



RACE™



26.04.2018

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NATIONAL

Atal New India Challenge

NITI Aayog's **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** will launch **Atal New India Challenge**. Under AIM, grants of up to **Rs 1 crore** and mentorship will be given to the winning ideas. AIM is in collaboration with five ministries and it will invite prospective innovators to design market-ready products, using cutting edge technologies across **17 identified focus areas** such as *Smart Mobility, Predictive Maintenance of Rolling Stock and Waste Management*.

LEPV- CEO, NITI Aayog: **Shri Amitabh Kant** ❖
Mission Director, AIM: **Shri Ramanathan Ramanan**.

Defence Exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI

The Indian and Malaysian armies will hold a two-week joint training exercise **HARIMAU SHAKTI** beginning on April 30 in Malaysia as part of efforts to bolster defence cooperation. Recently, the Indian Air Force too conducted pan India Exercise **Gagan Shakti-2018**.

2nd Edition Of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

The **HRD ministry** has launched the **second edition of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** under which students from **750 higher educational institutions** from across the country will adopt villages and visit them to get acquainted with lifestyle of people there and the problems faced by them in day-to-day life.

LEPV- Union HRD minister: **Prakash Javadekar** ❖
Minister of State for HRD: **Satya Pal Singh**

Central Security Exercise "Sagar Kavach"

A two-day coastal security exercise '**Sagar Kavach**' began to **strengthen and assess the loopholes** in the coastal security mechanism along Kerala shores. Apart from the Coast Guard, the Navy, Coastal Police and Marine Enforcement wing and various other security stakeholders were also participating in the exercise.

Home Ministry Removed PAP For 3 States

The home ministry has decided to relax the **six-decade-old Protected Area Permit** regime from **Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur for five years** with effect from **April 1**. Foreign tourists, except those from Pakistan, China and Afghanistan, will now be allowed to visit some of the most pristine locations of the country.

STATES

Telangana ➤ GI Tag For Adilabad Dokra, Warangal Durries

Adilabad Dokra, an ancient metal craft that is popular in the state's tribal regions, and **Warangal durries** or **rugs**, which are woven in handloom clusters in Warangal and Pochampally among other areas, have now been declared **unique to the region** and granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the **GI registry in Chennai**.

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REPORTS & INDICES

Press Freedom Index

India's ranking in the **Press Freedom Index** has fallen two places to **138 in a ranking of 180 countries**. **Norway** topped the list of having the world's freest press for **the second year in a row followed by Sweden and Netherlands**.

MoUs & AGREEMENTS

Pollution-Forecast System

India is tying up with the **United States and Finland** to develop a pollution-forecast system. It will help anticipate particulate matter (PM) levels at least two days in advance and at a greater resolution. The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)** will be coordinating this exercise. The new system, to be jointly developed with expertise from the Finnish Meteorological Institute and the U.S.' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

AWARDS & HONOURS

2018 UNESCO Press Freedom Prize

Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid won the 2018 **Press Freedom Prize** awarded by the **United Nations cultural agency UNESCO**. The government arrested Abu Zeid, also known as **Shawkan**, in 2013 as he photographed security forces dispersing an anti-government sit-in.

The **\$25,000 World Press Freedom Prize** was established in 1997 to honor **Guillermo Cano Isaza**, a Colombian newspaper editor.

SPORTS

Asian Weightlifting In 2019

India will host the **Asian weightlifting championship** for **the first time** in history next year **2019**. The Championship was awarded to India at the executive board meeting and Congress of the Asian Weightlifting Federation held at **Urgench, Uzbekistan**.

The last edition of the Asian Championship was held in **Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Malaria Day

World Malaria Day is observed on **April 25** every year to recognise the **global effort to control malaria** and also to **spread awareness** about the around the world. The theme for this year's Malaria Day

ABBREVIATIONS IN THE NEWS

GI: Geographical Indication

PAP: Protected Area Permit

HUDCO: Housing and Urban Development Corporation

SAFAR: System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research



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DATE & TIME 29th April, 2018 (Sunday) at 09:30 a.m.
VENUE 4th floor, VV Complex, Chaitanyapuri 'X' Roads, DILSUKHNAGAR **ENTRY FREE**

Dr. G. S. Girdhar
Director & Eenadu Columnist

RACE™
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SBI PO-2018
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