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Govt soon to bring in policy on electric vehicles: Gadkari



The government will soon bring in a policy on electric vehicles. Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari said this at the annual convocation of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers in New Delhi on the 7th Sept 2017. He also said a Cabinet note on electric vehicles is almost ready that will take care of charging stations. He asked carmakers to carry out research for electric vehicles.

ICAR to undertake major research works on agriculture with World Bank fund



The Indian Council for Agricultural Research ICAR will be undertaking major research works on agriculture this year with the World Bank fund of 1100 crore rupees. Deputy Director General of the national apex agricultural research body Narendra Singh Rathore informed this in the convocation function at the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University in Chennai on the 7th Sept 2017. He said the funds will be allocated to ten each of the premier agricultural and veterinary universities in the country. Mr Rathore said, though India ranks first in milk production in the world, the milk yield per animal is very low as compared to international standards.

Govt allows import of 3 lakh metric tonnes of raw sugar through southern ports at concessional duty of 25%

The government allowed import of 3 lakh metric tonnes of raw sugar through southern ports of



country at concessional duty of 25 per cent to augment domestic supplies ahead of the festive season. The import shall be open to millers and refiners who have their own capacity to convert raw sugar into refined. The imports will be allowed through the ports Tuticorin, Karaikal,

Chennai, Mangalore, Kakinada, Gangavaram and Vishakapatnam in the South. The scheme shall be operated by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade as per their rules and regulations.

Applications shall be received online by DGFT at sugarimporttrq-dgft@nic.in from 8th to 12th of this month. Details of the scheme can be seen on the website of DGFT www.dgft.gov.in

Gujarat govt announces Rs 1 lakh cash reward to find out Blue Whale curators



The Gujarat government has announced a cash reward of 1 lakh Rupees to those providing information about the administrators and curators of the deadly Blue Whale Challenge. After banning the challenge, which incites people to commit suicide, the state home

department came out with an advisory and directed police department and district administrations to prohibit people from undertaking the challenge.

A Special TADA court awards death sentence to Tahir Merchant and Firoz Abdul Rashid Khan in 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case

A special Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act (TADA) court in Mumbai awarded



death sentence to Tahir Merchant and Firoz Abdul Rashid Khan in the 1993 Mumbai bomb blasts case. Gangster Abu Salem and Karimullah Khan were sentenced for life, while the fifth convict Riyaz Siddiqi was jailed for 10 years. In the 1993 serial blasts case, the special TADA court awarded death sentence to Tahir Merchant and Firoz Abdul Rashid Khan and life imprisonment to extradited gangster Abu Salem. Besides Salem, the court also sentenced Karimullah Khan to life imprisonment in the case while awarding 10 years' sentence to the fifth convict, Riyaz Siddiqi. The court had in June convicted six persons, including mastermind Mustafa Dossa and Salem, in the case. It, however, let off accused Abdul Quayyum, for want of evidence. The Mumbai blast of March 12, 1993, resulted in 257 deaths and over 700 were injured

India hands over “Varuna” to Sri Lankan Navy



On the 5th Sept 2017, India handed over INS Varuna, an off shore patrol vessel to the Sri Lankan Navy. This was done as a part of cooperation between the two Coast Guards. The ship Varuna was decommissioned on the 23rd August. The handing over to the Sri

Lankan Navy took place at Kochi Port on the 5th Sept 2017. The ship has been given pennant number SLCG 60 by the Sri Lankan Navy

US banking regulators shut down Pakistan's Habib Bank amid money laundering concerns

US banking regulators ordered Pakistan's Habib Bank to shut its New York office after nearly 40



years, for repeatedly failing to heed concerns over possible terrorist financing and money laundering. New York banking officials have said that Habib, Pakistan's largest private bank, facilitated billions of dollars of transactions with Saudi private bank, Al Rajhi Bank, which reportedly has links to al Qaeda, and failed to do enough to ensure that the funds were not laundered or used for terrorism. The state's Department of Financial Services, which regulates foreign banks, also slapped a 225 million Dollars fine on the bank, although that is much smaller than the 629.6 million Dollars penalty initially proposed.

15 US states and District of Columbia sue Trump administration



In the United States of America, 15 states and the District of Columbia have sued the Trump administration over the decision to end protection against deportation for young immigrants. The lawsuit filed on the 6th Sept in the federal court in Brooklyn said, rescinding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) will injure state-run colleges and universities, upset work places and damage companies and economies that include immigrants covered under the program. It said, the consequence of the President's decision is that approximately 8 lakh persons who have availed themselves of the program will ultimately lose its protections and be exposed to deportation

UJJALA Scheme launched in Malaysia



Efficient Energy Services Ltd (under the Central Ministry of Power), has launched the UJJALA scheme in the state of Melaka in Malaysia, on the 6th Sept 2017. UJJALA in Malaysia aims to bring about clean energy, contribute to climate change targets and replenish the dwindling energy sources. The company is aiming to distribute 1 million 9W LED bulbs in the country to replace the CFL bulbs

21000 people disclose black money worth Rs 4900 crore under PMGKY



Black money worth 4,900 crore rupees was disclosed by 21 thousand people under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna (PMGKY), the stash money declaration window announced by the government post demonetisation. A top government official told PTI that the Income Tax Department has collected a tax of 2,451 crore rupees till now from these declarations. The official said that 4,900 crore rupees black money was disclosed under the PMGKY scheme that closed on March 31 this year. It was informed that these are now the final figures. The I-T department is now following up the legal processes with the declarants in few cases. The scheme was launched in December last year by the government to enable people with black money to come clean by paying tax and penalty of 50 per cent.

SBI launches Intelligent Assistant for customers



The country's largest Bank, State Bank of India, has taken another step towards artificial intelligence by launches SBI Intelligent Assistant, a chat box for customers. The special chat box has been conceptualized and developed by all in call, a startup tech venture from Mumbai, with the help of IIT, Bombay.

Banks without Aadhar Enrollment Centres face fine by Centre



On the 5th Sept 2017, the CEO of UIDAI announced that Banks have been an additional time limit of one more month, for creating Aadhar Enrollment Centres in at least 10% of their branches. Failure to comply with this regulations will entail the Banks for a fine of Rs 20,000 per uncovered branch w.e.f 30th Sept 2017

Whatsapp launches new tool 'whatsapp business'



On the 6th Sept 2017, Whatsapp announced that it was launching a new tool for businesses called “whatsapp business”. It gives the users a verified green mark badge next to their names. Businesses will be able to create the company profile with information such as address, description of the products or service offered and business hours. It will help manage customer chats. It will allow customers to communicate with the firms on Whatsapp instead of emails or phone calls

Indian weightlifters Sathish Kumar, R V Rahul qualify for 2018 Commonwealth Games

India's Sivalingam Sathish Kumar and Ragala Venkat Rahul have qualified for next year's



Commonwealth Games after winning a gold medal each in their respective weight divisions at the Commonwealth Senior (men & women) Weightlifting Championships in Gold Coast, Australia. Two Indian women weightlifters- S.Nirupama Devi and Nikeeta Kale- also claimed gold medals in 69 kilogram weight division of junior section.

Official song of FIFA under 17 World Cup launched



On the 4th Sept 2017, the official song of the FIFA Under 17 World Cup was launched by the Local Organising Committee and the officials of the Sony Pictures Net Work India. The song titled " Kar Ke Dikalade Goal" was launched to mark the occasion. The song has been penned by lyricist Amitabh Bhattacharya and composed by Pritam. The song has been sung by well-known singers including Sunidhi Chauhan. It also includes a rap performance by Abhishek Bachchan.