



Odisha passes bill for setting up first Odia language university

- ❖ On September 14, 2017, The Odisha government passed a bill for starting the first Odia language university for post-graduate in literature, linguistics and epigraphy. After Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, Odisha became the fourth state in country to have a special university for development of its language and literature. The university would be established in Bhubaneswar. It would also administer PG courses in literary criticism, evolution of east Indian language scripts, historical scripts, archaeology, musicology and translation into and from Odia. The proposed university also aims at making Odia script more adaptable to computer technology.

Japan releases postage stamps on Indian yoga experts

- ❖ Acknowledging the role played by yoga legend Bishnu Charan Ghosh and his family members in spreading Indian postural yoga in Japan, the Japanese postal department has released postage stamps on four of Bengal's famous exponents of the ancient Indian practice. The stamps on Bishnu Charan Ghosh, his son Biswanath Ghosh, daughter Karuna Ghosh and Karuna's father in law Asutosh Ghosh, that were released recently in Japan, were official showcased here by the Japanese Consul General in Kolkata, Masayuki Taga.

Google Tez UPI-Based Digital Payments App Launched in India

- ❖ The app allows users to transfer money via their bank accounts as well as Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ID, QR code and phone number. Google has introduced a reward program under which users can make Rs 51 when referral makes their first payment. A user can earn a maximum of Rs 9,000 per financial year, and user can only be paid once for inviting the same person once. The offer expires on April 1, 2018. Along with all major Indian banks, Google has also teamed up with Dominos, RedBus and PVR as payment partners. There's also a 'Cash mode transactions' option in the app that allows users to send money instantly to another Tez user nearby without needing to share private details like your bank account or phone number.

69th Primetime Emmy Awards 2017

- ❖ On 17th September 2017, the 69th Annual PrimeTime Emmy Awards ceremony took place at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles, California, United States. The Annual Prime Emmy Awards honours the best US television programmes broadcasted from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. The award winners were chosen by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. The ceremony was hosted by Stephen Colbert. The 69th Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards were held on 9th September 10th September 2017.

Punit Goenka Re-appointed as President of Indian Broadcasting Foundation

- ❖ Punit Goenka was re-appointed as President of The Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) for a second consecutive year. He is MD & CEO, Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEEL). K.

Madhavan (Asianet Communications), N. P. Singh (Sony Pictures Network), Rajat Sharma (India TV) and Sudhanshu Vats- Vice Presidents of the Foundation for the second consecutive term.

India Ranks 128th In Meeting UN's 2030 Health Target

- ❖ India ranks 128th in terms of meeting the UN's health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, with low scores on air pollution, sanitation, hepatitis B and child wasting, according to a global health review published in The Lancet. The Global Burden of Disease study provides new estimates on where the world currently stands in terms of meeting health goals. Singapore, Iceland and Sweden were the highest performing countries in terms of the overall health-related SDGs. Somalia, Central African Republic, and Afghanistan ranked lowest.

Home Minister launches Intelligence wing of Sashastra Seema Bal and WARB App

- ❖ Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh has launched first Intelligence Wing of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and Welfare & Rehabilitation Board (WARB) App in New Delhi authorized to Protect the shared borders of India with Nepal and Bhutan. It has been confirmed as the Lead Intelligence Agency (LIA) for both the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders. SSB Director General Archana Ramasundaram informed that Intelligence Wing of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) is used to prevent criminals and smugglers from taking advantage of the friendly borders with Nepal and Bhutan. The intelligence wing will have 650 field and staff agents to gather information about these borders frequently used by criminals and Kashmiri terrorists returning from Pakistan.

Y.C Modi named NIA chief

- ❖ Senior IPS officer Y.C Modi, who was part of the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team that probed the 2002 Gujarat riot cases, was named chief of the National Investigation Agency (NIA). The federal probe agency is tasked with probing terrorism and terror-financing related cases. Another senior IPS officer, Rajni Kant Misra, has been appointed Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

Dr Kirpal Chugh, India's father of nephrology, dies at 85

- ❖ Dr Kirpal Singh Chugh, fondly called father of nephrology in India, has passed away. He was 85. Belonging to Patti in Tarn Taran, he was awarded the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award, in 2000. He is the first Indian to receive the Bywaters Award by the International Society of Nephrology (ISN). Nephrology is the study of normal kidney function and kidney problems, the preservation of kidney health, and the treatment of kidney problems.