

National News

MoU for plantation of trees alongside Railway Track on Railway Land Boundary

- Haryana & Punjab Forest Department signed MoU with Ministry of Railways **to plant the trees alongside Railway Track on Railway Land Boundary.**
 - Railway can contribute significantly towards the **Green India Mission**
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Kaleshwaram Irrigation Project launched in Telangana

- Aim: **Connecting the Godavari River through a series of barrages, reservoirs and enhanced irrigation schemes.**
 - new formed **Telangana state will get water from both Krishna and Godavari rivers as per allocations done**
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Spices Park to be setup in Nizamabad

- The Spices park will be set up in **Padigal in Nizamabad district with investment of Rs. 31 Crore**
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Parliament clears mines Bill 2016

- Rajya Sabha approved an amendment to the mining law that allows **Transfer of captive mines in cases of mergers and acquisitions.**
 - Likely to help **transfer of non-auctioned mines to happen smoothly.**
 - Amendment is in the **larger interest of workers and the provision was not intended to benefit any industrial house.**
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SC appointed RM Lodha-panel to reform Medical Council of India

- Five-judge constitution bench headed by Justice AR Dave ordered to **reform the Medical Council of India.**
 - to oversee how the **regulator of medical profession and education in India function**
 - MCI's policy decisions will **require approval of the oversight committee.**
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U.N. arbitration court rules India should send Marine to Italy

- An Italian marine accused of killing two Indian fishermen in 2012 **could return home according to the UN Arbitration court.**
 - UN's Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague ruled that Sergeant Salvatore Girone be **allowed to return home until the dispute is resolved through arbitration.**
 - Verdict is the **first big pronouncement of the PCA (Permanent Court of Arbitration, The Hague), after Italy approached it in June 2015.**
 - Two Italian marines — Massimiliano Latorre and Mr. Girone are **facing the charge of murdering two Indian fishermen in 2012 off the Kerala coast.**
 - Fishermen were killed when the marines on duty aboard MV Enrica Lexie, an Italian-flagged oil tanker, fired at them.
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Non-trade issues at WTO, lack of legal experts worry India

- Developing nations, including India, are **facing a double disadvantage at the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Dispute Settlement Body (DSB).**
 - nations are challenged **not only by the lack of a sufficient pool of trade law experts to represent them effectively at the DSB**
 - Also by **certain efforts to bring within the body's ambit non-trade issues such as labour and environment.**
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International

49th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) started at Frankfurt (Germany)

- Asian Development Outlook 2016 predicts the **growth rates to 5.7% each in 2016 and 2017, from 5.9% projected last year.**
 - Participants on theme '**Asian Economic Outlook – 2016**
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Business and Economy

NSE to launch new exchange for MSMEs

- National Stock Exchange to launch a **trading platform for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).**
 - **First dedicated exchange for micro SMEs.**
 - New platform is a **joint initiative of NSE and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).**
 - In line with the Central Bank's (RBI) idea to instrument such a model **for the benefit of a vast section of small businesses in India.**
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BHEL commissions 600 MW thermal power plant in MP

- Avantha group's Jhabua Power Ltd developed unit has been commissioned at the 1x600 MW Thermal Power Project (TPP) **located in Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh.**
 - Second project of APIL earlier the power major BHEL commissioned the **1x600 MW in Chhattisgarh.**
 - BHEL will look into **the contract envisaged design, engineering, manufacture, supply, erection and commissioning of steam turbine, generator and boiler, along with associated auxiliaries and electricals, besides controls and Instrumentation and electrostatic precipitators.**
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Google acquires business technology start-up Synergys

- **To scale training offerings for Google Apps to its customers and customers' users.**
- Tech Start-up **founded by an Indian-origin entrepreneur Varun Malhotra in 2013 with an aim to teach users how to use Google Apps.**

- Google Apps ranges from Gmail, Calendar, Drive and Docs, offer cloud-based productivity and communications around the world.
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People in News

