

National

Railways launched the Optional Catering Scheme and Janani Sewa on test mode

- Janani Sewa for mothers
Optional Catering in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Trains on test mode
Children's menu on trains
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First Meeting of National Committee on Ramayana Circuit & Krishna Circuit

- **Ramayana Circuit:** 11 Destinations
Krishna Circuit: 12 Destinations.
 - **Ministry of Tourism** hold the "1st Meeting of National Committee on Ramayan Circuit & Krishna Circuit" under **Swadesh Darshan Scheme**
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Government Sanctions Rs. 164 Crore for Rajasthan, 156 Crore for Telangana

- This is for Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) with the two States.
 - money has been sanctioned for afforestation, **relocation and other biodiversity works** in these states.
 - The CAMPA corpus currently stands **around Rs 42,000 crore** of this only 10 per cent of the funds can be released this year.
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International

Rise of Environmental Crime Report released by UNEP and INTERPOL

- The **World's Fourth largest** committed crime is the Environmental crime
 - Environmental crime extended largely **upto 26%** from the previous record in 2014
 - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) joined hands with INTERPOL spreading awareness about the Environmental Crimes.
 - most endangered species including Rhinos and elephants were killed at growth rate of 25% over the last 10 years and about **3000** elephants were killed in **Tanzania** every year.
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UN Assembly elects Israel as committee chair for first time

- Israel will head one of the world **body's six permanent committees**, since joining the **U.N. in 1949**
- this is first time that country is Chairing the committee.
- Israel a chance to have a higher profile in routine affairs at the United Nations.
- **Israel received 109-yes votes.** Nobody voted against Israel but there were 23 abstentions, 14 invalid ballots, and 43 votes for other countries in the Western European

- Sweden was runner-up with 10 votes.
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People in News

RBS India chief Brijesh Mehra to head corporate banking at RBL

- Small sized private lender **RBL Bank** (formerly known as The Ratnakar Bank Limited) announced that the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) India chief **Brijesh Mehra** will be joining the company as head of **corporate banking**.
 - Appointment comes from the lender after the **UK based Royal Bank of Scotland** announced it will close down its retail operations in the country.
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Bharti Airtel names Shashi Arora as new CEO

- Airtel Payments Bank has named **Shashi Arora** as chief executive and managing director of the company,
 - Sunil Bharti Mittal group's Bank informed that Arora has over 26 years of experience across sectors including **FMCG, Telecom, Media and Banking**.
 - Arora **started his career at Bharti Airtel in 2006** and was hired as the chief executive of Bharti Telemedia Ltd, a subsidiary of Bharti Airtel that provides DTH services.
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Gopal Rai Resigns As Delhi Transport Minister

- Aam Aadmi Party **leader Gopal Rai** was relieved of the charge of the **Transport Department**,
 - AP government has cited health reasons for his decision
 - Satyendra Jain is likely to take charge as Transport Minister for now.
 - Satyendra Jain currently holds key portfolios includes **PWD, Health, Power and Home**.
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Justice Rakesh Ranjan Prasad takes charge of Chief Justice of Manipur HC

- He succeeded Justice **Laxmi Kanta Mohapatra** who has relinquished the charge of office.
 - President Pranab Mukherjee had transferred Justice Rakesh Ranjan Prasad from Jharkhand High Court to Manipur High Court.
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DBS Bank appoints Niraj Mittal as institutional banking head

- **DBS Bank's Indian Arm** has appointed **Niraj Mittal** as the Managing Director and Head of Institutional Banking for the country.
 - will be responsible for increasing business with institutional banking clients by driving both new client acquisition and deepening existing relationships.
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Deutsche Bank Asia chief executive Gunit Chadha quits

- The appointment dated back in October 2015 as CEO for the Asia Pacific, in charge of 16 regions in the region.
 - This is the **second high profile departure** from the bank, later it had declared €6.8 billion loss for the year **ended December 2015**.
 - Gunit Chadha had joined Deutsche **Bank in 2003** as the CEO for the global lender's India operations. In 2012, he was promoted to co-CEO for its Asia Pacific business.
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Business and Economy

'Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets'

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has come up with the Scheme for **Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets**
 - To further strengthen the lenders' ability to deal with stressed assets and to put real assets back on track.
 - **Resolution of large stressed accounts and** valid for those projects that have started commercial operations and have outstanding loan **cap of over 500 crore rupees**.
 - banks **will have to divide the outstanding debt of a company** into Sustainable that makes the share which can be serviced by the company
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shortlist of candidates for Reserve Bank of India governor post

- Union government had formed a selection committee headed by cabinet secretary P.K. Sinha for shortlisting candidates for **RBI governorship**.
 - Reserve Bank of India governor post is up to **financial sector regulatory appointment search committee** (FSRASC).
 - the panel includes Additional Principal Secretary to the PM, PK Mishra, who is a permanent government nominee, and three other experts – Rajiv Kumar of Centre for Policy Research, Manoj Panda of the Institute of Economic Growth and Bimal N Patel from Gujarat National Law University.
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SBI and Mastercard Partners with Centrum

- To launch a distribution alliance with travel prepaid cards **distributor Centrum**.
 - Tie-up will help in distribution strength of the Bank for **its multicurrency prepaid** card and will largely target the corporate **customers of the bank**.
 - **SBI MasterCard Foreign Travel Card** offers frequent travelers a safe and convenient way of carrying multiple currencies in a single card.
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BHEL commissions 195 MW unit at Muzaffarpur plant

- This is the second unit of **195 MW to be commissioned by BHEL** at the 2×195 MW Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station Stage-II of **Kanti Bijlee Utpadan Nigam Limited**
 - The first 195 MW unit was commissioned in March last year.
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Science and Technology

NASA Hubble telescope spots mysterious solitary dwarf galaxy "UGC 4879"

- **this** type of galaxy does not have the distinct regular shape of elliptical and spiral galaxies.
 - galaxy is about 2.3 million light years away from its closest neighbour, Leo A which is about the same distance as that between our Milky Way Galaxy.
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