



Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana launched in Jharkhand

- ❖ Jharkhand Government has launched the Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana. The scheme aims at developing villages of freedom fighters. The scheme was launched from Ulihatu Village which is the birth place of freedom fighter and Jharkhand's tribal icon, Birsa Munda. The programme will provide 136 pucca houses to the dwellers of Ulihatu and a couple of other hamlets around it.

WHO grants \$175,000 for Rohingyas' healthcare

- ❖ The WHO has released its first tranche of emergency funding of \$175,000 to provide lifesaving healthcare to the 'vulnerable population' in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar. Though the World Health Organisation (WHO) did not specifically mention the Rohingya refugees, over 410,000 of them have arrived in Cox's Bazar since August 25 after escaping Myanmar's military crackdown. The WHO South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) grant of \$175,000 will support 20 mobile medical teams to provide essential services for at least two months.

Tripura is first state to set up district family welfare committees

- ❖ On September 18, 2017, Tripura became the first state in the country to set up family welfare district committees to deal with the issue of fake and biased complaints by women against their husbands, in-laws and husband's relatives. These committees have been formed as per the directives of the Supreme Court. State Governor Tathagata Roy in the presence of Chief Minister Manik Sarkar and other high dignitaries formally launched the family welfare committees in all eight districts in Tripura. The family welfare district committees may comprise para-legal volunteers or social workers or retired officers or even the wives of serving officers. The panel members will not be called as witnesses if the police or magistrate decide to investigate a particular case.

Purnima clinches pentathlon gold

- ❖ India won its first athletics gold, through Purnima Hembram in women's pentathlon, in the fifth Asian indoor and martial arts games at Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. India also got two silvers, through Sanjivani Jadhav in women's 3000m and Tejinder Singh Toor in men's shot put, and a bronze through Kerala's V. Neena in women's long jump.

Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2017 Approved by Law Ministry

- ❖ The law ministry has given its approval to Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill. The bill will give powers to the government to confiscate property of economic offenders and defaulters who flee India, albeit with a new provision. Law Ministry proposed a "Saving Clause" to be incorporated in the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill 2017 before its presentation in the Lok Sabha. The saving clause provides for certain exception(s) in a statute. It enables the repealed law to be in force with respect to some existing rights.

India ranks third among countries that faced most natural disasters

- ❖ India ranked third among the countries that have faced the most natural disasters in the last half century, UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres said pleading for unwavering international action on climate change. The United States, followed by China, India, the Philippines and Indonesia, have experienced the most disasters since 1995. Climate change was among the seven global threats that he listed needing immediate global action.

BCCI nominates MS Dhoni for Padma Bhushan award

- ❖ The BCCI has nominated former Indian cricket team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (36) for Padma Bhushan, country's third highest civilian award for his contribution to game. He is only cricketer nominated by BCCI for this years Padma Awards. Dhoni is one of greatest names in contemporary cricket and has impeccable credentials to his name. He is only Indian captain to record two win at World Cup titles (2011 50-over World Cup and 2007 World T20). He is one of the greatest ODI cricketer with nearly 10,000 runs. He has scored 9737 runs in 302 ODIs besides 4876 runs in 90 Test matches. He has also played 78 T20 Internationals, scoring 1212 runs. He has 16 international hundreds (6 in Tests and 10 in ODIs) to his name along with 100 international half-centuries. As a wicketkeeper, Dhoni has held 584 catches across formats (256 in Tests, 285 in ODIs and 43 in T20 Internationals). He has also effected 163 stumpings. Dhoni is already a recipient of the prestigious Arjuna, Rajeev Gandhi Khel Ratna and the Padma Shri award.

India TV chairman Rajat Sharma elected NBA president

- ❖ India TV chairman and editor-in- chief Rajat Sharma will be the new president of the News Broadcasters Association (NBA) for 2017-18. Mathrubhumi Printing & Publishing Co Ltd's joint managing director M V Shreyams Kumar will be the vice president of the association. News24 Broadcast India Ltd chairperson-cum-managing director Anuradha Prasad is the honorary treasurer. Sharma was also earlier NBA president from 2014 to 2016.

Scientists for first time observe Optical polarisation phenomenon of fast spinning -star

- ❖ Scientists for first time have observed Optical polarisation phenomenon (polarised light emitted by rapidly rotating stars) after it was predicted by Indian astrophysicist and Nobel laureate Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar 70 years ago. Optical polarisation phenomenon is a measure of the orientation of the oscillations of a light beam to its direction of travel.