



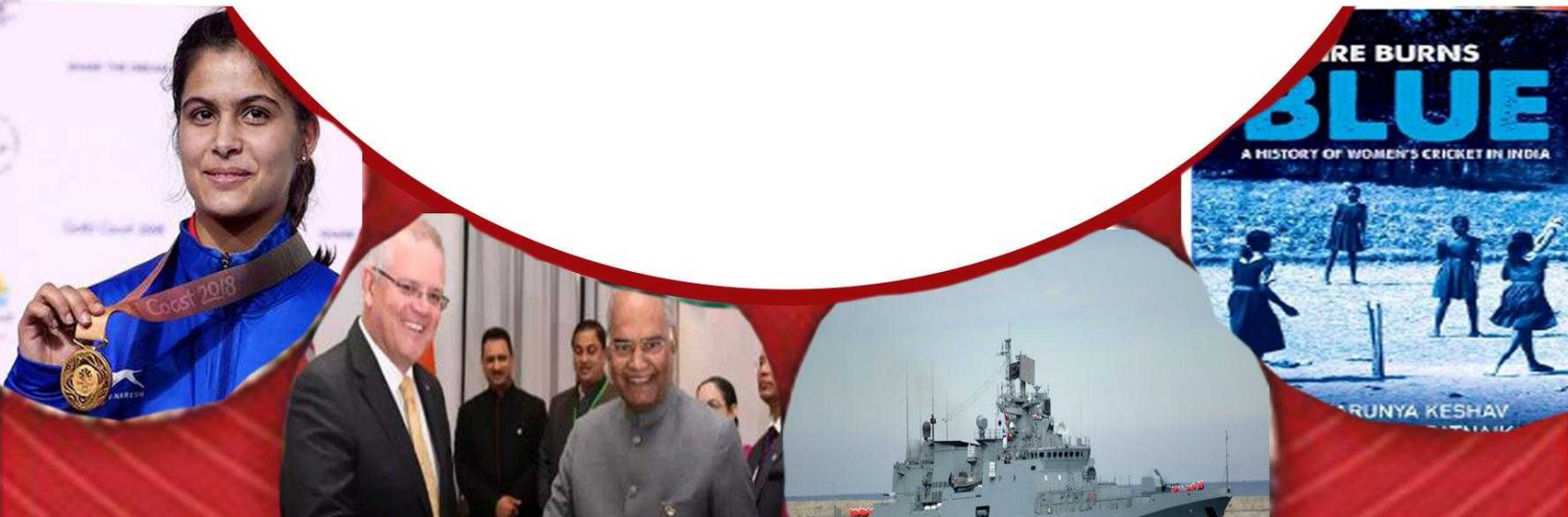
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JANUARY - 2019

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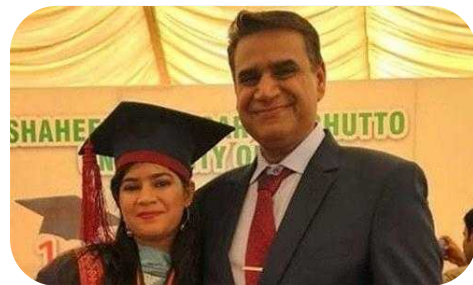
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NATIONAL NEWS

- The Programme for International Student Assessment (**PISA**) tests the learning levels of **15-year-old students** in reading, mathematics, science and collaborative problem solving and is conducted by **OECD** every three years. During this inauguration, Recommendation of **5th Dean Committee** have been implemented in all the Agricultural Universities.
 - To enhance the participation of students in agricultural business, **READY (Rural Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana)** is provided to the UG students.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** dedicated to the nation the **National Salt Satyagraha Memorial at Dandi in Gujarat on Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary on 30 January**. The memorial has statues of **Mahatma Gandhi** and 80 Satyagrahis who had marched with him during the historic Dandi Salt March.
 - It also has 24-narrative murals depicting various events and stories from the historic **1930 Salt March**.
- **The Maharashtra government** launched a special scheme to curb infant deaths. Child Development Minister Pankaja Munde distributed baby-care kits to the children born in primary health centres and government hospitals.
 - The scheme is applicable only for the first child and will benefit around four lakh women across the state, Women.
- **Free education will be provided to girls** in state-run **institutions in Rajasthan from July**, Higher Education Minister **Bhanwar Singh Bhati** said. Also, the female students in colleges will be given sanitary napkins free of cost.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **India has improved its ranking on a global corruption index in 2018**, while its neighbour China lagged far behind, according to the annual index released by an anti-graft watchdog.
 - **India rose by three points to 78** in the list of 180 countries in the world, while China ranked 87 and Pakistan 117 in 2018, **the Transparency International** said in its **Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for 2018**.

ECONOMY

- **Reserve Bank of India** released a data on “**Census on Foreign Liabilities and Assets of Indian Direct Investment Companies, 2017-18**” which shows that the **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** has been increased by 18 per cent to Rs. 28.25 lakh crore.
 - **Mauritius** is the largest source of FDI in India (19.7%) followed by United States of America, United Kingdom, Singapore and Japan.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Kerala** based private sector lender **Federal Bank** has appointed **Dilip Sadarangani** as the **part-time chairman**. The appointment of Sadarangani, who has been on the bank’s board since **2013**, has been cleared by the Reserve Bank.

AWARDS

- Kannada poet and short story writer **Jayant Kaikini** was entitled as the winner of the **DSC Prize for South Asian Literature** for his translated work “**No Presents Please**”. **Jayant and translator Tejaswini Niranjana** received the award from eminent writer Ruskin Bond.
- Tamil Nadu was awarded the “Best State Overall” for its active participation in the national campaign “**Swasth Bharat Yatra**”, which was organized from 16th October 2018 by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
 - The Key element of the Cyclothon was “**Eat Right India**” and the goal of the campaign was to aware the sensitive people about eating food and being healthy.

SPORTS

- French sailor **Jean-Luc Van Den Heede** has won the round-the-world yacht race after **212 days** alone at sea without modern instruments.
 - The **73-year-old**, who completed his sixth circumnavigation of the globe, became the oldest to complete the **30,000-mile Golden Globe race**.