Bitcoin creator confirms identity

- **Australian entrepreneur Craig Wright** has publicly identified himself as **Bitcoin creator Satoshi Nakamoto**.
 - The **computer scientist, inventor and academic** launched the currency date back in 2009 with the help of others.
 - Jon Matonis is also one of the founding directors of the Bitcoin Foundation. He is convinced that Wright is who he claims to be and is responsible for a brilliant achievement.
 - Bitcoin is a **form of digital virtual currency, created and held electronically**.
 - The system uses **peer-to-peer model as all nodes verify transaction**
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Indian American Sikh woman elected to key Republican Position

- **Indian based American Sikh woman Harmeet Kaur Dhillon** from California has been selected to a **major position in the Republican Party at the National Level**.
 - **Hails from Chandigarh**
 - Elected as the **newest national Committee of the Republican National Committee**
 - **First woman elected to this position of vice chairman** of the California Republican Party.
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Sameer Chadha appointed partner and CEO of KPMG's offshore arm in India

- KPMG's offshore India appointed **Sameer Chadha as partner and CEO**
 - **Chadha joins KPMG Global Services (KGS) from Barclays Shared Services**.
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Sachin Tendulkar to be India's goodwill ambassador at Rio Olympics

- **Sachin Tendulkar** has accepted India's Olympic Association's invitation to **become the Goodwill Ambassador for the 2016 Rio Olympics**.
 - Goodwill ambassadors would play as iconic sports persons and celebrities **will spread the idea of Olympic movement in every nook and corner of the country**.
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Kishore Biyani appointed as MD of Bharti Retail

- Kishore Biyani as the managing director of Bharti Retail group as part of the reconstitution of the board
- He is a **director at Future Group and also been appointed as Joint Managing Director of Bharti Retail**.

- Besides the Future Retail he will be **responsible for the front-end retail operations of the group.**
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Former J&K Congress minister passes away

- Senior Congress leader Romesh Sharma passed away after a prolonged illness.
 - He was also **Former Jammu and Kashmir Minister.**
 - He is **Minister from Nowshera Constituency**
 - also an Ayurvedic doctor
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Science and Technology

World's smallest engine developed

- **Microscopic engine which is set to be the smallest in the world, which is capable of driving nanobots and medical robots**
 - Tiny engine is just a **few billionths of a meter in size**, which is **powered by light** and may **help develop nano-machines that can navigate in water, sense the environment around them, or even enter living cells to fight disease.**
 - Engine produces a **propulsive force on a microscopic scale that is a hundred times greater per unit weight than any known motor or muscle.**
 - **Contains gold nanoparticles of about 0.06 microns in diameter in water with a gel-like polymer called pNIPAM.**
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World's smallest thermometer created from DNA

- World's **tiniest thermometer that is 20,000 times smaller than a human hair**
 - Will **significantly help in understanding of natural and human designed nanotechnologies by enabling to measure temperature at the nanoscale.**
 - Nanoscale thermometers **open many exciting avenues in the developing field of nanotechnology, and help to better understand molecular biology.**
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Free internet for visiting devotees at Golden Temple

- **Punjab's Golden Temple will now have free Wi-Fi internet access for the devotees**
 - This facility will **not be available inside the sanctum sanctorum of the temple and the marbled area around the water pond.**
 - Service would be available in all nearby routes around the periphery of Golden Temple, besides all the guest-houses run by SGPC in the temple.
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Sports

Leicester wins its first Premier League title

- Leicester city FC secured its **first Premier League title** short of playing after **second-place Tottenham drew 2-2 at Chelsea.**
 - **was playing in the second tier only two years ago came close to be demoted again last year**
 - Leicester could be the **first club since Nottingham Forest in 1977-78** to win the league title for the first time, having **only once before in 1928-29 finished as runners-up.**
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Australia lead India in ICC test rankings

- 1 Australia
 - 2 India
 - 3 Pakistan
 - 4 England
 - 5 New Zealand
 - 6 South Africa
 - 7 Sri Lanka
 - 8 West Indies
 - 9 Bangladesh
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