



### **Surat Railway Station to be 3rd in Country to Have ‘Airport Like’ Facilities**

- ❖ The Surat railway station will be the third in the country to be developed as a world-class facility under a Railway Ministry station redevelopment programme. The first two railway stations were Gandhinagar and Habibganj railway stations in Gujarat. Habibganj railway station will be redeveloped by December 2018 and Gandhinagar station by June 2019. Surat railway station will get "airport-like" facilities and will be developed in a world-class multi-modal transport hub by 2020. The project cost is estimated at Rs. 5000 crores. The station will be equipped for seamless transit, bus terminal and also other transport modes in the city and a parking space of about 900 vehicles.

### **Swachh Bharat Mission Launches GOBAR-DHAN**

- ❖ GOBAR-DHAN scheme was launched by the Union Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Uma Bharti. GOBAR-DHAN stands for Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources (GOBAR) – DHAN. The scheme was launched at the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) in Karnal, Haryana. This scheme aims to positively contribute to cleanliness and generate energy from solid waste. It has twin objectives- to make villages clean and generate energy from cattle and other waste.

### **Paytm Introduces ‘Tap Card’ Offline Payments Solution**

- ❖ One97 Communications Limited, the owner of digital payment major, Paytm, announced the launch of its offline payments solution – the Paytm Tap Card, in line with the company’s vision to provide seamless payments solutions for non-internet customers. This card uses Near Field Communication (NFC) technology to enable safe and convenient digital payments, completely offline at Paytm-issued, NFC PoS terminals, in under a second. To make payments, users can add money from their Paytm account by scanning the QR code on the Tap Card and by authenticating it at any of the add value machines (AVM).

### **World Asthma Day 2018: 1 May**

- ❖ World Asthma Day is an annual event organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world. World Asthma Day takes place on the first Tuesday of May. First World Asthma Day was held in 1998. The theme for the year 2018 is “Never too early, never too late. It’s always the right time to address airways disease”.

### **Sri Lankan filmmaker Lester James Peiris dead**

- ❖ Renowned Sri Lankan film maker and a national icon Lester James Peiris, credited with revolutionising Sinhala cinema in the 1950s with a strong local flavour and indigenous style, passed away in Colombo April 29. He was 99.

## International Labour Day: May 1

- ❖ The International Labour Day, also known as International Worker's Day or May Day is observed every year on May 1. The day aims to promote and encourage the international labour associations, marks the victory of workers' movement for eight hours of work and pay tribute to workers sacrifices in achieving economic and social rights all over the world. The theme of International Labour Day 2018 is "Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement".

## Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 to be held in Varanasi

- ❖ The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in the holy city of Varanasi in January 2019. The event would be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart Pravind Jugnauth. It would be held in Varanasi from January 21 to 23.

## South Western Command's Exercise Vijay Prahar

- ❖ South Western Command is carrying out Exercise VIJAY PRAHAR employing more than 20000 troops in the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges close to Suratgarh in Rajasthan. The exercise is aimed to orchestrate wide spectrum of threats which are planned to be tackled through high tempo joint air and land operation. The month-long exercise is essentially to practice the troops in penetrative manoeuvres across the obstacle ridden terrain under a nuclear umbrella.

## Asha Bhosle Honored with PC Chandra Puraskaar

- ❖ Legendary singer Asha Bhosle was honoured with 26th PC Chandra Puraskaar for her contribution in the field of Indian music. Sharmila Tagore was the Chief Guest at the event who also presented the prestigious award to Asha Bhosle. Asha Bhosle made her singing debut in 1943 and she has sung in a great variety of musical genres.

## India's Neeraj Goyat is WBC Asia Boxer of the Year

- ❖ Indian pugilist Neeraj Goyat has been conferred with the WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award. Neeraj is the current WBC Asia champion in welter weight category. Since turning pro in 2011, Neeraj has won nine fights including two knockouts. Neerav Tomar was bestowed with WBC Asia honorary Promoter of the year 2017 Award.

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