



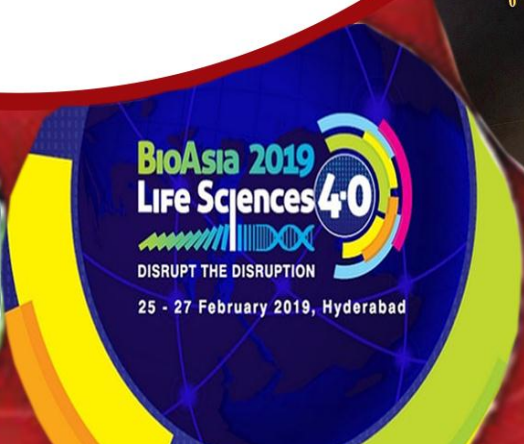
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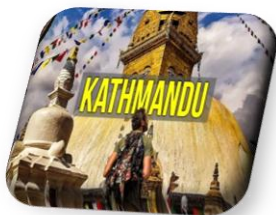
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NATIONAL NEWS

- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has distributed around **3,100** special kits among states and union territories. The kits are termed '**SAECKs**' (The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits) and are also called '**rape investigation kits**'.
 - This help to collect blood and semen samples for carrying out immediate effective medico-legal investigations on sexual assault cases.
- Recently, Indian Army signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Limited, to build four underground tunnels along China and Pakistan borders for storage of ammunition and other war-related equipment.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un holds first-ever talks at the Far Eastern Federal University Campus on Russky Island in the far eastern Russian Pacific port city of **Vladivostok**. The aim of this meeting is to break the deadlock over North Korea's nuclear weapons programme.

ECONOMY

- Seattle-based tech giant **Microsoft** has reached a valuation of **\$1 trillion** for the first time after a jump in stock valuation that followed a qualitative-laden third fiscal quarter and has again taken over Apple as the **world's most valuable company**.
 - Microsoft has become the third company to cross that once-unimaginable line following **Apple**, earned in August 2018 and **Amazon**, earned in september 2018.

APPOINTMENTS

- On 25th April 2019, former executive director of LIC of India, **Siddhartha Mohanty** has been appointed as Chief Operating Officer (COO) of LIC Housing

Finance.

- He started his career with LIC of India in 1985.

AWARDS

- **The Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019** was awarded to author **Rana Dasgupta** for his 2010 novel **“Solo”** which is a tale of estrangement and the ultimate failure of material existence. It is the **second** edition of the **Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize**.
 - Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize aims to revive poetry and books that can change lives. Indian Poets, novelists and Playwrights writing in officially recognized languages or dialects of the Indian subcontinent, including English.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- April 26, 2019, was observed as a World Intellectual Property Day across the globe with a theme of **“Reach for Gold: IP and Sports”**. The objective is to increase awareness about the role intellectual rights play in encouraging creativity and innovation.