



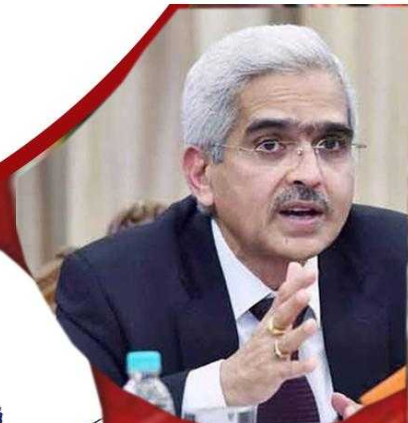
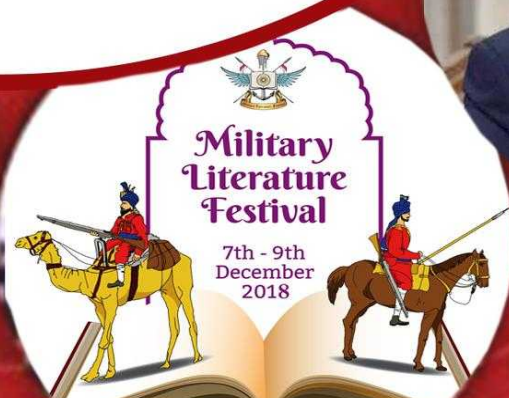
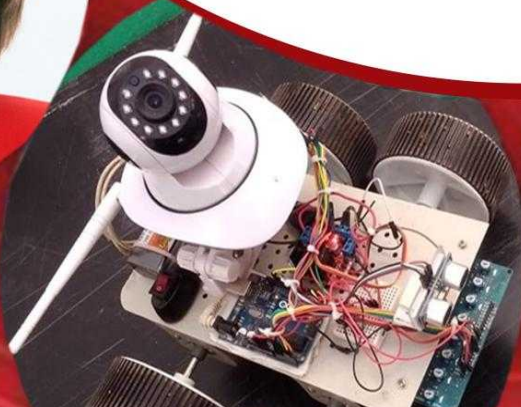
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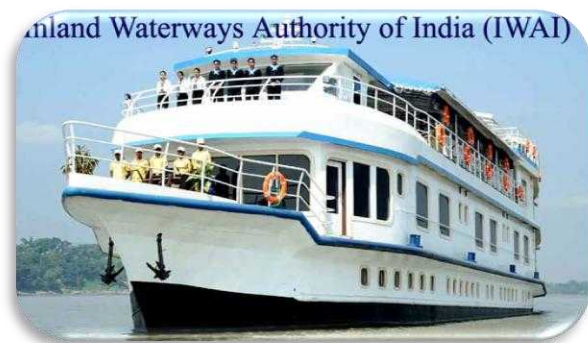
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National News

- 13th edition of International **Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition 'PETROTECH-2019'** held in **New Delhi**
 - The theme of PETROTECH-2019 was **“Shaping the New Energy World through Innovation & Collaboration”**.
- **World Sustainable Development Summit 2019** held at New Delhi
 - The theme of WSDS 2019 was **‘Attaining the 2030 Agenda: delivering on our promise’**
- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, inaugurated the **North Karnataka Agromet Forecasting and Research Centre (NKAFC), India’s first agromet forecast centre, at University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) in Dharwad, Karnataka.**
 - The main objective of the center is to give **accurate reports on the weather** which would enable the farmers to protect the crops and get a good yield.

International News

- **Security Protection Agreement signed between India and Sweden**
 - India and Sweden have been signing MoU on **cooperation in the area of defence since 2009** and conducted number of bilateral meetings.
 - The agreement will boost **‘Make in India’** initiative by the Government of India. **‘Make in India’** is a type of **Swadeshi movement** launched by Government of India on **25th September 2014**.
- On 15th February 2019, **India has withdrawn ‘Most Favoured Nation’ or MFN to Pakistan** just a day after the terror attack in **Pulwama, Jammu & Kashmir** in which 40 **Central Reserve Police Force (CPRF)** personal lost their lives.
 - It was in **1996 India granted MFN status to Pakistan**.
- **World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2019’ Report Released By**

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ILO.

- The International Labour Organization released **World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2019** report. As per the report, unemployment rates will fall to **4.9% in 2019** and remains steady in 2020.

Business & Economy

- Amazon launched '**Amazon Pay UPI**' in collaboration with Axis Bank for Indian android users to facilitate secure payments and financial transactions on its platform.

Appointments

- **Union Minister Arun Jaitley** has resumed the charge as **Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs**.
 - In his absence, the charge of both ministries was assigned to Railway Minister Piyush Goyal.
- The United Nations has appointed Indian official **Chandramouli Ramanathan** to one of the topmost positions in the **Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC)**
- The President has appointed **Sushil Chandra as the new Election Commissioner**.
 - The appointment was made under the clause (2) of Article 324 of the constitution.
 - **IRS officer Pramod Chandra Mody** took over as the **new chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**.

Science & Technology

- **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** launched a new portal '**LADIS**'

for real time data on available depth on stretches of National Waterways.


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