

# NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## **Khajuraho Dance Festival Starts in Madhya Pradesh**

- The dance festival is conducted every year by the **Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad**.
- This cultural festival showcases various Indian classical dance styles such as Kathak, Bharathanatyam, Odissi, Kuchipudi, Manipuri and Kathakali with performances of some of the best exponents in the field.

## **Jammu & Kashmir to observe 2017 as Year of Apple**

- 2017 declared as '**Year of Apple**' to promote the famed Kashmiri apples in domestic and foreign markets.
- **High Density Apple Plantation Scheme** in Srinagar to provide **50% subsidy**
- The high density plants have a yield of 50-70 metric tonnes per hectare against 10-12 tonnes in case of conventional plants.
- Around 20 Lakh tonnes of Apple is produced in India every year. The top apple producing states of India are Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand & Arunachal Pradesh.

## **International Ayurvedic Research Institute Planned At Kannur**

- Ayurvedic research institute will be set up at the cost of **Rs 300 crore at Kannur**.
- It will be set up jointly by Thiruvananthapuram Citizens India Charitable Trust, Health Department with technical assistance of WHO.

# BUSINESS & ECONOMY

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## **Microsoft to deploy Azure Stack in Andhra Pradesh**

- **Microsoft Azure Stack** will be used to **migrate 340 live applications** of AP government from Hyderabad State Data Centre (SDC) to Vizag data center.
- It consists of three key components includes Data center – application, server, and the storage – into one physical box and deliver to the client.
- It is a cloud software that is binding the entire stack together in one environment.
- Microsoft is doing **proof of concept (POC)** with Government of Andhra Pradesh to prove its capability for the first time.

# PEOPLE IN NEWS

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## **Dick Bruna Creator of the Cartoon Rabbit Miffy Dies at 89**

- **Dutch** author, artist, illustrator and graphic designer **Dick Bruna** died in the Dutch city of **Utrecht**. He was **89**.
- Bruna was best known for his more than **200 children's books** which he authored and illustrated. The most notable creation was **Miffy**, known as Nijntje in Dutch, the **cartoon rabbit** drawn with heavy graphic lines, simple shapes and primary colors.
- More than 80 million Miffy books have been sold globally.

## **Bengali singer Banasree Sengupta passes away**

- Noted Bengali singer **Banasree Sengupta** was passed away in **Kolkata**, West Bengal at the age of 71.
- She is well known for some of the most popular modern songs likes Aaj Bikeler Daake Tomar Chithi Pelam, Amar Ange Jawle Rangmashal and Chhi Chhi Chhi Eki Kando Korech

## **Hindi novelist Ved Prakash Sharma passes away**

- Famous Hindi novelist **Ved Prakash Sharma** was passed away in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. He was 62.
- Sharma has written nearly 176 novels includes "**Qaidi No 100**" and "**Vardi Wala Gunda**".
- He had also written scripts for about half-a-dozen Hindi movies.

## **Former Mohun Bagan Goalkeeper Shibaji Banerjee Passes Away**

- Former **Mohun Bagan** goalkeeper **Shibaji Banerjee** passed away in **Kolkata**. He was **68**.
- The soccer legend Shibaji had played for the **club for 11 years**. Banerjee won 34 trophies with the club.
- He is also well known for stopping a free kick taken by Pele during the 1977 exhibition match against New York Cosmos.
- Banerjee was part of Mohun Bagan's three-man technical committee at the time of passing away

## **U.K. named Cressida Dick as first woman to lead Scotland Yard**

- **Cressida Dick**(56) was appointed as the new commissioner of London's Metropolitan Police. With this, she become the **first woman** to lead Scotland Yard in **188 year UK history**.
- Dick replace **Bernard Hogan-Howe**, who is stepping down from the position previous week.
- She left the police force in 2015 to work at the foreign office and led the security operation for the 2012 London Olympics.

## SPORTS CURRENT AFFAIRS

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### India to Host Next Davis Cup tie in Bangalore in April

- Bangalore has been chosen to host the next **Davis Cup** Asia-Oceania Zone group-1 tie against **Uzbekistan**
- As per the announcement made by the **All India Tennis Association (AITA)**, the tie clash will be held on the hard courts of **Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA)** in Bangalore.
- The last time two teams clashed against each other was in April 2012 when Uzbekistan emerged 3-2 winners in tie.