

National News

3rd Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation

- More than **700 tiger experts, scientists, managers, donors and other stakeholders** are gathering to discuss issues related to tiger conservation.
 - **Ministers and government officials from all Tiger Range Countries** are participating in the conference.
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India, US 'agree in principle' on sharing military logistics

- **Growing interaction between armed forces of the two countries** is a “significant aspect of bilateral relationship”.
 - India has **more joint exercises with the US** than any other country in the world.
 - Details of the logistic support is yet to be decided.
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Shan-E-Punjab Express fitted with CCTV cameras

- **First train in the country** to get CCTV cameras
 - CCTV system includes **4 to 6 Cameras per coach with Digital Video Recorder (DVR)**
 - System shall facilitate **facial recognition for unambiguous identification of the target person** by giving resolution images, **enable facial recognition in low light condition**
 - Installation of surveillance systems was done through Ms/ A-Paul Instrument Company at an **approximate cost of 36.71 lakh**.
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Mufti Sayeed Food Entitlement Scheme announced in J&K

- People who are covered under the **State's public distribution system** will get **additional 5kg of ration per person**
 - This is in addition to **5kg of ration they are entitled to get under NFSA**.
 - new scheme would be uniform scale of rations for all areas and **food preferences of consumers would be taken care of**
 - Instead of wheat **75% population would get Atta**.
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UNICEF signs MoU with GITAM University

- MoU to **empower the adolescents 10-19 years** and address the **adolescent issues in the district**.
 - Other districts that deal with adolescents issue are:
 - **Purulia in West Bengal**
 - **Sibsahar in Assam**
 - **EastSinghbum in Jharkhand**
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Three Member Committee for Content Regulation of Government Advertising

- Committee would be chaired by Shri B.B. Tandon, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India.
 - Committee would **address complaints from the general public of violation** on the implementation of the guidelines set out by Supreme Court
 - Committee would also take **suo motu cognizance of any violation / deviation of the guidelines**
 - Committee may **recommend suitable changes to the Supreme Court guidelines** to deal with new circumstances and situations that may arise
 - Committee is **not bound by any legal rules of evidence** and may follow such procedure that appears to it to be fair and proper for **swift settlement of grievances**
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Maharashtra Legislative Council clears Bill to regulate dance bars

- Dance bars have **not been banned but stringent conditions have been imposed** to ensure that no owner comes forward to set up a dance bar.
 - All **performances will have to be approved by the censor board for theatre performances.**
 - Following its clearance in the Upper House, the **Bill will now be introduced in the Assembly.**
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SC defends Lodha panel

- Lodha committee was set up by the Supreme Court **to recommend reforms in the Board of Control for Cricket in India**
 - Committee suggested the **restructuring of the BCCI's administrative set-up**, proposing the **position of a CEO accountable to a nine-member apex council.**
 - **CEO to be assisted by 6 professional managers** and the team of CEO and managers will be accountable to the apex council.
 - It also suggested that a **person cannot be a BCCI office-bearer and a state association office-bearer at the same time.**
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80% of India's population is not covered under any health insurance scheme

- Around **86% of the rural population and 82% of the urban population** are not covered under any scheme of health expenditure support.
 - In urban areas, over **90% of the poorest residents are not covered**, while the figure is **66% for the richest residents.**
 - **Poorer households appear unaware or are beyond the reach of such coverage**, both in rural and urban areas.
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International

India's Maharajas' Express among top rated trains globally

- The **Maharajas' Express' train** has redefined the **luxury travel experience** by offering guests the opportunity to explore fabled destinations
 - Provides guests a **glimpse of rich cultural heritage of Incredible India**
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Business and Economy

Bharti Airtel's payments Bank Unit approved

- **First entity to receive final approval** from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to start a **payments bank**.
 - Will set up the **payments bank in partnership with Kotak Mahindra Bank**, which holds **9% stake in Airtel M Commerce**
 - Reserve Bank's in-principle approval **was valid for 18 months**
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Housing finance cos exempted from XBRL filings

