



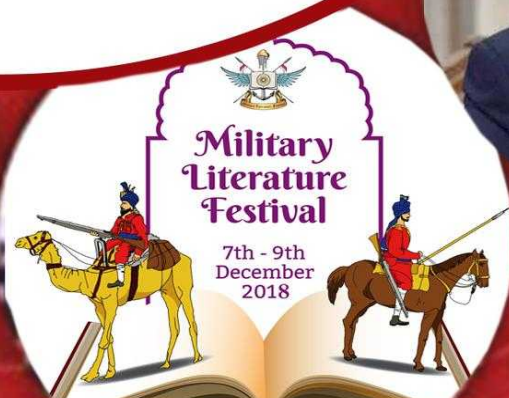
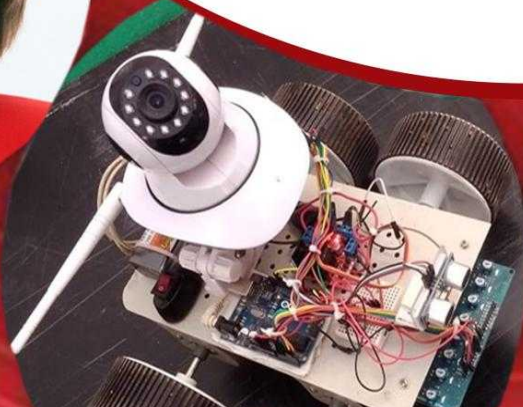
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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Election Commission of India (ECI) launched a Voter Verification and Information Programme (VVIP) for citizens to verify their details, change the details, new registration and corrections.** The programme focuses on 2019 General Election.
 - The ECI has **set up helpline centres in all districts in India. The voter helpline number is 1950** and they are well equipped with to help callers with latest information.
- Lions, identified as one of the endangered species by the government, the Ministry of Environment launched a **three-year Asiatic Lion Conservation Project** in collaboration with the state of **Gujarat**.
 - Gujarat government also implemented **Rs 80 crore** that will be spent on specialised veterinary hospitals and full-fledged ambulances for lions.
- **Himalayan Cloud Observatory** is set up in **Tehri district** with a motive to forecast and monitor cloudburst incidents in the Himalayan region and help minimising the damage. The Observatory is established in the SRT campus, in **Tehri** and is in testing period.
 - This is the **second observatory** in the country to monitor cloud activities by the Indian Science and Technology Department and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur.
- The **fifth edition of West Bengal Global Business Summit** was inaugurated by state **Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee**. It is a **two day summit** held in **Rajarhat, kolkata**.
 - The U.K. India Business Council (**UKIBC**) signed an MoU to work on **promoting trade and investment**.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) conducted its eighth round of National Deworming Day (NDD) with a objective to reduce the **prevalence of Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH)** or parasitic intestinal worms so that there will be no longer be public health problem.
 - The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) envisioned an open-defecation-free India which holds the capacity to reduce the overall worm burden in a community.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **INS Trikand**, the frontline warship of the Indian Navy, participated in a multi-national training exercise '**CUTLASS EXPRESS 2019**' held from **27th January to 06th February 2019**.
 - The aim of the exercise was to **improve law enforcement capacity, promote regional security and progress inter-operability** between the armed forces of the participating nations for the purpose of prohibiting illegal maritime activity in

the **Western Indian Ocean**

- **Hindi** is included as the **third official language** in the **Abu Dhabi court system** with a motive to improve access to justice for foreign workers.
 - Authorities have created bilingual language guides to explain complex **legal terms** in an effort to help people understand court process.

APPOINTMENT

- Shri **Sanjay Kumar Verma** (IFS: 1998), presently **Ambassador of India to Japan**, has been concurrently accredited as the next **Ambassador of India to the Republic of Marshall Islands**, with residence in Tokyo.

AWARDS

- Acclaimed Indo-Canadian filmmaker, Deepa Mehta will be conferred with **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.
 - Deepa Mehta is best known for her trilogy- **“Fire”, “Earth” and “Water”**.
- Lieutenant General **Ranbir Singh**, GOC-in-C (General Officer Commanding), Northern Command, presented **Gallantry** and **Distinguished Service** Awards to army officers, other ranks and next of kin (for posthumous awards).
 - **Lance Naik Wani** was conferred with the **Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry)**, received by his wife on his behalf. **20 units** were also awarded for their overall outstanding performance in the **Command Theatre** in the year **2018**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- India test-fired **Helina**, a helicopter-launched version of the **Nag** anti-tank guided missile, with a hit range of **7-8 km**, from the Odisha Coast on Friday.
 - Developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, Helina is said to be one of the most advanced anti-tank weapons in the world.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- The book **“Law, Justice and Judicial Power – Justice P N Bhagwati’s Approach”** written by Mool Chand Sharma was launched by the Chief Justice of India, Shri Justice Ranjan Gogoi.
 - The Chief Justice of India, **Justice Ranjan Gogoi** referred to Justice Bhagwati as the **“harbinger of environmental jurisprudence” and a “judicial statesman”**.