

National News

Green Signal to Kanpur Metro Project, Senior Citizen Policy

- The policy will come into effect from **1 April 2016**
 - **Social welfare department** has been made the **nodal agency** for this new policy.
 - Policy reserves **25 percent seats in these old age homes for the BPL families**
 - Will be provided **free residence and food**
 - Declared to raise **monthly pension from Rs.300 to Rs.400.**
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India's First Education Focused Accelerator Program Started at MIT, PUNE

- **Eduglid** has been set up by **Maharashtra Institute of Technology at Pune.**
 - Edugild will conduct two batches every year.
 - **Start-ups will receive seed funding worth Rs. 15 lakh** in return for a **minority stake.**
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Jammu & Kashmir adopts new Industrial policy

- **New industrial policy** to attract an investment of **Rs.2000 crores every year.**
 - The policy will hold good for **10 years.**
 - The new policy was framed by the **Industries and Commerce department**
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Maharashtra passes Prohibition of Social Boycott bill

- Move to **strengthen the laws against discrimination**
 - **Social boycott is prohibited** and its commission shall be an offence.
 - Maximum punishment for social boycotting will be **7 years in prison or fine up to 5 lakh rupees or both**
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International Children's Film Festival for the North East Region starts in Gangtok

- The Festival is named **"The Golden Elephant"**
 - Has been organized by the **Children's Film Society of India.**
 - Children films from the country and abroad are to be screened
 - **Workshops on film making, storytelling and creative writing** will be held
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MoU Signed Between M/O Tourism and Ecotourism Society of India

- Take commitments towards **Responsible and Sustainable tourism**.
 - The ESOI will prepare a **10-year Road Map for advocacy and certification** under the **Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India**.
 - **13 workshops** have been conducted across the country in this context
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Anti-Corruption Bureau setup in Karnataka

- To provide a **transparent and efficient administration**.
 - ACB will be a **statutory authority to investigate graft offences**
 - Under the **direct supervision of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR)**
 - ACB will have **no power to initiate a probe** on decisions taken or recommendations made by public servants, without prior permission from the appointing authority.
 - An **Inspector General of Police (IGP) rank officer** will head the vigilance cell within ACB
 - ACB will be headed **by an Additional Director General of Police-rank officer**.
 - It will have an **IGP rank officer, 10 superintendents of police and a 322-member force**.
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Supreme Court asks Centre to frame rules for child adoption

- Asked the center to put in place a **“credible mechanism” for intra and inter-country adoption of children**.
 - New mechanism should lay down **rules and regulations similar to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**.
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International

China to set up an International Maritime Judicial Centre

- To handle **territorial disputes**.
- China has been **consistently fighting with its neighbors in Maritime borders in South China Sea**.

- Creating multiple overlaps with areas claimed by the **Philippines, Vietnam, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan**
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UNESCO & CJ Welfare signs agreement to launch Rainbow Ruby animation program

- Organizations involved: **UNESCO, CJ Welfare and Varkey foundation**
 - Agreement was signed during the **2016 Global Education and Skills Forum** hosted by the **Varkey Foundation**
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Myanmar Elects its First Civilian President

- **Htin Kyaw** is the **first civilian president** in over **fifty years of military rule**
 - He is a **close ally of Aung Sang Suu Kyi** who cannot hold the constitutional post herself.
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Business and Economy

ICICI Bank Ties up with Ferrari for co-branded Credit Card

- **Ferrari Credit Card** comes on the **Visa platform** in two variants
 - Offers customers a host of offers including an **all-expenses-paid trip for top spenders to Italy**
 - Includes a **Scuderia Ferrari watch** as a **joining gift**.
 - Benefits include **discount on Ferrari branded products** at the **Ferrari Store in Ferrari base Maranello** and **merchandise sold online at the Ferrari Store and Myntra.com**
 - Beneficiaries also gets **complementary access to domestic airport lounges** in the country
 - A **'buy one, get one free'** offer on bookings done on **bookmyshow.com** platform.
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Kotak Mahindra Group ties up with Canada Pension Plan

- To launch a **\$525 million fund** to invest in the stressed asset market in **India**.
 - Canadian pension fund manager will have the option to invest up to **\$450 million in this partnership**
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Glenmark gets final FDA nod for migraine relief drug

- Principal approval to manufacture and market therapeutically equivalent of **Endo Pharmaceutical's Frova tablets** used to **treat migraine headaches** in America.
 - The approved product has an estimated market size of **\$87.8 million** over 12 months.
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Govt Bans More Than 300 Combination Drugs

- Includes **two widely used cough syrups**, and **Vicks Action 500** being sold without government approval.
 - Banned medicines include the **codeine-based cough syrups Phensedyl** and **Corex**. Phensedyl is made by U.S. drug maker **Abbott Laboratories**
 - Its sales are estimated to make up more than **3 percent of Abbott's \$1 billion India revenue**.
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Science and Technology

Europe and Russia launched Exo-Mars to explore the Red Planet

- **Europe and Russia** launched an **unmanned spacecraft**, named **ExoMars 2016** to explore **if life once existed on the Red Planet** and **possibilities for the same**.
 - **Joint endeavor between European Space Agency (ESA) and the Russian space agency, Roscosmos**.
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Earthquake Warning System Installed at Haryana Govt's Building

- The **only building in India** to have an **Earthquake Warning System installed onsite**.
 - Around **26 countries** in the world **have this technology already**.
 - This system **can save lives by giving alert of a future earthquake well ahead of time**.
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Wikipedia Developing Speech Engine for Visually Impaired Users

- **Wikimedia Sweden** has partnered with the **KTH Royal Institute of Technology** in Sweden to develop **the crowd-sourced speech engine**

- Project aims to **provide access to Wikipedia and other wikis to people with reading difficulties or visual impairment.**
 - The service will initially be available **in Swedish language.**
 - Researchers will begin developing the engine for **Swedish, English, and Arabic,** which they aim to complete by **September 2017.**
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Environment and Ecology

February breaks global temperature records

- February broke **100 year old temperature** records by a **'shocking' amount.**
 - This is according to **data released by NASA.**
 - data shows the average **global surface temperature in February was 1.35C warmer** than the **average temperature for the month between 1951-1980**
 - This has led scientists to declare a **'climate emergency'.**
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People in News

Nobel Prize winner Lloyd Shapeley passes away

- World famous **Mathematician, Economist and Nobel laureate**
 - He was the creator of the **game 'So Long Sucker'**
 - He also worked as a professor at the University of California from 1981 till his death.
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Renowned British author Anita Brookner passes away

- She was **highly regarded as a stylist**
 - Her novels explore **themes of emotional loss and difficulties associated with fitting into society,** and typically depict **intellectual, middle-class women.**
 - She was awarded with **Man Booker prize in 1984** and had won **James Tait Black Memorial in 2010.**
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Awards

Jagran Group CEO and Dainik Jagran editor chosen IAA Editor of the Year

- **Jagron Group CEO** and the **Editor of Dainik Jagran, Sanjay Gupta** has been chosen as the **Editor of the Year**
 - Chosen at the **fourth Indian Advertising Association Awards** in Mumbai.
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Sports

Delhi lift Llyod Pro-Am Championship trophy

- One of the **finest and most prestigious golf tournaments** for the **top executives across India**.
 - Delhi defeated **Mumbai in the finals**.
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