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Himachal Pradesh Becomes First State to Launch e-Buses

- ❖ Himachal Roads Transport Corporation has launched its electric bus service on Manali-Rohtang highway. The service had undergone a trial run for two years prior its official launch. With this initiative, Himachal Pradesh has become the first hill state in the country to run electric buses. Many Electricity charging points have been installed at Manali and Marhi. The buses will ply on Manali-Kullu and Mandi routes during winters when the road to Rohtang is blocked with snow. The government has also decided to start an eight-seater electric vehicle service in Manali town.

India to host World Congress on Adolescent Health next month

- ❖ Home to around 253 million adolescents, India will next month host the World Congress on Adolescent Health, billed as the biggest global event in adolescent health this year. Held once in every four years, the International Association for Adolescent Health's 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health be held in New Delhi from October 27-29. This year's theme is 'Investing in Adolescent Health-The Future is Now'.

PV Sindhu Jumps to World No 2 in Latest Ranking

- ❖ On the latest Badminton World Federation rankings, PV Sindhu has jumped to number 2 from number 5. It is her career's best ranking with 75664 points. Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying is on the top. Spain's Carolina Marin has secured the third place. Sindhu Managed to secure the second position after winning the India Open Superseries. It is notable that Saina Nehwal has also protected her place in top 10 names by claiming the 9th position. In the men's ranking India's Ajay Jayaram has secured the 20th rank while the list is topped by SON wan Ho of South Korea followed by Viktor Axelsen and Lin Dan for second and third position respectively.

Bollywood film Newton is India's official entry to 2018 Oscars

- ❖ Bollywood film 'Newton' is India's official entry in the Foreign Language Film category at the 2018 Oscars. Rajkumar Rao, who played the lead role in 'Newton', shared the news. 'Newton', directed by Amit Masurkar, revolves around a government clerk who tries his best to conduct free and fair voting in a Naxal-controlled town.

Balraj Joshi Appointed New NHPC chairman

- ❖ NHPC Ltd has roped in Balraj Joshi as its new chairman-cum-managing director (CMD) NHPC Ltd is India's hydropower power utility. He is appointed by Appointment Committee of the Cabinet. Joshi is currently serving as the technical director in NHPC. According to another notice, Cabinet Committee has appointed P. Alli Rani, who is at present director (finance) in Container Corporation of India Limited, as the CMD of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). Joshi is appointed for two years while Rani is appointed for five years.

Boxing legend Jake LaMotta passes away aged 95

- ❖ Boxing legend Jake LaMotta passed away in a nursing home due to complications from pneumonia on aged 95. The boxing legend's life story was told in the movie Raging Bull where he was played by Robert De Niro. LaMotta competed in 106 pro fights and won a world middleweight championship.

Samsung's Bixby Voice now works in India

- ❖ Bixby takes some initial setting up, requiring users to input their voice, reading commands and sentences and trying out a few tasks. Bixby is meant to do additional and on-phone tasks which Samsung hopes will make getting things done faster and easier. Bixby Voice can be triggered by saying "Hi Bixby" to a sleeping device also.

SBI launches Indian bond index series in London

- ❖ State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the FTSE SBI Bond Index series in partnership with global index provider FTSE 100, which will give tools to investors from India, the UK and globally to analyse India's government bond market, and drive growth in this market. This index, launched in collaboration with the London Stock Exchange, will ensure that international investors have an international benchmark that is transparent, that is well governed and that is something they can easily rely on.

Scientist CNR Rao ,First Asian chosen for international honour for materials research

- ❖ Professor C.N.R Rao, has become the first Asian to be chosen for the prestigious Von Hippel Award for his contribution in materials research. The award is the US-based Materials Research Society's (MRS) highest honour. Mr. Rao will be honoured by his immense work on novel functional materials, including nanomaterials (having particles of nanoscale dimensions), graphene (the strongest and thinnest material) and 2D materials, superconductivity, and colossal magnetoresistance (change in electrical resistance of a material in a magnetic field). The award will be presented in Boston on November 29, during an MRS meeting.

Cisco appoints Chuck Robbins as executive chairman

- ❖ Global IT and networking major Cisco has appointed Chuck Robbins as the Executive Chairman of the company announced on 19th Sept. 2017. The announcement came after John Chambers, the present Executive Chairman, notified the Board of Directors that he will not stand for re-election. Robbins had joined Cisco in 1997 and assumed the role of the company's CEO on July 26, 2015. Chambers had given the honorary title of Chairman Emeritus.