



CURRENT
AFFAIRS

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30th
MAR2018

Win Myint elected new Myanmar president

- ❖ Myanmar's parliament has elected Win Myint as the country's next president, a week after the resignation of his predecessor Htin Kyaw. Win Myint, a close aide of Aung San Suu Kyi, has been a speaker in the lower house since 2012 and was widely tipped for the top job. But his role will be essentially ceremonial, with Ms Suu Kyi acting as de facto president.

Shekhar Kapur to head the jury for 65th National Film Awards

- ❖ The Central Panel for the 65th National Film Awards has been constituted. The panel comprises one Chairperson and 10 members, including five regional Chairpersons, who will head the regional panels. Eminent director of international repute Shekhar Kapur has been appointed as chairman of the panel. The Central Government has constituted a central panel for the 65th National Film Festival. The panel constitutes of one chairperson, 5 regional chairpersons and 10 other members.

Cricket Australia bans Steve Smith, David Warner for 12 months

- ❖ Cricket Australia (CA) has banned Australian captain Steve Smith and vice-captain David Warner for 12 months and handed a nine-month ban to Cameron Bancroft. Warner and Smith have also been banned from captaining Australia for two years. These players have been charged for deliberately trying to tamper with the condition of the ball in an orchestrated attempt to gain an advantage.

SWIFT Broadens Real-Time Payment Tracking Capabilities

- ❖ Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) expanded the GPI Tracker system to help banks track their global transactions at all times. The system will provide a complete vigilance for the payment activities. The GPI Tracker will cover all payment instructions sent across the network. SWIFT GPI facilitates more accurate reconciliation of payments and invoices. The introduction of the unique end-to-end transaction reference in all payment instructions will be effected through the mandatory annual standards update in November 2018. Customer experience will be improved by increasing speed, transparency and automatically provides status updates to all GPI banks involved in any GPI payment chain. It also allows banks to confirm when a payment has been completed.

Rs 350 coin to mark birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh

- ❖ Government will come out with a Rs 350 commemorative coin to mark 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh, the 10th and last Sikh Guru. The coin with standard weight of 35 gram will have 50 per cent silver, 40 per cent copper and 5 per cent each of nickel and zinc. The reverse side will bear the picture of "Takht Shri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib" in the centre.

Cabinet approves formulation of a new Integrated Scheme for School Education from 1st April, 2018

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the proposal of Department of School Education and Literacy to formulate a Integrated Scheme on School Education by subsuming Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) from 1st April, 2018 to 31st March, 2020. An estimated allocation of Rs 75,000 crore over the period has been approved which is a 20% increase over the current allocations. The scheme comes in the backdrop of PM's vision of SabkoShiksha, AchhiShiksha and aims to support the States in universalizing access to school education from classes pre-nursery to XII across the country.

Vijay Raghavan appointed principal scientific advisor to govt

- ❖ K Vijay Raghavan, one of the most distinguished biologists of the country, was appointed Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India. He will succeed 81-year-old nuclear physicist R Chidambaram, who has been in the position for more than 16 years, having been appointed in 2001. Vijay Raghavan (64), until recently Secretary in the Department of Biotechnology, will have a tenure of three years. The Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA), a post created by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government in 1999, is the topmost advisor to the government on all matters related to scientific policy.

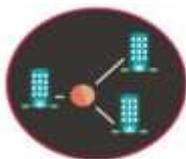
Harsimrat Kaur Badal to inaugurate Rajasthan's first mega food park in Ajmer

- ❖ Union Food Processing Industries Minister Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal will inaugurate the first mega food park at Roopangarh Village in Ajmer, Rajasthan. The Food Park is being set up at a cost of Rs 113.57 crore and will benefit around 25,000 farmers in Ajmer as well as neighbouring districts. The facilities being created at Central Processing Centre (CPC) of this Mega Food Park include Cold Storage of 5,000 MT, Deep Freeze of 2,550 MT, IQF of 2 MT/Hr., Dry Warehouse for Raw Materials 2,500 MT + Dry Warehouse for Finished Goods of 5,000 MT, Silos of 6,500 MT, Pack House of 10 MT/Hr, Steam Generator of 8 MT/Hr and other related food processing facilities. The mega food park would leverage an additional investment of about Rs. 250 crore in 25-30 food processing units in the park and would eventually lead to a turnover of about Rs. 450-500 crore annually.

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(LABOUR INSPECTOR)

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