



RACE™



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NATIONAL

15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

The **2019 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** will be held in the holy city of **Varanasi in January**. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated in India on **9 January each year**. The event will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart **Pravind Jugnauth**. The theme of the 2019 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be **“Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India”**.

9th India-Japan Energy Dialogue

The **9th India Japan Energy Dialogue** was held in **New Delhi**. India and Japan agreed to initiate discussion on the **concept of electric vehicles (EVs)** by collaborating with **“Policy dialogue on next generation/Zero emission vehicles”**.

LEPV- Minister of State(IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy ❖ **R.K Singh**

Vigyananand. The theme of the World Hindu Congress 2018 is **“Sumantrite Suvikrante”** — think collectively, achieve valiantly.

India And Pakistan To Participate in Counter-Terror Exercise

India and Pakistan will be part of a multi-nation **counter-terror ‘Peace Mission-2018’ exercise in Russia** under the framework of **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation**. The main aim of the **‘Peace Mission-2018’ exercise** is to conduct it under the framework of the **SCO’s Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS)**, which is headquartered in **Tashkent (Uzbekistan)**.

LEPV- SCO ❖ Headquarters: **Beijing, China** ❖ Secretary General: **Rashid Alimov**

ECONOMY

BUSINESS ➤ India Is Second Fastest In Air Passenger Traffic Growth

India has been projected to be the second fastest growing country in the world for **passenger traffic** by the **Airports Council International (ACI)** in its traffic forecasts between 2017-40. The Airports Council International has put **Vietnam** at the **top** position with a 8.5% growth rate, followed by **India at 7.5%** and **Iran at 7.3%**. China has been placed at the 8th position with 5.9% growth rate. ACI has placed the **Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi** among the top twenty busiest airports in the world, putting it at the **16th position**.

INTERNATIONAL

Second World Hindu Congress (WHC)

The **2018 World Hindu Congress** will be held in **Chicago from September 7 to 9**. It is held to commemorate **125 years of Swami Vivekananda’s historic Chicago address on September 11, 1893**. **Tulsi Gabbard**, the first Hindu lawmaker in the US Congress, is the **chairperson of the Chicago event** and it is being organised by **World Hindu Foundation** headed by former **IITian Swami**

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BANKING AND FINANCE ➤ Paytm's Offline Payments Solution

Paytm has announced the launch of its offline payments solution – the **Paytm Tap Card**. Paytm Tap Card uses **near-field communication (NFC)** technology to enable safe and convenient digital payments, completely offline at Paytm-issued NFC PoS terminals.

BANKING AND FINANCE ➤ SBI to provide Rs2,000 crore loan GAIL

The State-owned gas utility **GAIL India** has borrowed **Rs2,000 crore** loan from **State Bank of India (SBI)** to meet its general capital expenditure requirement. The loan is for a **15-year tenure**. GAIL is the largest state-owned natural gas processing and distribution company in India.

LEPV- GAIL ❖ Headquarters: **New Delhi** ❖ CEO: **B. C. Tripathi**

APPOINTMENTS

Kavinder Gupta

Jammu and Kashmir Assembly speaker **Kavinder Gupta** sworn in as new **deputy chief minister** in place of **Nirmal Singh**, who submitted his resignation last night.

Shubash Khuntia

Former IAS officer **Subhash Chandra Khuntia** was appointed as the new Chairman of **Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** for three-years. Khuntia will succeed **T S Vijayan**, who completed his five-year term in February.

LEPV- IRDAI ❖ Headquarters: **Hyderabad**

Harendra Singh

Hockey India on Tuesday appointed **Harendra Singh** as the **Chief Coach for the Indian Men's Hockey Team**. He takes over from Dutchman **Sjoerd Marijne**.

Lynn Elsenhans

Saudi Aramco, the world's most profitable company, has appointed first woman to its board. **Lynn Elsenhans** is the first female board member of Aramco. Elsenhans was named by Forbes magazine as **one of the world's most powerful women in 2008**.

LEPV- Saudi Aramco ❖ Headquarters: **Dhahran, Saudi Arabia**

SPORTS

ISSF World Rankings

India's **10m air pistol** shooter **Shahzar Rizvi** grabbed the No. 1 spot in ISSF World rankings.

ABBREVIATIONS IN THE NEWS

RATS: Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure

NFC: Near-Field Communication

GAIL: Gas Authority of India Limited

ACI: Airports Council International

IRDAI: Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India

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