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OCTOBER 2017

PRESS INFORMATION

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**OCTOBER 1 AND 2 2017**

### **1. Rajghat gets Mahatma Statue, for the first time**

- Rajghat, the Samadhi of the Father of the Nation in the national capital.
- Unveiled in the occasion of the 148 Birth Anniversary of the champion of country's independence.
- The famous message of Gandhi ji “**Be the Change You Wish to See**” is inscribed on the front side of the pedestal.
- The new statue would offer another spot for them to pay their respect to the great soul.

### **2. National waterway 4 -Muktyala to Vijayawada (Krishna River)**

As per the MoU signed with Govt. of Andhra Pradesh on 14<sup>th</sup> April'2016, NW-4 in Andhra Pradesh is proposed to be developed in three phases.

- Phase-I: -Muktyala to Vijayawada (Krishna River) (82 Km)
- Phase-II: -Vijayawada to Kakinada (Eluru canal & Kakinada canal) and Rajahmundry to Polavaram stretch of Godavari (233 Km)
- Phase-III: -Commamur Canal, Buckingham canal and balance stretches of Krishna & Godavari Rivers (573km)

A proposal for Phase-II has been recommended by IWAI board for PIB/Cabinet. Also, a proposal for formation of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for implementation of the project is under consideration for the approval of Cabinet. The SPV is expected to be formed by November 2017.

#### **Quick revision:**

1. NW-1 or Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system is located in India and runs from Haldia to Allahabad across the Ganges, Bhagirathi and Hooghly river systems. It is 1,620 km long, making it the longest waterway in India.
2. *National Waterway 2* (NW-2) is a section of the Brahmaputra River having a length of 891 km between the Bangladesh border and Sadiya.
3. The West Coast Canal or National Waterway No 3 is a 168-km stretch of this inland navigational route located in Kerala, India and runs from Kollam to Kottapuram.

### 3. Significance of Porbandar .

- The birth place of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Around 48% of the cargo entering or exiting the ports of the country is from the ports of Gujarat.

Gandhiji's date of Birth: - 2 October 1869.

### 4. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs Presents swachatta awards:-

- Fertilizer Cooperative, **KRIBHCO** gets award for **compost marketing**.
- **Facebook Group 'My Delhi Keep It Clean'** gets **Swacchata Award for voluntary citizen action**.
- **'No Food Waste'** initiative of Coimbatore has been selected in the Innovative Practices category for end-to-end cycle to manage and reduce food waste.
- **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya, Ambikar** gets the award in the **Schools and Colleges** category.

### 5. International day of Older Persons' – 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Theme: **“Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in Society ”**.

- The **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment** is running two important schemes namely **“Vridh Jan Grah Yojana “** and **“Day Care Centers”** for Older Persons.

### 6. Wardha Dry Port will be constructed over an area of 350 Acres with an investment of Rs.500 Crore .

- **Shri Nitin Gadkari** will perform **Bhoomi Poojan** for **Wardha Dry Port** .

The Phase-I would involve development of around 25 Ha of the total area, with an estimated cost of Rs.180 Crores (including private investment of Rs. 79 Crore).

The proposed dry port is estimated to generate traffic of almost 7,000-9,000 TEUs in next 5-7 years.



- The project is expected to **attract a direct employment** of at least 1000 persons.
- The project would have the necessary facilities as **one-stop shop for the EXIM based industries** such as customs clearance facilities, Container Freight Station, Warehousing Space, Cold Storage, Liquid Storage, truck terminals etc.
- The site is **strategically located** around the Industrial belt of Nagpur & Wardha and is well connected to the other industrial regions in Vidarbha.

### 7. Military Nursing Service celebrates its 92nd Raising Day :-

- On October 1, 1926 MNS was formally established as **permanent nursing service** in the Indian Army.
- National Florence Nightingale Award: - It is the **highest national level award in field of nursing**, awarded by the President of India.

**OCTOBER 3 AND 4 2017**

### 1. Environment Minister Inaugurates Global Wildlife Programme :-

- **Two documents were released on the occasion. –**
  1. India's National Wildlife Action Plan (NWAP) for the period 2017-2031
  2. Secure Himalaya

#### **National Wildlife Action Plan 2017-2031 :-**

- The NWAP has been made landscape-based, rather than sanctuary, or national park-based.
- The Plan focuses on preservation of genetic diversity and sustainable development.

