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27.04.2018

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NATIONAL

Schemes ➤ Van Dhan Scheme

The Prime Minister of India **Narendra Modi** launched the **Van Dhan Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED** during the celebrations of Ambedkar Jayanti at **Bijapur, Chattisgarh**. Emphasizing the important role of **value addition in increasing tribal incomes**, he stated that **Van Dhan, Jan Dhan and Gobar-Dhan** Schemes had the potential to change the **tribal-rural economic system**.

23rd meeting of Western Zonal Council

The 23rd meeting of the **Western Zonal Council** was held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat under the Chairmanship of the **Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh** for coordination and cooperation of the Western Zonal States on the issue of marine security.

Defence ➤ 'Sagar Kavach'

The Indian Navy conducted a two-day Coastal Security Exercise '**Sagar Kavach**' from April 24-26 off the coast of Kerala, Mahe, and Lakshadweep and Minicoy (L&M) Islands. The aim of the exercise was to **enhance and assess the preparedness** of all agencies towards dealing with an asymmetric threat emanating from the sea.

LEPV- Chief of Navy Staff: **Admiral Sunil Labna**

INTERNATIONAL

Inter-Korean Summit

North Korean leader **Kim Jong-un** has pledged a "**new history**" in relations with his neighbour as he became the **first leader** to set foot in **South Korea** since the end of the **Korean War in 1953**.

Appointments ➤ New President of Paraguay

Mario Abdo Benitez of Paraguay's ruling Colorado Party narrowly defeated his opposition in the country's presidential elections.

ECONOMY

Business ➤ Square to Acquire Website Builder Weebly for \$365 Million

Square Inc. agreed to acquire website-builder **Weebly** for **\$365 million** as the payments company seeks to expand its customer base and become a one-stop-shop for small and medium-sized businesses. Weebly's has millions of customers and more than **625,000 paid subscribers**.

Banking & Finance ➤ Nabard to disburse over Rs. 10000 cr in 2017-18 in Telangana

The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** has set a target to do a business of over **Rs 10,000 crore** in **Telangana** in the current financial year. The bank has done a business of **Rs 9,266 crore** in 2016-17, the highest for the bank in the State. This was 16.12 per cent more than the previous year's figure.

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Business ➤ **Twitter co-founder invests in Delhi-based AI startup Visit**

Twitter co-founder **Biz Stone** has invested in his “personal capacity” in a Delhi-based health startup that uses an **artificial intelligence**-based bot in its app as he wants to contribute to a future where AI is seen as a “positive enhancement of humanity”.

Business ➤ **India's most attractive employer**

Technology giant **Microsoft India** has been declared the most attractive employer brand, followed by e-commerce giant **Amazon India**. The winners were named by HR service provider **Randstad's Employer Brand Research (REBR) 2018**.

APPOINTMENTS

US Secretary of State

Mike Pompeo has been sworn in as **America's 70th Secretary of State**, after the US Senate confirmed his nomination. Earlier, Pompeo, the former **CIA director**, was confirmed by the Senate by 57-42 votes. He replaced **Rex Tillerson**, who was fired by President Donald Trump last month.

Indu Malhotra sworn-in as Apex Court judge

Senior advocate **Indu Malhotra** took oath of the office as Supreme Court judge. She was administered the oath of office by **Chief Justice of India, Dipak Misra**. Ms Malhotra, a renowned arbitration expert, is the **first woman judge** to be appointed to the top post directly from the bar.

AWARDS & HONOURS

National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is awarded the National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018 in the category “**Top R&D Institution / Organization for Patents and Commercialization**”.

LEPV- World Intellectual property Day ❖ 26 April

NSCI Safety Awards – 2017

Altogether 70 organizations have been pronounced as winners of the awards in four awards categories – **Sarva Shreshtha Suraksha Puraskar, Shreshtha Suraksha Puraskar, Suraksha Puraskar and Prashansa Patra**. These Awards are adjudged and declared every year by the National Safety Council, an autonomous society set up by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India.

ABBREVIATIONS IN THE NEWS

CSIR: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

NSE: National Stock Exchange of India

NABARD: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

TRIFED: Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India



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VENUE 4th floor, VV Complex, Chaitanyapuri 'X' Roads, DILSUKHNAGAR

ENTRY FREE

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LAST DATE: 13th May, 2018
EXAMINATION: Prelims : July, 2018
Mains : 4th August
ELIGIBILITY: Any DEGREE (Final Years can also apply)

Dr. G. S. Giridhar
Director & Eenadu Columnist

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