



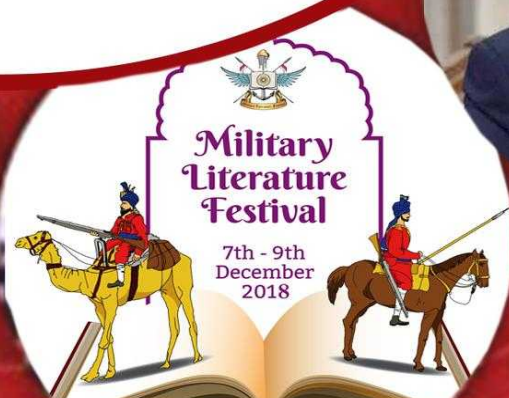
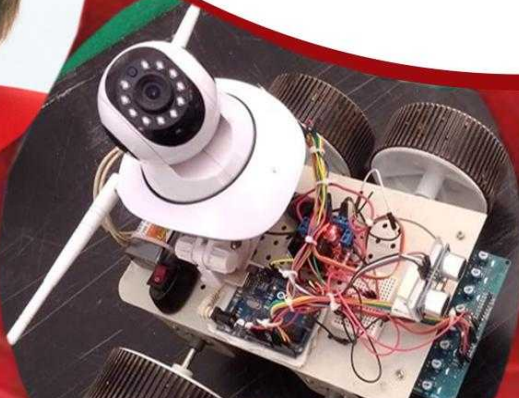
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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise `Exercise Rahat`** concluded in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It was demonstrated in **Jaipur, Kota and Alwar in Rajasthan**.
 - The exercise was conducted in three places, **in Jaipur it was in the form of a table top exercise and at Kota and Alwar it** demonstrated on-ground capability and coordination among various stakeholders.
- **Dr. Najma Heptulla**, Governor of **Manipur**, inaugurating the **two-day National Conference on Unani Medicine** organized by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) in **New Delhi**.
 - Theme of the conference was **‘Unani Medicine for Public Health’**.
- Kochi hosted the **first investor conference ASCEND 2019** to showcase industry friendly initiatives. The conference displayed landmark administrative and policy reforms that **improved ease of doing business in Kerala**.
 - The objective of the conference was to bring into sharp **focus a governance that is transparent, efficient and simplified**. It facilitates business and investments by reducing bureaucratic procedures.
- Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated **Cremica Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd in Village Singhain, Una District of Himachal Pradesh**. This is the first Mega Food Park operationalized in the State of Himachal Pradesh.
 - Ministry of Food Processing Industries implemented Mega Food Park Scheme in the country, to give a major boost to the food processing sector by adding value and reducing food wastage.
- Governor of Bihar **Lalji Tandon** and Union Agriculture Minister **Radha Mohan Singh** jointly inaugurated the three -day Krishi Kumbh in Motihari. The government is creating strong infrastructure from “Beej to Bazar” for enhancing the income of farmers.

- The objective of Krishi Kumbh is to promote **modern techniques and diversification in agriculture** that could help in doubling farmers income.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **The seventh annual World Government Summit** is being held in **Dubai, UAE**. The World Government Summit is a forum dedicated to shaping the future of governments. The World Government Summit is a global platform dedicated to **shaping the future of governments worldwide**.
 - It provides a unique platform to showcase and exchange best practices and smart solutions to the challenges that nations face.

ECONOMICS

- Government panel recommended lowering **GST** on under-**construction** residential properties to 5%. The GST rate for under-construction flats earlier was 12%.
 - The move will give relief to homebuyers as the tax rate had lowered sharply with no input tax credit. Any cut in GST should reduce the adverse impact on the land abatement rate also.

APPOINTMENT

- **Ms. Ruchira Kamboj**, presently High Commissioner of India to the Republic of South Africa has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Royal Kingdom of Bhutan**. She is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

AWARDS

- Indian Historian **Sanjay Subrahmanyam** won **Israel's** prestigious **Dan David Prize** in the category '**Past time dimension**' for his work in macro history.
 - Subrahmanyam won the prize for his work on '**Inter-cultural encounters between Asians, Europeans and people of North and South America during the early modern era**'.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **National Productivity Council celebrates its Foundation Day on 12th Feb**
 - **National Productivity Council (NPC)** has commemorated its 61st Foundation Day as **Productivity Day**. NPC is celebrating National Productivity Week from **12th Feb to 18th Feb, 2019**. This is to signify a distinctive opportunity for circular business representative models for **'Make-Use-Return'** for further economic prospects and revitalization of materials.
 - The theme of this year's Productivity Day is **"Circular Economy for Productivity and Sustainability"**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- Indian Politician and author, **Manish Tewari**, launched **'What Marx Left Unsaid' – Production of Skills by Means of Skills**, authored by Dr. Malay Chaudhari, Dr. Arindam Chaudhari and **Che Kabir Chaudhari** at Indian International Centre, New Delhi.
- The book titled **"Let's Talk On Air: Conversations with Radio Presenters"** has been authored by **Rakesh Anand Bakshi**, which will be launched on **World Radio Day (WRD-2019) on February 13 in Mumbai**.
 - This book is depicted as the comprehensive guide on **radio-presenting in India**.