



World Kidney Day 2018: 8 March

- ❖ World Kidney Day is observed annually on the 2nd Thursday in March. World Kidney Day (WKD) is a global health awareness campaign focusing on the importance of the kidneys and reducing the frequency and impact of kidney disease and its associated health problems worldwide. World Kidney Day is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations (IFKF).

European Development Bank Approves India's Membership

- ❖ The shareholders of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) have given their approval for India's membership in the international financial institution. After India becomes the 69th member of EBRD, Indian companies can undertake joint investments in regions in which the EBRD operates. The decision is followed by Indian government's application to seek the EBRD membership back in December 2017. Now to initiate the formal membership, India will purchase the shares at an estimated cost of around €1 million.

Virat Kohli named first Brand Ambassador for Uber India

- ❖ Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli has been named cab-hailing startup Uber's first Brand Ambassador in India. Kohli will also be involved in a series of marketing and customer experience initiatives, Uber India said in a statement. Commenting on the development, Kohli said that he is "super pumped" to be a part of the team.

PM Inaugurates National Legislators Conference On The Theme of 'We For Development'

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated National Legislators Conference on the theme 'We For Development' in New Delhi. The motive of the conference is to bring MPs and MLAs on a single platform where ideas and plans for development can be exchanged. The conference will hold discussions on how women help in the development work being done for the country where ideas on projects and plans can be debated. NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant will give a presentation on the first day and the plenary will be presided over by Lok Sabha Deputy Speaker M Thambidurai. Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu will address the concluding session.

Sufi singer Pyarelal Wadali passes away

- ❖ The Sufi singing pair of Wadali Brothers was broken as Pyarelal Wadali, the younger brother, passed away at the age of 65 in Amritsar. Besides Sufi kalaam and qawwali, they sang bhajan, ghazal and kaafi forms. The duo got Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1992, Tulsi Award in 1998, and Punjabi Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2003.

Multilateral naval exercise begins in Andamans

- ❖ The Indian Navy began an eight-day-long mega naval exercise along with leading maritime powers of the region at the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The biennial exercise — Milan — is taking place in the backdrop of imposition of state of emergency in Maldives and Sri Lanka, two of India's maritime neighbours. 28 warships including 17 from India and 11 from Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand are participating in the 10th exercise.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan Announces Pension For Single Women

- ❖ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Women's day announced 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Kosh' scheme under which women who aren't married and are above the age of 50 will be given pension. Chouhan also took the occasion to assert that any person who will misbehave with women will be hanged in public.

India's top court allows passive euthanasia

- ❖ Over a decade after NGO Common Cause filed a petition seeking the right for terminally-ill patients "to die with dignity," India's Supreme Court has decreed that passive euthanasia is legally valid across the country. In a judgment delivered on March 09, the court said patients have the right to refuse life-support instead of prolonging their pain, and that a "living will," in which they can authorise family members in advance to let them die, should be recognised. The judgment was made by a bench consisting of chief justice Dipak Misra and justices AK Sikri, AM Khanwilkar, DY Chandrachud, and Ashok Bhushanin. India is 22nd country to legalize passive euthanasia.

President receives the book 'Fulfilling Bapu's Dreams – Prime Minister Modi's tribute to Gandhiji'

- ❖ The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, received the first copy of the book 'Fulfilling Bapu's Dreams – Prime Minister Modi's Tribute to Gandhiji' from Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, who formally released it at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, noted sanitation activist, was also present. Speaking on the occasion, the President said that this book underscores an important aspect of India's developmental process.

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(LABOUR INSPECTOR)

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