The NWAP has five components, 17 themes, 103 conservation actions and 250 projects.

**The five components are –**

1. strengthening and promoting the integrated management of wildlife and their habitats;
2. adaptation to climate change and promoting integrated sustainable management of aquatic biodiversity in India;
3. promoting eco-tourism, nature education and participatory management;
4. strengthening wildlife research and monitoring of development of human resources in wildlife conservation and
5. Enabling policies and resources for conservation of wildlife in India.

## **2. President Appoints Commission to Examine Sub Categorization of other Backward Classes under Article 340 of the Constitution.**

- Decision will ensure more Backwards among OBC Communities to avail benefits of Reservation.
- **Chairperson -Justice (Retd.) G. Rohini.**
- The Commission is required to present their Report to the President within a period of **twelve weeks** of assumption of charge by the Chairperson of the Commission.

## **3. President of India reached Djibouti :-**

**Some facts regarding:-**

- Ram Nath Kovind is the first Indian President to visit Djibouti.
- Djibouti is situated on the Horn of Africa.
- During the Yemeni crisis of 2015, Djibouti was supportive of Indian efforts to evacuate Indian citizens, and those of other countries, as part of Operation Rahat, and offered use of an air strip.

## **4. Index of Eight Core Industries (Base: 2011-12=100) August, 2017**

- Highest for refinery products (28%)
- Lowest for fertilizers (2.63%)

## 5. Rally for rivers:-

- This is a policy recommendation to plant trees on either side of our rivers to restore them.
- It is an economic model which has a significant ecological consequence.



## 6. The Chairman of National Highways Authority of India launches new website and PMIS Mobile App.

### Uses:-

- This website will be useful for the general public to rate National Highways.
- The App will facilitate close, in-house monitoring of NHAI projects on a mobile phone.

## 7. Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be Held in Hyderabad, November 28-30.

This year's theme: **“Women First, Prosperity for All”**.

## 8. Vice President of India Inaugurates week long celebration of World Space Week:-

### Some facts regarding :-

- The first sounding rocket launched from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launch Station (TERLS) in 1963.
- The first Satellite Aryabhata was launched in the year 1975.

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## 9. Cabinet approves renaming of Kandla Port as Deendayal Port.

### Some facts regarding :-

- Kandla is one of the largest port in the country.
- Since the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was to be celebrated on 25 September, 2017.
- "It was felt that it would be most appropriate if the decision to rename the Kandla Port as Deendayal Port"- official release.

## 10. Turtle Sanctuary to be set up in Allahabad :-

- Aim: To protect the rich aquatic biodiversity of river Ganga from escalating anthropogenic pressures.
- Development of a Turtle sanctuary in Allahabad along with a River Biodiversity Park at Sangam, have been approved under Namami Gange programme.

**OCTOBER 5 AND 6 2017**

## 1. Embryo Transfer Technology, a promising revolution in Bovine breeding :-

- Under this technology, embryos of higher genetic merit indigenous bovines are being transferred in to surrogate cows.

### Proposed benefits:-

- (i) A farmer can get a 5-6 fold increase in number of offspring's ,
- (ii) The calves so born will be of high genetic merit and
- (iii) The off springs born will be free from diseases

## 2. Nobel Prize for Physics, 2017 – Indian Connection:-

- The 2017 Nobel Prize for Physics has been conferred to three scientists namely Rainer Weiss, Barry C Barish & Kip S Thorne under the LIGO Project

for their discovery of gravitational waves, 100 years after Einstein's General Relativity predicted it.

- This is a proud moment for India also, since the discovery paper has 39 Indian authors/scientists from nine institutions.
- Late Professor CV Vishveshvara of RRI, Bengaluru (DST AI) and Professor SV Dhurandhar of IUCAA, Pune and some other Indian scientists made seminal contributions to this field which contributed towards the principles behind the LIGO Detector.

### 3. India signs €300 million Finance Contract with European Investment Bank (EIB) for financing Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II- Line R6.

