

NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

IMD to Set up Weather Stations in 660 Districts by 2019

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has decided to set up weather stations in 660 districts.
- Used for better and prompt weather forecasting with major focus on rain-fed and non-rain-fed areas to give crop specific advisories.
- The IMD has also tied up with the **Ministry of Agriculture** to use the **Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)**, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in the districts, as **weather forecasting observatories**.

Nitin Gadkari Announces to Develop 1,253 km road in Assam as National Highways

- The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Shipping inaugurated a 3-lane Brahmaputra Bridge at Saraighat in Guwahati.
- Besides, the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) will spend Rs 8,000 crores over the next two years for developing 143 kilometres of road, including a few bridges over Brahmaputra.
- The 3-lane Bridge has been developed, aims to solve the problem of traffic congestion at Jalukbari and Amingaon points.

INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

Inheritance Court for Non-Muslims to be Set up in Abu Dhabi

- **Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, has issued a resolution to set up a **Personal Status and Inheritance Court** for **non Muslims** in **Abu Dhabi**.
- The aim of setting up the Court is to ensure access to services for all segment of the society and promote the culture of tolerance and acceptance of other communities values at the judiciary level.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

RBI Gives Final License to India Post to Start Payment Bank Operations

- The **India Post** has received the final license from the **Reserve bank of India** to start its operation as payment bank with the name **India Post Payment Bank (IPPB)**.
- With this India Post has become the third entity to get the license from the Central Bank to start payment bank services. Earlier, **Bharti Airtel** and digital payments firm **Paytm** got the approval and till now only Airtel has started operations.
- IPPB has been incorporated as a Public Sector Bank under the Department of Posts with 100% GOI equity.

India's Foreign Exchange Reserves Rises by \$ 932.4 million to \$ 360.775 billion

- Indian-American entrepreneur, philanthropist and venture capitalist **Gururaj Deshpande** has decided to launch **India's largest startup incubation centre** at Hubballi .
- The decision is based on the idea of expansion of the **Deshpande Foundation's** initial incubation center, Sandbox, which was founded by Deshpande and his wife Jaishree.
- As of now, T-Hub, in Telangana, built on a space of 70,000 sq.ft. is the biggest incubation centre in the country.
- The new facility will have a makers' lab, 3D printing lab, IoT (internet-of-things) lab. It will focus on all sectors -from manufacturing and agriculture to IoT.
- The incubation centre aims to encourage entrepreneurs, especially the young generations, from any background and across the sectors, to come up with innovative new-age solutions, business models and social entrepreneurship projects.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Indian Navy Issues RFI to procure 57 Carrier-Borne Fighter Jets

- The **Indian Navy** has officially issued a **Request for Information (RFI)** to procure **new carrier-based multirole warplane**.
- The Navy intends to procure **57 naval fighter aircraft** from a foreign supplier for its rapidly growing fleet of aircraft carriers.
- The three likely contenders for the contract are Boeing's F/A-18 Super Hornet, a naval version of the Dassault Rafale, and the Russian-made MiG-29K Fulcrum fighter jet.
- The details of aircraft in RFI includes: capable of operations during day and night in all weather conditions, suitable for shipborne air defense, air-to-surface, 'buddy-buddy' aerial refueling, reconnaissance, electronic warfare, and other unspecified roles.

US Based Scientists Develops Human-Pig Hybrid

- An International Team of Scientists from United States have created a **Human-Pig Hybrid** in a research project paving way to address shortage of organ for transplantation.

- The team created an organism scientifically known as a **Chimera**, an organism that contains cells from two different species.
- The experiment proved that human-pig hybrids are possible and human cells can be introduced into a non-human organism, survive, and even grow inside a host animal.

SPORTS

Australian Open tournament 2017 Overview

List of Winners

Title	Winners	Runners
Men's Singles	Roger Federer	Rafael Nadal
Women's Singles	Serena Williams	Venus Williams
Men's Doubles	Henri Kontinen /John Peers	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan
Women's Doubles	BethanieMattek-Sands /Lucie Safarova	Andrea Hlaváčková/Peng Shuai
Mixed Doubles	Abigail Spears /Juan Sebastián Cabal	Croatia's Ivan Dodig/Sania Mirza

Abul Hossain Wins 2017 Kolkata Marathon

- Siliguri based **Abul Hossain** won the **Kolkata Full Marathon** .
- He defeated Kolkata lad **Biswanath Pal & Paritosh Roy**.
- In Women's Half Marathon Category, Sikkim's **Mangali Tamang** won the race.
- In Men's Half Marathon Category **Shubhankar Ghosh** stood first.