

National News

India's biggest power plant in Jharkhand

- Power plant: **Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited**
 - General Manager: **B Narayan**
 - **Joint Venture of National Thermal Power Corporation and Jharkhand Government**
 - Total Capacity: **8000MW** in total, first phase of **4000MW** capacity.
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Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts

- The event was held at **New Delhi**.
 - It was inaugurated by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**
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Kerala, Thazhathangady Juma Mosque opens doors to women for the first time

- Women in the community were **never allowed to take a look at the inside of the mosque**.
 - Juma mosque has **opened its doors to all women on April 24, 2016**
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UDAY bonds fetch Rs.99,000 crore

- **Eight states** have issued **bonds worth over Rs.98,959.96 crore** under **UDAY(Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana) scheme in 2015-16**.
 - Aim of UDAY is to **improve operational and financial efficiency of state power distribution companies**.
 - The **special bonds (non-SLR special securities)** issued by **RBI**.
 - The states that have issued the bonds are:
 - **Rajasthan issued Rs 37,349 crore**
 - **Uttar Pradesh issued Rs 24,332 crore**
 - **Chhattisgarh issued Rs 870 crore**
 - **Punjab issued Rs 9,860 crore**
 - **Jammu & Kashmir issued Rs 2,140 crore,**
 - **Bihar issued Rs 1,551 crore,**
 - **Jharkhand issued Rs 5,553 crore**
 - **Haryana issued Rs 17,300 crore**
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Central Government CGMP compliant facility in Himachal Pradesh

- For manufacture of **DPT and TT vaccine** at the **Central Research Institute (CRI)**,
 - The facility is in **Kasauli in Himachal Pradesh**.
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Army completes amphibious exercise 'Jal Prahar'

- To **validate and fine-tune its strategy to take over enemy land via sea**
 - All **three wings of the armed forces Army, Air Force and Navy** participated in exercise.
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Legal system too expensive for most: Study

- **Survey was conducted across 305 locations in 24 States** between November 2015 and February 2016.
 - **90% of the litigants earn less than Rs. 3 lakh per annum**
 - **Median expected cost of litigation for this group is around Rs. 16,000.**
 - **legal aid aims to provide free legal services to the weaker sections** who otherwise can't afford it, the **survey found that that just 1% of the respondents make use of this service.**
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Panama disease affects banana cultivation in Kerala

- Scientists are **concerned that the sporadic cases of infestation could turn into an epidemic**
 - Posing a **potential crisis for farmers.** Most of the **popular cultivars have shown signs of infestation.**
 - Scientists have **recommend soil treatment with fungicides for control of the disease.**
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RBI to examine Workers' Bank proposal

- Proposal was **mooted by the trade unions about a decade ago.**
 - Has been **discussed by Labour Ministry and Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for several years now.**
 - **Modelled on similar experiences in countries like Canada, Netherland, Switzerland and South Africa** where a **collective pension fund system invests worker's savings in equities of domestic and global markets.**
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National corridor body plan shelved

- Authority has been **put on the back burner due to the delay foreseen by the Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretariat in getting Parliamentary approval**
 - Plan to set up **NICA was announced by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in his maiden Budget speech in July 2014.**
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International

Cuba removes ban on Cubans entering or leaving the country by sea

- **Cuban government adjusted its migration policy and lifted a restriction that prevented Cubans** from entering or leaving the country by cruise ship or commercial vessel
 - Previously **Cuba did not allow Cuban-born individuals living elsewhere to travel to the island by a commercial vessel.**
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Business and Economy

Uber partners with FICCI, Gujarat Tourism for soft skill training

- training is designed and conducted by **Ace Driving & Road Safety Education Pvt Ltd** on **areas of Safe Driving and Interpersonal Skills of the drivers**
- To **improve the overall rider experience in Gujarat.**

- **Optional to all Uber drivers.** Those who attend the training will be **certified by FICCI and Gujarat Tourism under this program.**
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Reliance buys Iranian oil after six-year hiatus

- Reliance Industries Ltd, has **bought crude oil from Iran after a 6-year break.**
 - **Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) and Essar Oil Ltd** are the main buyers of Iranian oil in India
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People in News

Salman Khan named goodwill ambassador for India at Rio Olympics

- Announcement was made in the presence of Olympic medalists and Rio star athletes
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Clement Mouamba as PM of Congo

- **Congo's President Denis Sassou Nguesso** named **former finance minister Clement Mouamba** as **prime minister**
 - He was **at one time the opposition leader.**
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Science and Technology

India's first open source encyclopedia to the Art and culture goes live

- **Sahapedia** is an **open source resource on the Arts, Cultures and heritage of India.**
 - Used to **explore the richness of India's cultural landscapes.**
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App-Based Premium Bus Service in Delhi

- Expected to start in the city from **middle of June while registration for it would start from June 1 this year.**
 - **Premium buses will be fully air-conditioned with no passengers allowed to stand.**
 - **Ticket rates would be higher** than those in existing bus services in the city.
 - To **ensure the safety of women passengers**, Buses will have to be **equipped with Wi-Fi and GPS.**
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Awards

Manoj Bajpayee to receive the Dadasaheb Phalke award

- **Dadasaheb Phalke award in the Best Actor Category (Critics' Choice)** for his contribution in **Hansal Mehta's Biographical drama, "Aligarh".**
 - The Award will be **presented on 1st May 2016.**
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Kendra Sangeet Natak Akademi Samman for 3 Odiya artists

- Three Personalities:
 - **PrefullaKar** – Light Music performer
 - **AlokKanungo** – Odissi Dancer
 - **SadasivPradhan** – Chhau Dancer
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Sports

first Indian participant at World Kickboxing Championship

- **Tajamul Islam**, a seven-year-old girl, is set to become the **first Indian to represent the country at the World Kickboxing Championship in Andria, Italy**,
 - hails from a **small village in North Kashmir's Bandipora district**
 - **First Kashmiri girl** to take part in kickboxing at the international level.
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