



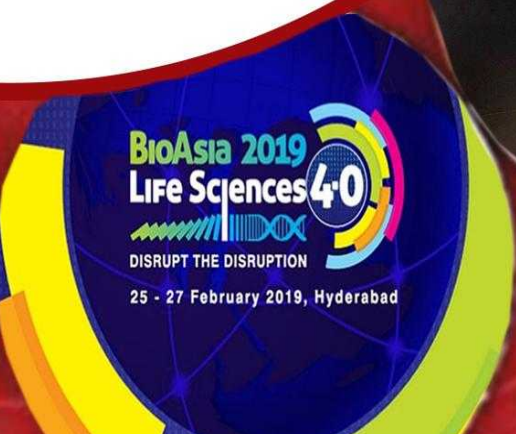
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Main Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Chromepet, Chennai

Phone: 8939144344, 8939244344

Branch Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Plot No: 47/60, "AK" Block,
7th Main Road, Anna Nagar
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 040.

3rd Floor, West Wing, Gokul Arcarde,
No.2, Sardar Patel Road, Adyar
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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



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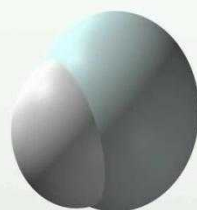
APPOINTMENTS



AWARDS



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NATIONAL NEWS

- **On 19th April 2019, To get immediate assistance to the people who are in trouble**, Union territories and Twenty states have joined in a pan-India network of **single emergency helpline number '112'**, which is implemented by central government's Nirbhaya Fund(2012 Delhi gangrape case).
 - Police (100), women(1090) and fire(101) helpline numbers are amalgamated in this and is similar to '911' in US.
- On 19th April 2019, **Airtel Payments Bank** joined hands with **Bharti AXA General Insurance** for a two-wheeler insurance product offering which is available on **MyAirtel App and at over 40,000 Airtel Payments Bank points across India**.
 - This offers various benefits like **70 percent** savings on an **annual premium**, personal accident cover, protection against third-party liabilities and inspection-free renewal through a paperless process.
- **On 19th April 2019**, the retail arm of the **Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries** became India's first retail company to cross the **Rs.1 lakh crore** annual revenue.
 - The revenue for 2018-19 is Rs. 1.3 lakh crore, which is 89% more from the previous fiscal.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- On 19th April 2019, **India's Haj Quota** has been increased by about 25,000, raising the number to **2 lakh** from 1.75 lakh by Saudi Arabia.
 - Saudi Crown Prince **Mohammed bin Salman** gave the assurance to Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a meeting in February.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- The Northrop Grumman Antares rocket and its unscrewed Cygnus Spacecraft

launched which contains tons of NASA's supplies and 40 live mice to the International Space Station (ISS), from the **Mid-Atlantic Regional Spacecraft at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility** on Wallops Island in Virginia.

- The mission named NG-11, is the 11th cargo flight for NASA by Northrop Grumman, to deliver 7600 lbs. (3,447 kg), the heaviest load for Cygnus till date

ECONOMY

- **The income tax department has altered the method for taxing multinational companies (MNCs)** and digital firms with permanent establishment in India by taking into account various factors like domestic sales, employee (**manpower and wages**) **strength, assets and user base.**

APPOINTMENTS

- Indian Railway Stores Service Officer of 1980 batch **VP Pathak has taken over as Member (Materials Management) Railway Board.** Prior to his assuming the post, the officer had been working as Director General (RS), Railway Board since June 12, 2018.
 - Mr Pathak graduated in Civil engineering with Honours from Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad in 1979.

AWARDS

- A total of **150 Indian peacekeepers serving with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) have received medals of honour** for their dedicated service and sacrifice.
 - The medals were given to the 150 Indian peacekeepers serving in **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in Malakal** during a ceremony filled with parades and performances by a piped band.