



### **Centre Approves Rs. 1151.80 Crore Fund For Crop Residue Management**

- ❖ In the budget 2018-19, the government announced to launch a special scheme to support state governments of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi to tackle air pollution. Also, the scheme would help in subsidizing the machinery required for crop residue management. In this regard, the government has approved a Rs 1,151 crore scheme to promote in-situ (in the farm itself) management of crop residue in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The cabinet committee chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sanctioned a fund of Rs. 1151.80 crores. Rs 591 crore will be spent in next fiscal while the remaining Rs 560 crore will be meant for assisting stakeholders in 2019-20. The fund will be used to promote agricultural mechanisation for this purpose for the next two years (2018-20).

### **PM launches National Nutrition Mission**

- ❖ On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, launched the National Nutrition Mission, and expansion of the coverage of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme, at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan. He also interacted with beneficiary mothers and girl children of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme. The Prime Minister awarded certificates to the best performing districts under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme.

### **Dearness Allowance For Government Employees Hiked to 7%**

- ❖ The Union Cabinet of India has given its nod to provide 7% dearness allowance on the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission. The increased DA increased to 7% from 5% will benefit 11 million government employees. The hike will benefit about 48.41 lakh central government employees and 61.17 lakh pensioners. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be Rs6,077.72 crore per annum, and Rs7,090.68 crore in 2018-19

### **Udyam Sakhi Portal Launched for Women Entrepreneurs**

- ❖ On the occasion of International Women's Day today, March 8, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) launched a portal for women entrepreneurs of India: [www.udyamsakhi.org](http://www.udyamsakhi.org). The portal was unveiled by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of MSME, Giriraj Singh, in a program. The Minister said that India has around 8 million women who have started and are running their own businesses and the Ministry of MSME believes that the women in India can play a vital role in the growth of the Indian economy. The portal is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship and creating business models for low cost products and services in order to empower women and make them self-reliant and self-sufficient.

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## Neiphiu Rio Takes Oath As Nagaland Chief Minister

- ❖ Neiphiu Rio has taken oath today as the Chief Minister of Nagaland. This comes after the BJP and the Nationalist Democratic People's Party (NDPP) won 29 seats in the elections. This will be Neiphiu Rio's fourth time as the Chief Minister of Nagaland. Mr Rio was the Chief Minister of Nagaland for three terms between 2003 and 2014, making him the only Nagaland Chief Minister to have served three consecutive terms.

## Balkrishna Doshi named India's first winner of the Pritzker Prize

- ❖ Balkrishna Doshi has become the first Indian architect to win the Pritzker Prize in its four-decade history. Regarded as the profession's equivalent to the Nobel Prize, the award went to Doshi in recognition of a career spanning almost 70 years. Doshi is known for designing low-cost housing and public institutions. Among his most acclaimed projects are Tagore Memorial Hall in Ahmedabad and the Aranya Low Cost Housing development.

## Mumbai gets 47th spot on global city wealth index, says report

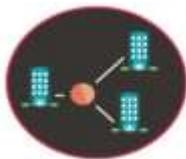
- ❖ An independent global property consultancy, in a city wealth index report, ranked India's financial capital Mumbai at 47th spot out of 314 cities across the globe. As per the Knight Frank's Wealth Report 2018, the 'city wealth index' takes into consideration four major indicators for ranking - Wealth, investments, lifestyle and future. In terms of the top 20 costliest global cities, where \$1 million can buy only 92 square metres of area, Mumbai has been ranked at 16th position.

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