

National News

13 cities as Smart Cities

- Seven more capital cities will be entered to the smart city competition.
- They are Patna, Shimla, Naya Raipur, Itanagar, Amaravati, Bengaluru and Thiruvananthapuram.

Odisha Official Language (Amendment) Ordinance 2016 promulgated

- **Odia language** as a tool for communication in official matters.
- the state government also announced to set up a **University of Odia language** and literature to facilitate teaching and research on the same.

Minister of Railways inaugurated five new activities

S.No New Initiatives

- 1 New AC Weekly Express train between H. Nizamuddin-Pune
- 2 Expansion of VIKALP Scheme of Alternate Train Reservation to Delhi-Howrah, Delhi- Chennai, Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Secunderabad Circuits,
- 3 Hand Held Terminals that makes Sale of Unreserved Tickets in Pilot Basis.
- 4 Launching of Ergonomically Redesigned & Optimised Tools for Track Gangs, Keymen & Patrolmen
- 5 Improving Safety at Unmanned Level Crossing in pilot basis.

Telangana govt signs MoU with Eclat Health Solns

- Telangana government has signed a MoU with US-based healthcare tech **firm Eclat Health Solutions**
- will invest USD 15 million in the state **to provide 1,000 jobs**,

NGT bans over 10-year-old light, heavy diesel vehicles in six Kerala cities

- Following cities where the ban will be in force, Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kochi, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Kannur.
- If any violations found on the road, the vehicle bearer shall **pay Rs. 5000 as environmental** compensation and this will be collected by traffic police/pollution control board.

International

World Humanitarian Summit held at Istanbul

- **Purpose:** World leaders to be committed to improving the humanitarian responses to crises

- **Features of the Summit:**
 - i. World leaders to align themselves with the five core responsibilities
 - ii. Preventing and ending conflicts
 - iii. Respecting the rules of war
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40 million Indians at risk from rising sea levels: UNEP

- **over 40 million** people in **India** will be put at risk from rising sea levels **by 2050**.
 - Report points out Mumbai and Kolkata having the maximum exposure to coastal flooding in future due to rapid urbanisation **and economic growth**.
 - Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines, are expected to have storm surge with a combined total of over 58 million **people at risk by 2050**.
 - global urban populations are projected to scale up by **5 billion by 2050**, with nearly **90 per cent** of the increase in **Asia and Africa**.
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IIM-A, IIM-B climb positions on Financial Terms Executive Education rankings

- **Ranking Status:**
 - i) **Open Category**
IIM-B shifted the rank from 53rd to **57th** in the year 2016
IIM-A debuted at **67th** rank
 - ii) **Custom category**
IIM-B top ranked among Indian B Schools
 - iii) **Custom executive education category**
For executive education at 47th rank from 57th rank in 2015
IIMA was ranked at 74th position from 83rd rank in 2015
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India bans nationals from travelling to Libya

- External Affairs Ministry has banned Indian nationals **from travelling to Libya** in view of prevailing security situation in the country,
 - Move comes after reports of a Libyan former minister being killed in clashes between unity government forces and fighters of the **ISIS group in Sirte**.
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Business and Economy

India signs loan agreement with World Bank for IBRD loan of US\$ 100 million

- for the Karnataka Urban Water Supply Modernization project
 - Project is aimed to provide **city-wide access to a continuous piped water supply** in the eligible cities in Karnataka and also to reinforce the service delivery arrangements across the city.
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India Post payments bank to be operational from March 2017

- Proposal to start the Payments will be kept before the cabinet and postal payments bank will become operational from next march.

- Ministry will invest about **Rs.800 crore, Rs.400 crore** by the department and the remaining amount will be equity part which is aimed for financial inclusion.
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Mahindra incorporates Trringo as wholly-owned subsidiary

- Vehicles major has incorporated with an initial subscription of 50,000 shares of Rs 10 each aggregating Rs 5 lakh as a wholly-owned subsidiary of it.
 - Trringo will utilise a proprietary digital platform as a platform to process orders and pass them on to the nearest franchisee through location-based mapping.
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People in News

Sarbananda Sonowal to be sworn in as Assam CM

- First BJP Government in Assam
 - **Sarbananda Sonowal** took charge as the **Chief Minister** of the state along with 11 ministers.
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FIFA's acting Secretary General Markus Kattner sacked

- **Markus Kattner** has been dismissed from his position with **the immediate effect** after a probe found violations in his fiduciary responsibilities in employment contract.
 - arkus took over as acting general secretary after Jerome Valcke was sacked due to irregularities in his administration in the illegal sale of tickets for **the 2014** FIFA World Cup.
 - He joined Fifa in **2003** as director of finance, being promoted as deputy secretary general in 2007.
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F45 India appoints ex-cricketer Brett Lee as brand ambassador

- F45 also making its entry into the launching its first fitness studio in Hyderabad
 - also planning to open as many as 300 outlets under the franchise model
 - F45 is expanded as Functional 45, now has over 400 franchises sold in **under three years**.
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Afghan Taliban sources confirm death of leader Mullah Akhtar Mansour

- **Taliban supremo Mullah Akhtar Mansour** was killed in a US drone airstrike attack in a remote area of south-west **Pakistan**, near the Afghan border.
 - UN reports claiming that he had an active role in **drug trafficking**.
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Science and Technology

Scientists detect faintest galaxy ever

- Faintest early-universe galaxy **ever furthest galaxy** that is **13 billion light years** far from Earth.
 - A finding that can help explain how the **cosmic dark ages** ended.
 - Existence of the faint object would outhouse light on the reionization time, when stars were first seen.
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Awards

Over 31,000 in China set dance record

- Over 31,000 people in Beijing, Shanghai and four other cities in china have created a new feat by performing choreographed dance moves together for more than five minutes.
 - Participants include generally **middle-aged and elderly** women
 - **31,697 people** sets a Guinness World Records **for mass plaza dancing** in multiple location.
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