



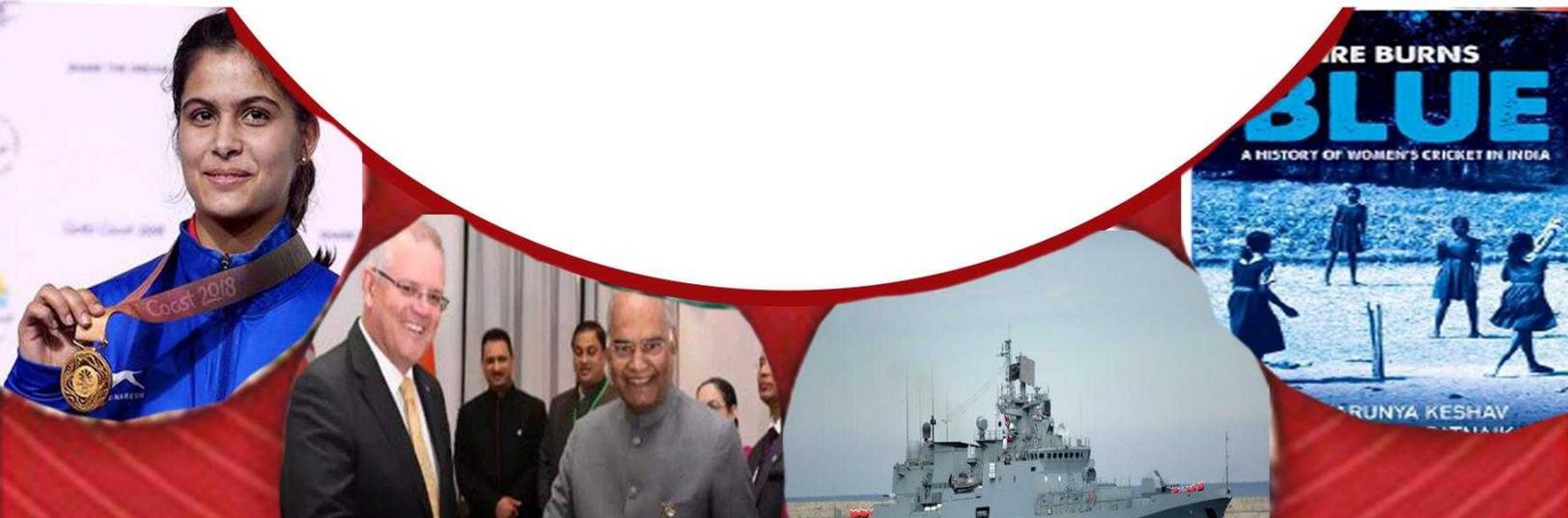
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JANUARY - 2019

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Main Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Chromepet, Chennai

Phone: 8939144344, 8939244344

Branch Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Plot No: 47/60, "AK" Block,
7th Main Road, Anna Nagar
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 040.

3rd Floor, West Wing, Gokul Arcarde,
No.2, Sardar Patel Road, Adyar
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 020.

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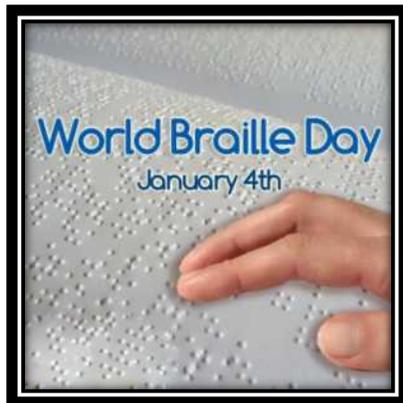
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NATIONAL NEWS

- Chief Minister **N. Chandrababu Naidu** launched the **Prana Raksha** web application developed by the Chittoor police at Kuppam, **Andhra Pradesh**.
 - The app has been designed to save the **lives of road accident victims** and reach out to women in distress.
- The Indian Parliament on January 3, 2018 passed the **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2018** that seeks to do away **with the no-detention policy in schools**.
 - The key aim behind the move is to **rebuild the education** system of the country, which is at present broken, as per the Union HRD Minister.
- The Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare **Shri Parshottam Rupala** informed that the Government had launched a **Global Environment Facility (GEF)** assisted project namely, **“Green – Ag: Transforming Indian Agriculture for global environment benefits and the conservation of critical biodiversity and forest landscapes”** in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (**FAO**) during September, 2018.
- In the latest ranking of Singapore’s **Asia Competitiveness Institute’s (ACI), Ease of Doing Business (EDB) index 2018**, Andhra Pradesh emerged on top of the 21 states of India that were considered for the ranking, while Maharashtra and Delhi came in second and third place, respectively.
- Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister, **Hardeep Singh Puri**, launched **the ‘Swachh Survekshan 2019’**, the fourth edition of the annual nationwide cleanliness survey of urban India in **New Delhi**.
 - The Swachh Survekshan 2019 aims to evaluate the achievements in **the cleanliness level in urban areas** of the country. **It is launched as a part of ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’**.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Setting a first-of-its-kind record, **Indian mountaineer 30-year-old Arunima Sinha** became the **first female** amputee to climb **Mount Vinson**, the highest peak of **Antarctica**.
 - She was also the world’s **first woman amputee** to climb Mount Everest.

ECONOMY

- The **Reserve Bank** set up an expert committee under former SEBI chairman **U K Sinha** to suggest long-term solutions for the economic and financial sustainability of the MSME sector.
 - The **eight-member committee** will also examine the factors affecting the timely and adequate availability of finance to the sector.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Justice Asif Saeed Khosa** will take oath of his office a day after incumbent CJP **Justice Saqib Nisar** retires on January 17.
 - Justice Khosa has been a senior Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan since 31 December 2016.
- **Chhabilendra Roul** has assumed the charge of Secretary, Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, and Government of India.

AWARDS

- **Manoj Das**, an eminent English and Odia Litterateur received the “**Kabi Samrat Upendra Bhanja National Award for Lifetime Achievement**” in literature during **53rd** Foundation day ceremony organized by the Berhampur University, Odisha.
 - Manoj Sinha has been already honoured with Sahitya Akademi Award, Orissa. Sahitya Akademi award, Sarala Award, Sahitya Bharati Award and Padma Shri.
- 15-year-old class IXth student, **Wahengbam Lamnganba Singh**, of Kumbi area in **Manipur**, has been selected by the **Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW)** for receiving **National Bravery Award**.

SPORTS

- 30 years old Indian cricket team captain, **Virat Kohli** beats Cricketing legend **Sachin Tendulkar's** to become the **fastest batsman to score 19000 international runs** on the 1st day of 4th Test Match in Sydney against Australia.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Braille Day celebrated on January 4**
 - United Nations observed the **first official World Braille Day** remembering the birth anniversary of **Louis Braille** who was the inventor of **Braille** for the people with visual disabilities.
 - World Braille day is observed annually on **4th January** to raise awareness on the importance of Braille for approximately **1.3 billion people living** with some form of distance or near vision impairment.


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