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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Rajasthan** Government signed an **MoU** with a private trust **Sohanlalji Buladeviji Ojha Gaushala Samiti** to build its **first 'Cow Sanctuary'**, a shelter for **10000 cows**.
- Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare **Radha Mohan Singh** launched the **Rs. 215 crore Meghalaya Milk Mission** in Shillong through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- Government set up a **High Level Empowered Committee** headed by Cabinet Secretary **Pradeep Kumar Sinha** to address the issues of **Stressed Thermal Power Projects**.
- Unified Commanders' Conference (UCC) 2018 is held in **New Delhi**.
 - Unified Commanders' Conference (UCC) 2018 is conducted under the guidance of Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (**HQ IDS**). It aims to review **external security challenges and the preparedness of India**.
 - Chiefs of Indian Armed Forces:
 - Chief of the Army Staff (**COAS**) – **General Bipin Rawat**
 - Chief of the Naval Staff (**CNS**) – **Admiral Sunil Lanba**
 - Chief of the Air Staff (**CAS**) – **Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhano**
- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh**, inaugurated the **2nd Conference of Young Superintendent of Police**, organized by Bureau of Police Research & Development (**BPR&D**), in **New Delhi**.
 - Theme of the Conference was: **“Predictive Policing and Contemporary Challenges for Indian Police Forces”**.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** launched Chhattisgarh government's **Sanchar**

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1

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Kranti Yojna at Jagdalpur in the Naxal-affected Bastar region of the state. Under the scheme, **50 lakh smart phones** will be distributed free of cost to the people.

- The **Micromax Bhagat 4**, with **2 GB Ram, processor of 1.4 GHz, 16 GB storage, five megapixel front camera** and an eight megapixel rear camera with **five-inch screen** will be distributed to the **college students under the scheme.**

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- The **3rd BRICS Film Festival** was held in **Durban, South Africa**, along with the International Durban Film Festival (**DIFF**). The last day of the festival was celebrated as **India Country Day.**
- The **first Nepal-India Think Tank Summit** has begun in **Kathmandu** to foster greater collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the think tanks of the **two countries.** The summit is being jointly organized by the **Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs** and **Nehru Memorial Museum Library.**

APPOINTMENTS

- Vice Admiral **Anil Kumar Chawla** has been appointed as the **next Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Southern Naval Command.**

SPORTS

- **Sourabh Verma** beat **Koki Watanabe** to lift the **Russian Open Badminton trophy 2018.**
 - The 2018 Russian Open, was a badminton tournament which took place at **Sport Hall Olympic in Vladivostok, Russia from 24 to 29 July 2018.**

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **30th July 2018, World Day against Trafficking in Persons** was observed all over the world.
 - This day is observed to create awareness about the condition of **victims of human trafficking and for promotion and protection of their rights.**
 - Theme: **‘Responding to the trafficking of children and young people’** has been declared as theme for World Day against Trafficking in Persons 2018 by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (**UNODC**).