- **Corporate Affair Ministry** has **exempted housing finance companies** from **filing financial statements in XBRL format**.
 - **Banking, insurance, power sector and non-banking finance companies** are already exempted.
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UIDAI asks online retails to stop collecting AADHAR information of customers

- **Ministry of communications and IT** has also warned the general public **against sharing personal information on e-commerce platforms**.
 - Ministry has also warned that **collecting information related to Aadhaar card or its unauthorized printing or aiding such persons in any manner may amount to a criminal offence punishable with imprisonment**.
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Science and Technology

Proof to link Zika virus with brain defects

- Several cases of microcephaly, a rare birth defect in which the **brain fails to grow properly**, continue to be **reported in Brazil** following the **outbreak of Zika virus**.
- How quickly the neural stem cells get infected with Zika virus became clear when the **researchers detected it just 24 hours after they were exposed**.

- While those **cells not infected with the virus generated normal neurospheres, the virus-infected neural cells generated neurospheres with abnormalities.**
 - **At the end of six days, the virus killed most of the neurospheres.**
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Environment and Ecology

World's longest-ever captured python dies in Malaysia

- **Giant python weighing 250 kg** found on a Malaysian building site **died after giving birth**
 - The current record for **longest snake ever caught is 7.67m.**
 - The spotted python was **8m in length**
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People in News

Kyrgyzstan Prime Minister Temir Sariyev resigns

- A **parliamentary commission** accused his cabinet of corruption.
 - Commission has revealed that the **government had broken the law**, accusing it of **having rigged a \$100 million road construction tender to a Chinese firm that lacked the required license**
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Hemant Kumar Ruia appointed CFO of Indus Towers

- Currently working as the **CFO of Reliance Retail.**
 - Started his career with **Larsen & Tourbo** and has since then worked with **ICI India Ltd and Reckitt Benkiser India, before moving to Agro Tech Food Ltd**
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Maharashtra's IPS officer Meeran Borwankar appointed DG of BPR&D

- The Bureau of Police Research and Development was set up on 28 August 1970 to further the objective of the Government of India **for the modernization of police forces.**
 - **Parent Agency of BPR & D is Ministry of Home Affairs**
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MS Dhoni As Brand Ambassador of Lava International

- Lava International is a **local Mobile Handset maker.**
 - It achieved **revenues of \$1.2 billion (over Rs 8,000 crore) in FY 2014-15, registering more than 100% growth over FY 2013-14.**
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Ravindran takes charge as new KVGB Chairman

- He was heading the **Mumbai region of Syndicate Bank before joining KVGB.**
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India's first woman biker Veenu Paliwal dies

- Died when her bike skid off a road near Gyaraspur, 100 kilometers from state capital Bhopal.
 - She was on a **motorcycle trip from Kashmir to Kanyakumari** when the mishap occurred.
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Awards

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan wins Global Indian of the Year 2016 award

- She was honored at **NRI of the Year award function** held in Mumbai.
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Sania Mirza honored at NRI of the Year Award 2016

- She was conferred with the **Global Indian Icon of the year award**.
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Ex-army chief JJ Singh gets highest French civilian honor

- Chosen for the honor in recognition of his “stellar role” in **modernizing the Indian Army and initiating robust exchanges between the Indian and French armies**
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Sports

Serena Williams retains top spot in WTA rankings

- **German Angelique Kerber** has slipped to the third in the WTA rankings
 - In Women’s doubles, **India’s Sania Mirza and her Swiss partner Martina Hingis** retained their **top position in the rankings**
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Chawrasia wins Hilton Asian Tour Golfer of Month

- **Hilton Asian Tour Golfer of the Month** award is one of the partnership initiatives aimed at **recognizing outstanding efforts of Asian Tour members** both at home and abroad.
 - He is the **second Indian** to win the Hilton Asian Tour Golfer of the Month award.
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Indian Teams win Asian Kho Kho Championship Title

- The **men and women’s teams won against Bangladesh in the finals.**
 - **Aniket Pote** emerged as the **match winner** and won the match winner award for the men’s team.
 - **Women’s team captain Sarika Kale** won the women’s match-winner title.
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