amputee To Scale Mt Everest Now Climbs Mt Vinson In Antarctica



Setting a first-of-its-kind record, **Indian mountaineer Arunima Sinha** became the first female amputee to **climb Mount Vinson**, the highest peak of Antarctica. She was also the world's first woman amputee to climb **Mount Everest** in 2013.



Vijay Mallya first businessman to be declared 'Fugitive Economic Offender'



Weeks after a UK court ordered his extradition, former liquor baron **Vijay Mallya**, accused of defaulting on loans of over **Rs 9,000 crore**, received another blow as a Mumbai court on 5th January declared him a “**fugitive economic offender**” (FEO). Mallya became the first businessman to be declared an FEO under the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act,

which came into existence in August 2018.

Total value of BHIM UPI transactions crosses Rs 1 Lakh cr mark in December 2018



The total value of BHIM-UPI transactions crossed 1 Lakh Crore Rupees mark in December 2018. Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad informed via tweet that the app-based payments touched 1,02,594 crore rupees mark in December last year. It was 82,232 crore rupees in November and 74,978 crores in October 2018. **Bharat**

Interface for Money is a mobile app developed by **National Payments Corporation of India**, based on the Unified Payment Interface.

Government amalgamated three Regional Rural Banks-Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutlej Gramin Bank into a single Bank



With the effect from 1st January 2019, the three **Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** – **Punjab Gramin Bank**, **Malwa Gramin Bank** and **Sutlej Gramin Bank** has been amalgamated into a single RRB by the Government.

Appointments

Viswanathan Anand appointed Asian Continental Assistant to world chess body chief



Indian Chess Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, a former World Chess Champion, has been appointed as Asia's Continental Assistant to World Chess Federation (FIDE) President Arkady Dvorkovich. FIDE President Dvorkovich has appointed three more Continental Assistants viz., former World Champion Vladimir Kramnik (for Europe), Fidel Gonzalez -- President of Venezuela Chess Federation (for Americas), and Tshepiso Lopang -- Vice President of the African Chess Confederation (for Africa).

Awards

Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards



Home Minister Rajnath Singh presented awards to 29 winners in 18 categories — across print, broadcast and purely-digital — for outstanding work done in 2017. The Express Group instituted the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Awards in 2005 as part of the centenary year

celebrations of its founder, Ramnath Goenka. The awards aim to celebrate excellence in journalism, recognise courage and commitment and showcase the outstanding contributions of journalists from across the country.



India scripts history, wins first ever test series in Australia



India has won a **test series in Australia** for the first time when the rain-disrupted fourth match petered out in a draw with no play possible at the Sydney Cricket Ground on 7th January. Wins in Adelaide and Melbourne had given **Virat Kohli's** side a 2-1 lead going into the final test and a draw was enough to secure a breakthrough that had eluded all previous Indian touring parties for 71 years.

Bengaluru Bulls win their first Pro Kabaddi League title



The final of **Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 6** was to be a **Bengaluru Bulls vs. Gujarat Fortune Giants** contest. After the game, one could be forgiven for thinking it was, instead, **Pawan Kumar Sehrawat vs. the Gujarat Fortune Giants**. Sehrawat capped off his PKL

season the way he began it - by racking up points in quick, unstoppable fashion to finish 5th January's final with 22 points from 25 raids, carrying the Bulls to a 38-33 win and their first PKL title in their second final.

Nishikori, Pliskova win Brisbane International titles



Kei Nishikori won his **first ATP title** since Memphis in 2016 with a dominating final set to beat **Daniil Medvedev** 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 in the **Brisbane International final** on 6th January. Earlier, **Karolina Pliskova** won her second Brisbane title, beating **Lesia Tsurenko** 4-6, 7-5, 6-2

after coming within just two points of defeat.

Rishabh Pant becomes first Indian wicketkeeper to score Test Century in Australia



Rishabh Pant scored a brilliant century, the second of his career, to pile more pressure on **Australia** on Day Two of the fourth Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG). The 21-year-old left-hander smashed eight boundaries in his composed 137-ball knock, building on 193 from Cheteshwar Pujara to steer India to 511 for six in

the final session of the day.



International

Sultan Muhammad V steps down as Malaysia's king



Malaysia's king has abdicated, royal officials have said, ending weeks of speculation about his future. The announcement on 6th December follows a leave of absence by the head of state and rumours he had married a former Russian beauty queen. **Sultan Muhammad V's** decision marks the first time a

king has abdicated in the Muslim-majority country since Malaysia gained independence from Britain in 1957.

Capital: **Kuala Lumpur**

Currency: **Malaysian Ringgit**

China develops its own Mother of All Bombs: Report



Last year, while waging war against militants in Afghanistan, the US military dropped a **GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB)** weapon, more commonly known as the "**Mother of All Bombs**," on the Islamic State. Although **China** is using the same

nickname for its bomb, said to weigh several tonnes, the Chinese weapon is smaller and lighter than its American counterpart.