

China's ban on ivory trade comes into force



- China has for quite some time been one of the world's greatest market for ivory, however starting at 2018 all exchange of ivory and ivory items in the nation has been declared illicit.
- The move is being hailed as a noteworthy improvement in endeavors to ensure the world's elephant populace.
- There had just been a 65% decrease in the cost of crude ivory over the previous year.
- There had additionally been a 80% decrease in seizures of ivory entering China.

GLOBAL
NEWS

The Indian who became the first female doctor in the UAE



- Indian national Zulekha Daud is generally comprehended to be the first practicing female doctor in the United Arab Emirates and has had a pivotal influence in changing healthcare sector.
- Dr Daud, came to Dubai in 1963.
- Dr Daud's rise to prominence coincides with the rapid growth of medical facilities after the foundation of the UAE in 1971.

GLOBAL
NEWS

Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates introduce VAT for first time



- Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates started VAT from Monday, a first for the Gulf which has since quite a while ago prided itself on its tax-exempt.
- The five per cent sales tax applies to most goods and services.
- Analysts project that the two governments could raise as much as \$21 billion in 2018, equivalent to 2 percent of the total GDP.

INTERNATIONAL
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Astronauts identify unknown microbes in space for first time



- Space travelers on board the International Space Station (ISS) have recognized microorganisms in space without sampling back to Earth for tests.
- The capacity to recognize organisms in space could help to analyze and treat space traveler afflictions progressively, and additionally aiding the distinguishing proof of DNA-construct of life in different planets.
- The examination was broken into two sections: the accumulation of the microbial examples and intensification by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).

Nyctibatrachus mewasinghi was discovered in the Western Ghats -New night frog species found



- Another frog from Kerala is the most recent commitment to the spurt in land and water proficient revelations crosswise over India.
- Researchers have quite recently found the Mewa Singh's Night frog.
- It was found from the Western Ghats, from Kozhikode Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The new night frog Nyctibatrachus mewa singh is light dark colored with a grayish underside.

Chandragiri fort set to get a facelift



- Kerala Minister declares Rs. 80 lakhs for stage I of the facelift project.
- The 17-century Chandragiri fortress will see scientific protection with Minister of Archeology and Archives Kadannappally Ramachandran declaring a Rs. 80-lakh amount for the primary renovation.
- The venture conceives enhancing the fundamental framework, keeping the legacy of the fortress in place.

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Karnataka - Dhaatu International Puppet Festival



- The three-day Dhaatu International Puppet Festival will be held from January 5 to 7 in the city.
- Entering its fourth progressive year, the celebration will likewise have 200 years old tradition of puppets.
- The occasion is being bolstered by the Union Ministry of Culture, State Department of Tourism, and The Cultural Forum of Austria.
- The entry fee for all these shows are covered by the government and Dhaatu themselves.

NATIONAL
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Alok Mohan posted as ADGP of the bureau



- Alok Mohan has been posted as the Additional Director-General of Police (ADGP), Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB).
- The State government has also transferred another senior official from the ACB, K.V. Sharath Chandra, as IGP, Eastern Range, Davangere.
- Soumendu Mukherjee, IGP and Additional Director, Fire Services, has been given the additional charge of the post of IGP, Special Investigation Team, Karnataka Lokayukta.

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Hindustani vocalist Shruti Sadolikar gets Mallikarjun Mansur Samman

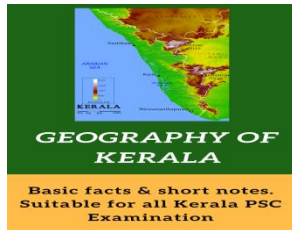


- Eminent Hindustani vocalist Shruti Sadolikar Katkar was regarded with Mallikarjun Mansur Samman, while promising vocalists Deepika Bhide Bhagwat and Anagha Bhat were awarded with Mallikarjun Mansur Rashtreeya Yuva Puraskar at Srujana Ranga Mandir in Dharwad on Sunday.
- Mallikarjun Mansur Samman Award conveys a money prize of ₹1 lakh, while yuva Puraskar grant conveys a money prize of ₹25,000.
- Award has been given by the Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur Trust.

