

July 11, 2018



Global Innovation Index ranks India the 57th most innovative nation



The **Global Innovation Index (GII)** has ranked **India as the 57th most innovative nation** in the world. The country has improved its ranking from 60th position last year. India has been improving steadily since it was ranked 81st in 2015. Meanwhile, **China** improved its ranking from 22 in 2017 to **17 this year**. The GII is being developed jointly by **Cornell University**, the Paris-based business school **Insead** and the **World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)** in Geneva. Since 2011, **Switzerland** has been ranked at the top every year. This year, **Netherlands** follows at second place and **Sweden** at third. The **US** drops down to **sixth from fourth last year**.

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Haryana Top Rankers in Ease of Doing Business



Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, released the final rankings of **States in Ease of Doing Business** in New Delhi on 10th July. The top rankers are **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and**

Haryana. Jharkhand and Gujarat stood 4th and 5th respectively. DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the **World Bank** conducted an annual reform exercise for all States and UTs under the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP). The aim of this exercise is to improve delivery of various Central Government regulatory functions and services in an efficient, effective and transparent manner.

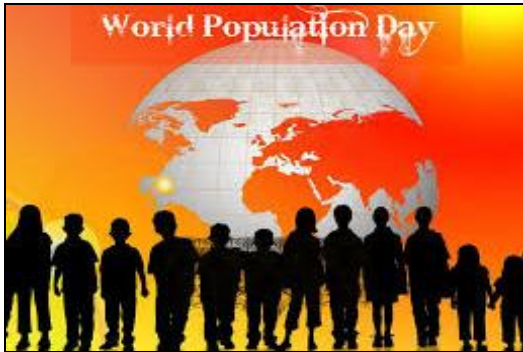


PM Oli inaugurates Nepal Academy library building built with Indian assistance



The Prime Minister of Nepal K.P.Sharma Oli on 10th July inaugurated the **Library building of Nepal Academy in Kathmandu**. The library has been built with the Indian assistance of NRs. (Nepali Rupees) **43.94 million**. PM Oli expressed gratitude towards Govt. of India for constructing the library. On this occasion Indian Ambassador to Nepal **Manjeev Singh Puri** said that library will be an important platform to further enhance cultural ties between the two countries. The Chancellor of Nepal Academy **Ganga Prasad Uprety** said that it will be one of the most important libraries of Nepal and further increase literary and cultural exchanges between India and Nepal.

World Population Day: 11 July



World Population Day, which seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, was established by the then-Governing Council of the **United Nations Development Programme in 1989**, an outgrowth of the interest generated by the Day of Five Billion, which was observed on 11 July 1987. 2018 theme: **“Family Planning is a Human Right”**. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1968 International Conference on Human Rights, where family planning was, for the first time, globally affirmed to be a human right.



Google Launchpad Accelerator India unveiled for AI, ML Startups in the Country



In a bid to nurture **Indian startups** working in the fields of **artificial intelligence (AI)** and **machine learning (ML)**, **Google** on 10th July introduced the India chapter of its global **'Launchpad Accelerator'** mentorship programme. The 3-month Launchpad Accelerator India programme has been designed to grow the AI/ML ecosystem by helping the country's startups build scalable solutions for India's unique problems.



MoUs



Venkaiah Naidu becomes first Chairman of Rajya Sabha to sign an MOU



Rajya Sabha has, for the first time in 76 years since it came into being, entered into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with a foreign counterpart for promoting inter-parliamentary dialogue. **Venkaiah Naidu**, has, in the process, become the first Chairman of Rajya Sabha to sign such an

agreement when he inked an MOU with the visiting President of the **Senate of the Republic of Rwanda, Mr. Bernard Makuza** on 10th July.

Gujarat signs MoU with KOTRA to strengthen trade, industrial relations



A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** was signed between the **Industries and Mines Department** under the Gujarat government and **Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA)** on 10th July in Delhi. The priority sectors in focus under this signed MoU were Chemical,

Petrochemical and Pharmaceuticals; New and Renewable Energy; Start-up Ecosystem; Textiles and Apparels; Urban Infrastructure; Food Processing and Agro related industries; Skill Training and Development; Automobile, etc.

Rajasthan signs MoU with Microsoft



Rajasthan has emerged as the **first State to sign a memorandum of understanding** with Microsoft to provide digital training to 9,500 students of government colleges. It will also train 500 faculty members.

SBI, NABARD tie up to support farmers in Telangana



The **State Bank of India (SBI)** and the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** have joined hands for an initiative to provide collateral free credit to certain categories of farmers in Telangana. The credit is to be channelised through Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) of the farmers

that non-governmental organisations will help establish.

Appointments

Prof. Sandeep Sancheti takes charge as President of AIU



Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Vice Chancellor of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) has assumed charge as the **97th President of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU)**, New Delhi. Founded in 1925 and initially known as the Inter-University Board of India, the AIU has currently more than 720 members represented by Vice Chancellors. Seen as the representative of all Universities of India, the AIU facilitates coordination and mutual consultation among Universities as well as acting as a liaison with Central and State governments.

Sports

India bag four medals at Asian Archery, finish third



India bagged three silver medals and a bronze to finish joint third with **Iran** in the **Asia Cup World Ranking Tournament Stage 3** on 10th July. The event concluded in two days to avoid the incoming super typhoon Maria, and on the concluding day, **recurve men's team** added a second silver before **Divya Dhayal** clinched a third silver in the compound individual category.

'From Everest with Love' book released



Neelima Pudota, the first woman from Hyderabad to **climb Mount Everest** launched her book **'From Everest with Love'** in an event at Dr.Y.S.R. National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Gachibowli recently. Neelima, who penned her experience of scaling

the peak in her book said it consisted of letters she wrote to her mother from the Everest. **Mithali Raj** whose book **'Unguarded'** due for release in October, shared her own journey.

Cristiano Ronaldo leaves Real Madrid to sign with Juventus



Cristiano Ronaldo is leaving **Real Madrid** to sign with **Italian champions Juventus**, both clubs announced on 10th July. The reigning **Ballon d'Or winner** will end his nine-year spell at Real Madrid with a move to Turin following a reported rift with Real Madrid president **Florentino Perez** over

a new contract.

Learn Two a Day:

RBI's College of Agricultural Banking (CAB) – Pune

IRDAI's National Insurance Academy – Pune