



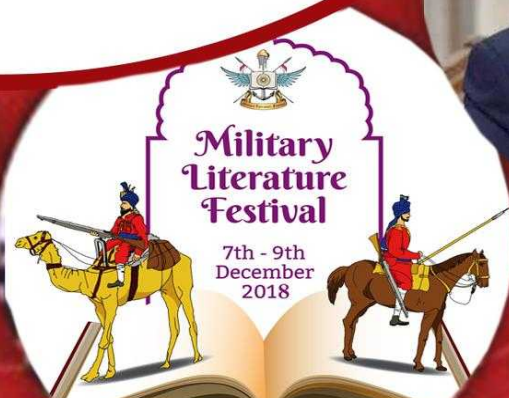
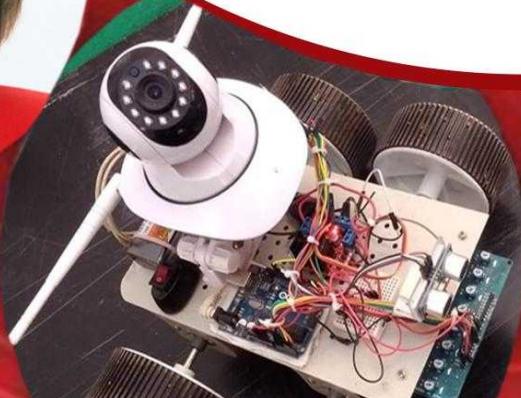
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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation** launched **SWAYATT** in **New Delhi**.
 - SWAYATT-an initiative to encourage **Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions** on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).
- The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry launched **Operation Digital Board** on the lines of **Operation Blackboard** to provide better digital education in school.
 - The government has aimed at equipping **9 lakh** classrooms in schools and colleges across the country (**7 lakh** classrooms of **9th, 10th and 11th standards** and **2 lakh** classrooms of **colleges** and **Universities**) with digital facilities for teaching by **2022**.
- **World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress (World CSR Congress 2019)** is one of the admired meetings which promote Entrepreneurship, Social Responsibility, Sustainability and Social Development.
 - Theme of the year 2019 is **'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'** to focus on corporate strategies, innovation, and strategic alliances.
- A 3 day **'International Vision Zero Conference'** was inaugurated in **Mumbai, Maharashtra** to **promote occupational safety and health**.
 - 'Vision Zero' is based on four principles: Life is non-negotiable, Humans are fallible, Limits of tolerance defined by physical resistance of humans, People are entitled to safe transport and safe workplaces.
- **'KALIA Chhatra Bruti'** scholarship for the children of farmers benefited under the KALIA scheme was launched by the **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
 - It aims at providing financial assistance for technical and professional education to farmers' children by creating provision for the State government to bear all expenses involved in various levels of education, such as course fee, hostel fee, mess fee and so on.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **Saudi Arabia** signed the framework agreement of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** becoming the **73rd country** to join the **India-led renewable energy** organisation which now has a total of 122 members.
 - **ISA** was unveiled by PM Narendra Modi and former French President Francois Hollande in 2015.

APPOINTMENT

- **Dr. G C Anupama** has been elected president of the **Astronomical Society of India (ASI)**, becoming the first woman to head the prime association of professional astronomers in the country.
 - **Astronomical Society of India** was Established in 1972.

AWARDS

- The 34-year-old, **Sunil Chhetri**, was awarded **India's** first-ever **“Football Ratna”** by **Football Delhi** president Shaji Prabhakaran, former player and administrator at the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and FIFA.
 - He was also named as the **6th Indian Footballer** in the elite **Padma Shri** list.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- A tele-law mobile application **‘Nyaya Bandhu’** was launched by the **Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad**.
 - It is pro bono legal service which is designed to connect practising lawyers and the registered eligible beneficiaries in a hassle-free manner.

SPORTS

- 70th International Boxing Tournament Strandja 2019, hosted by **European Boxing Confederation (EUBC)** was held at **Sofia, Bulgaria**, followed by **India** at **2nd rank** with **7 medals**) and **USA** at 3rd with **8 medals**.
 - Former junior world champion, **Nikhat Zareen (Women's 51 KG)** and Meena Kumari Devi (Women's 54 KG), became the first set of **Indian Women Boxers** to clinch **Gold medals** in **Sofia**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Day of Social Justice- February 20**
 - **The World Day of Social Justice** is celebrated annually all over the world on **20 February**. Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations.
 - **2019 theme: If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice.**