NATIONAL
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- The trust has been recognizing prominent vocalists and performers who have colossally added to the field of music and is exhibiting them National honor each year.

Kerala - KAS comes into force today



- As the State formally changes over to the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) from Monday, the legislature should speed up the enlistment procedure for accomplishing its expressed target of making the common administrations altogether proficient and productive.
- Preparatory systems for propelling the administration have just been started and the 29 recorded divisions, including the Administrative Secretariat, Finance Secretariat, Civil Supplies, Survey and Land Records and such others, have been coordinated to recognize and reserve the 10% retirement opportunities of second gazetted posts that are emerging.

India and Pakistan exchange 27th list of nuclear installations



- India and Pakistan on Monday signed agreement of their atomic establishments under an assertion that means to keep the two sides from assaulting such facilities.
- The deal was done through discretionary channels at the same time at New Delhi and Islamabad.
- This is the twenty-seventh successive agreement of such a rundown between the two nations.
- The Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear establishments amongst India and Pakistan was marked on December 31, 1988 and came into force on January 27, 1991.

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Andhra Pradesh- Transgenders to become road safety ambassadors



- Transgenders will be made brand ambassadors for road safety measures, Kurnool Superintendent of Police Gopinath Jatti said.
- Transgenders, alongside the SP and Municipal Commissioner C.B. Harinatha Reddy, participated in Swachh Bharat cleanliness drive in Kurnool RTC transport stand.
- CCTV cameras will also be setup.

Rural girl wins gold in world yoga meet



- Yoga student C. Kamatchi, won Asian yoga sports title, & made a record winning gold in the '2017 World yoga sports positioning title' held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on December 29 and 30.
- Kamatchi, is from Mudukulathur, & studies M.Sc (yoga) from Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University.
- She displayed 10 'asanas' in the athletic category of 19 to 25 years of age and won gold.

Shahzar reigns with a record



- Shahzar Rizvi made a national record of total 241.7 points and took the men's 10m air pistol gold in the 61st National shooting championships.
- Championship concluded at the National Games shooting range.
- Yashwant Singh (Army) took the silver.
- In the junior men's category, Anmol Jain (Haryana) won the gold medal with a record total of 244.1.

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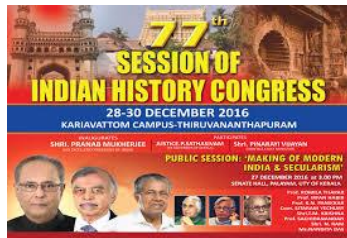
Lok Sabha Passes Insolvency And Bankruptcy Code Amendment Bill



- The much-awaited Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill is passed by Lok Sabha.
- This bill will tighten norms on willful defaulters.
- Amendment in IBC, excludes willful defaulters from bidding to purchase stressed asset of companies, which are undergoing insolvency proceedings.

NATIONAL NEWS

Indian History Congress Meeting held in Kolkata



- The three-day long 78th session of the Indian History Congress started in Kolkata.
- This time this congress has six sections – Ancient India, Medieval India, Modern India, Countries Other than India, Archaeology and Contemporary India.
- Indian history congress is held for the promotion and encouragement of the scientific study of Indian History.

NATIONAL NEWS

Paul McCartney congratulates Ringo Starr on knighthood



- The 77-year-old The Beatles drummer, Ringo Starr, was bestowed with the Knighthood honour for his services to music
- His real name is Richard Starkey.
- Starr was earlier knighted in 1965 along with his bandmates as Members of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

NATIONAL NEWS

Triple talaq petitioner Ishrat Jahan joins BJP



- One of the petitioners in the triple talaq case, Ishrat Jahan has joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- Ms. Jahan, lives in Howrah district and she joined BJP at its Howrah office.
- She was among the five petitioners in the triple talaq case, that led to Union government tabling a bill to criminalise triple talaq.
- She was divorced by her husband over phone from Dubai by uttering talaq consecutively three times in 2014.

2 new ginger species found in the northeast



- Scientists have discovered two new species of Ginger in northeast.
- Those two species are Ukhrul in Manipur and Tuensang in Nagaland.
- Both the plants are from the family of Zingiberaceae, to which the commonly found Ginger belongs.

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