



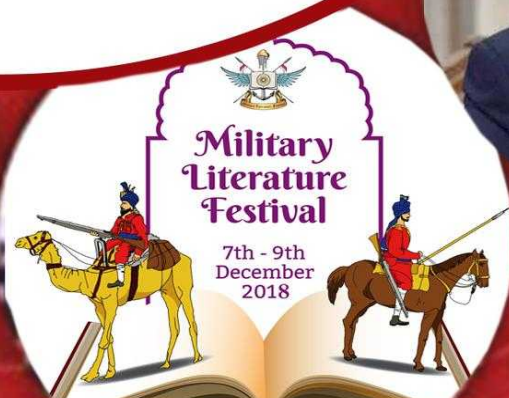
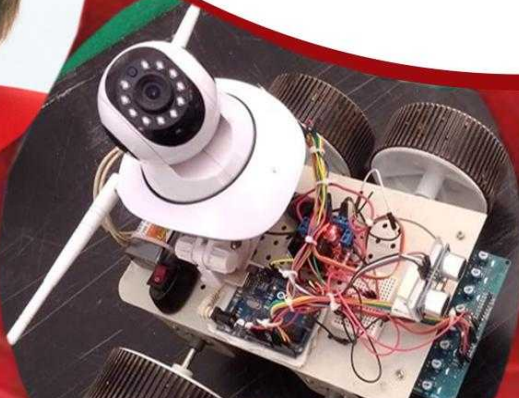
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NATIONAL NEWS

- The Chhattisgarh government has set up a hi-tech **‘integrated command and control centre’ in Raipur** for better traffic management and surveillance in the city. Chief Minister **Bhupesh Baghel** launched the **‘Daksha’** project under which the centre has been built.
 - Set up at a cost of Rs 157.70 crore as part of the **Raipur Smart City initiative**, the project will take care of safety and security, traffic management, public communication, and also to keep the city environment green.
- On 6th March 2019, Government of India with a view to boost to export of farm commodities to certain countries in Europe and North America introduced a scheme for providing **financial assistance for transport and marketing of agriculture products**.
 - The Government will reimburse a certain percentage of freight charges and **provide assistance for marketing of agricultural produce under this transport and marketing assistance scheme**.
- NITI Aayog’s list of aspirational districts for the period of **December 2018-January 2019** has been topped by 3 districts of Jharkhand- Chatra, **Sahibganj, and Hazaribagh**. These districts are also said to have performed well in **‘health and nutrition’** parameters.
 - This ranking was released by **Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog**.
- On 6th March 2019, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the scheme **‘Mukhya Mantri Karigar Sahayata’** for financial assistance to craftsmen. The nodal department of the scheme is the Directorate of handicrafts.
 - Craftsmen with 10 years of experience and having annual income below **Rs.1 lakh** are eligible to get an assistance of **Rs.800 per month**.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- On 6th March 2019, **India has the cheapest mobile data in the world** as per the research by price comparison site cable.co.uk. The global average was **USD 8.53 for 1GB**.
 - Compared to global average of about **Rs. 600, 1GB is costing just Rs. 18.5(USD 0.26) in India**. In the same case countries like **UK has USD 12.37** for the same amount of data.
- **Malaysia** became a member of the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**, the world’s only permanent war crimes court which aims to prosecute the worst abuses when national courts

are unable or unwilling.

- **Malaysia** is the **124th** member of the court since its establishment in **2002**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Ten years after its launch, NASA's Kepler Mission has discovered and received confirmation for its first exoplanet Kepler-1658 b.
 - Characteristics of Kepler-1658 b which includes Very high-temperature, **Thrice** as large and **1.5** times as massive as the Sun and Orbits at a distance of only **twice** diameter of the Sun.

SPORTS NEWS

- **Australian Nick Kyrgios** stunned German second seed Alexander Zverev 6-3 6-4 to win the **Acapulco International in Mexico** for his fifth career **ATP title**.
 - Kyrgios defeated three top-10 players on the way to the title, saving three match points in a second-round victory over second-ranked Rafael Nadal owner of 17 Grand Slam titles and beating No. 9 John Isner in the semis.

ECONOMY NEWS

- The phenomenal growth of **Reliance Jio**, backed by its ultra-cheap data plans that has transformed the telecom scenario in India, has helped **Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani** move six places up to rank **13th in US magazine Forbes' "World's Billionaire list 2019"**. Others in the top-100 billionaires' list include Wipro Chairman Azim Premji at rank 36th, followed by HCL co-founder Shiv Nadar at 82nd spot and ArcelorMittal chairman Lakshmi Mittal at 91st position.
 - **Amazon founder Jeff Bezos continued to remain the world's richest man** with a net worth of \$131 billion, followed by Bill Gates at \$96.5 billion and Warren Buffett at \$82.5 billion.

APPOINTMENTS

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- Senior IAS officer **Sanjeev Ranjan** has been named **secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)**, as part of a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the central government. Ranjan, a 1985-batch IAS officer of Tripura cadre, is at present the chairman of National Highways Authority of India.
 - **Nagendra Nath Sinha will replace Ranjan as the new NHAI chief.** Sinha is managing director, National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation. He will continue to hold the additional charge of this post too.


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