

National News

Rs. 9,005 Crore Investment for affordable housing in three states

- **Rs.9,005 crore investment** in reasonable housing of **73,205 houses** in **3 States** for **Economically Weaker sections**
 - **3 States: Maharashtra, Punjab and J&K**
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South India's First Underground Metro in Karnataka

- **South India First Underground metro** – East-West corridor of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL)
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10% Quota For Economically Backward in Gujarat

- **10% reservation** for the **economically backward among upper castes**
 - Move likely to **benefit all upper caste families with annual income less than Rs six lakh.**
 - **10% reservation in jobs and education** on May 1st.
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LED Bulb Ujala Yojana inaugurated in Bhopal

- **3 crore LED bulbs** would be distributed all over the State at **Rs 85 per bulb.**
 - Saving of **91 percent of power also saving 25 to 30 unit every year.** One could have saving of **Rs 150 to Rs 180 in a year.**
 - Bulbs would be distributed through the medium of fixed distribution agents and Indian Government's Energy Efficient Services Limited.
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Urban Management Program for Capacity Building in States and Urban Local Bodies

- **7 States namely Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh & Assam) would be taking part in this Program.**
 - Cover areas of **Urban Planning and Governance, Water, Waste Water & Solid Waste Management and Public Financing (PPP) of Urban Infrastructure.**
 - **Singapore Experts would impart training in highly interactive workshops** and share Singapore's and international experiences with the participants during the Program.
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Dial 139 for Cancelling Train Ticket

- Train passengers can **cancel their confirmed train tickets by just dialing 139**
 - Passenger has to disclose the OTP to claim refund in Passenger Reservation System (PRS).
 - **Two new Directorates tasked with increasing the speed of trains and boosting non-fare revenues to be setup.**
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International

UNICEF-Kerala IMA partnership announced

- Partnership will orient all the **35,000 doctors of the association** in the state on the **importance of prescribing good practices to their patients besides medicines.**
 - Will **adopt ten schools for promoting behavioral practices among students who will carry the message to homes.**
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Business and Economy

Mumbai Based NABARD partners Germany for Food Security initiative

- Special program on **'Soil Protection and Rehabilitation for Food Security'**
 - **Soil conservation and rehabilitation of degraded land for food security in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh**
 - **Innovation of watershed development for rehabilitation of degraded soils**
 - Climate change adaptation in five states (**Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan**).
 - **India is the only country in Asia chosen for this initiative**
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SIDBI signs MoU with Saarc Development Fund

- SDF and SIDBI to work **jointly in co-funding of projects in Indian MSMEs on risk sharing basis in identified sectors, development of suitable financial products for SME financing for MSMEs of other Saarc states.**
 - Agreement seeks for **technology transfer and making available software to MFIs regarding loan tracking systems in other Saarc countries and capacity development of SDF/SIDBI and SME funding institutions.**
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Reliance Defense inks pact with 3 Ukrainian state firms

- Agreement pave the way for **Reliance with Antonov** and will **jointly bid for the Medium Military Transport Aircraft program of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**
 - Both companies will also **jointly work on assembly and manufacture, and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) of Antonov series of aircraft.**
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People in News

former Motorola CEO Rick Osterloh to lead the Google's new hardware division

- First time the **search giant Google has unified all of its product lines under one division.**

- New **appointment as senior vice president comes after a two-year service of being the president of Motorola.**
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Charles Borromeo resigned from Tata Steel Sports Department

- **Resignation comes after the vigilance department officials of the company questioned him in connection with alleged irregularities in tender process of synthetic track laying at the JRD Tata Sports complex.**
 - **He bagged a gold medal of 800 m at the 1982 Asian Games in Delhi and also a part of Indian Olympic commission that took place at Los Angeles in 1984.**
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Ram kumar leaves ICICI; Vijay Chandok made ED

- **Ramkumar will be replaced by Vijay Chandok who has been appointed as ED in the same lender.**
 - **Ramkumar was in charge of the Operations Group of the bank and President of ICICI Foundation has taken voluntary retirement**
 - **Chandok has been with ICICI bank in various roles in the corporate banking, project finance, retail assets and rural and inclusive banking.**
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Science and Technology

ePaiza spins its digital wallets business into a new mobile application

- **Mobile POS solutions company ePaiza launched its digital wallets business into a new mobile application Master-Wallets.**
 - **New app enables merchants to accept payments from any digital wallet without having to go through the hassle of opening an account with each and every wallet company.**
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China developed world's first graphene electronic paper

- **OED Technologies of China has developed the world's first graphene electronic paper**
 - **Graphene e-paper is more pliable and has more intensity and its high-light transmittance means optical displays will be much brighter.**
 - **Graphene is derived from carbon, meaning production costs will be much lower than for traditional e-papers, which use the rare expensive metal indium.**
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Online app Adi Praman for tribal caste validity certificate in Maharashtra

- **Application would make the entire process of securing caste validity certificate transparent, fast, and easy and would effectively curb the menace of bogus certificates.**

- Application would **help the government achieve the goal of inclusion as envisioned under the Digital India Program.**
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Mobile App namely "Indian Customs- Guide to Travellers" launched

- App has been developed by Bengaluru Customs **to inform international travelers who may, inter-alia, be traders/exporters/importers about Customs Baggage rules.**
 - User friendly and **serves as a useful tool for quick and effective dissemination of information about to clarify doubts and concern of passengers.**
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Environment & Ecology

Endangered Asiatic wild dogs spotted in China nature reserve

- Endangered Asiatic wild dogs spotted in **nature reserve in China's Gansu province** have spotted at least nine such dogs or dholes on camera.
 - **Rarely seen in the inland province.** They were spotted by infrared cameras in **Yanchiwan National Nature Reserve on Qinghai-Tibet plateau.**
 - Dholes live in **central, south and Southeast Asia.**
 - Have come under **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) segregation of Red List of Threatened**
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Awards

Activist Tabassum Adnan wins 2016 Nelson Mandela Award

- Pakistani activist **Tabassum Adnan, who fights for women's rights**
 - **Founder of NGO, Khwendo Jirga – the first women-only 'Jirga' in Pakistan**
 - **Indira Nooyi, Satya Nadella, Bhavesh Patel among highest paid Chief Executive Officers in world**
 - **Three Indian born persons are among 100 highest paid CEOs globally**
 - **PepsiCo's Indra Nooyi Lyondell Basell's Bhavesh Patel and Microsoft's Satya Nadella**
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Giant duck-billed dinosaur fossil in China sets world record

- Zhuchengosaurus maximus skeleton measures **1 meters high and 16.6 meters long**
 - **Average height and body length** of hadrosaurs are **four-five meters and six-nine meters.**
 - Zhucheng is **one of the largest dinosaur bone concentrations in the world**
 - At least **10 dinosaur species have been found since 1960s.**
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Sports

Sudha Singh qualifies for Rio Olympics in 3000 m steeple chase event

- Sprinter Sudha Singh **has booked berth for Rio Olympics by finishing second in the 3000m steeplechase event at the Federation Cup in New Delhi.**
 - Sudha **finished with 9:31.86, 14 seconds ahead of the Rio standard (9:45.00).**
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