



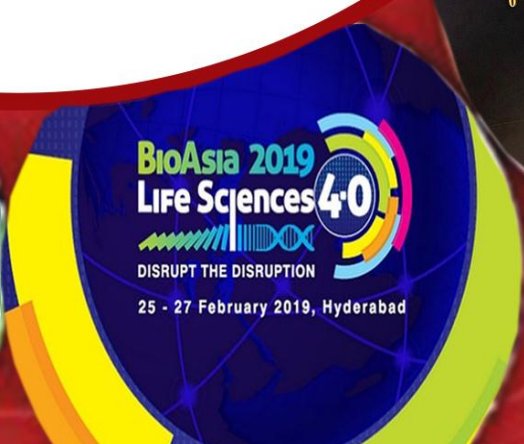
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APRIL - 2019

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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Indonesia released a special commemorative stamp on the theme of Ramayana** to mark the 70th anniversary of diplomatic ties with India. The stamp, designed by renowned Indonesian sculptor **Padmashri Bapak Nyoman Nuart**, features a scene from Hindu epic **Ramayana** in which **Jatayu** valiantly fought to **save Sita**.
 - The stamp, symbolising the resolve of two peoples in the face of adversity will be on display at the **Philately Museum in Jakarta**.
- **Garia festival** is an important festival for the **Tripuri tribal community** of the state. The Garia dance is very popular among the Tripuris and the Reangs. It is held on the seventh day of the month of Vaishakha. This year's Garia puja was on 21 April.
 - In Garia puja devotees sacrifice chicken for ritual purpose. It is a three day festival to honour the deity Baba Garia is held annually on the first day of Hindu calendar month of 'Vaisakh'.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **Israel** said it would name a new community on the **Golan Heights after** U.S. President **Donald Trump** as an expression of gratitude for his recognition of its claim of sovereignty over the strategic plateau.
 - Israel captured the Golan from Syria in a 1967 war and annexed it, in a move not recognized internationally. The United States broke with other world powers last month when Trump signed a decree recognizing Israeli sovereignty there.
- The world's first malaria vaccine **RTS,S** is also known as **Mosquirix** has launched in Malawi, one of three countries in Africa in a landmark pilot programme coordinated by the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**. The other two African countries are **Ghana** and **Kenya**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- On 24th April 2019, Researchers at the **Lund University Diabetes Centre** have discovered how lifestyle affects genes and disease development in a human body in a new study called '**Epigenetic Mechanisms**'.
 - The details of the study were published in **The Journal of Cell Metabolism**

ECONOMY

- **The government has extended the ban on import of milk and milk products from China (including chocolates, chocolate products, candies, confectionary, food** preparations with milk or milk solids as an ingredient).
 - The ban on milk products was 1st imposed in September 2008 and it had been extended continuously from time to time. The recent ban imposed by the government ended on April 23, 2019.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Karnam Sekar**, Dena Bank's former Managing Director has been newly appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Overseas Bank. He would take up the position from July 1, 2019.
 - He has been working as an officer on special duty and Whole Time Director in IOB (Indian Overseas Bank) from April 1 till the time of taking over charge from **R Subramaniakumar** who was the erstwhile CEO and MD.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **The National Panchayati Raj Diwas (Day)** is celebrated every year in India on **24th April**. This day marks the passing of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 that came into force with effect from 24 April 1993.
 - The first National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated in **2010**. The enactment of 73rd Amendment Act had led a defining moment in the

history of India which helped in decentralization of political power to the grassroots level.



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