**The objective of the project:** To bring in a quantum improvement in the transportation sector in the city in tandem with the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) and other modes of urban transport.

**TARGET:** To ensure modern transport facility for the commuters. The spinoffs of the project would include employment opportunities, benefits to the economy, reduction of number of vehicles on road, less fuel consumption, reduction in air pollution, reduction in passenger travel time and also improvement in the aesthetic value of the city.

#### Facts in detail:

- Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II is to be jointly financed by the European Investment Bank (€500 million) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (€300 million).
- The first tranche of Euro 300mn was signed today.
- The project envisages extension of East-West & North-South lines for Bangalore Metro Rail which includes a total length of 72.095 km (13.79 km underground) and 61 stations with 12 underground stations

### 4.PMGDIHSA scheme:-

- Pradhanmantri Grameen Digital Saksharata Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) is an integral component of Digital India Initiative of the Government.
- The scheme envisage to make 6 crore citizens digitally literate in rural India
- It is under the Ministry of Electronics and IT



**5. The Ministry of Women and Child Development will be celebrating the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week from 09th to 14th October, 2017.**

**Theme : "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Week- The Daughters of New India".**

- The week is being celebrated in view of the International Girl Child Day on 11th October, 2017.

The theme for this year's International Day of the Girl –“Girls Progress=Goals Progress: What Counts for Girls”.

**6. The “Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM)-2017” will be held from 7th to 9th October, 2017 in India's 1st World Heritage City i.e Ahmadabad, Gujarat.**

- This is organizing with an intent to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Country in all its rich and varied dimensions, viz Handicrafts, Cuisine, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Documentation and Performing Arts-Folk, Tribal, Classical and Contemporary- all in one place.

**7. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) issues order against Grasim Industries Limited, Aditya Birla Chemicals (India) Ltd. and Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd. for bid rigging Delhi Jal Board tenders for supply of Poly Aluminium Chloride.**

- The cci Imposes penalty for the anti-competitive conduct.
- The Poly Aluminium Chloride (PAC) is used for purification of water

**8. President to Inaugurate India Water Week 2017 on October 10, 2017 in New Delhi .**

- The theme of India Water Week – 2017 is “**Water and Energy for Inclusive Growth**”.

**OCTOBER 07 2017**

**1. Dialogue of Civilizations - IV being Organized from 8th - 15th October, 2017 by the Archaeological Survey of India, Ministry of Culture and National Geographic in New Delhi.**

The theme of the Conference : “**Technology and Civilization**”.

**Hoisted by :** The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with National Geographic Society.

**Objective:** To encourage scholarly and public discourse about the five ancient, literate civilizations of the world, i.e. Egypt, Mesopotamia, South Asia, China and Mesoamerica and how the study of the past can share our present and future towards the right direction.

- ❖ This conference is fourth in this series of ‘dialogues’.
- ❖ The first conference of this series was inaugurated in Guatemala in 2013 followed by Turkey in 2014 and China in 2015.
- ❖ The present conference is the fourth in this series, with the final dialogue planned in Egypt.

**Background :-**

In 2013, the National Geographic Society initiated a five-year annual conference called “The Dialogue of Civilizations,” the mission of which is to encourage scholarly and public discourse about the five ancient, literate civilizations of the world (i.e., Egypt, Mesopotamia, South Asia, China, and Mesoamerica) and how the study of the past can inform our present and future

**2. India to conduct the First ‘BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise-2017’ in New Delhi from October 10-13, 2017.**

It will be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency.

This Exercise will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), strengthening regional response and coordination for Disaster Management among the BIMSTEC member countries.

## Quick revision:

BIMSTEC consists of seven countries - namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

**3. India and South Africa are celebrating twenty years of strategic partnership this year.**

**‘Gandhi-Mandela Program on Grass Root Innovation’** :-This program is designed for co-development of products through value addition, validation through product deployment and market ready technology transfer with a focus on affordability.

The goal is to meet unmet needs of the society and to reach common man.

**4. PM laid foundation stone for greenfield airport for Rajkot**

- The Prime Minister laid foundation stone for a bridge between Okha and Beyt Dwarka.
- He also dedicated a fully automatic milk processing and packaging plant to the nation.
- The Prime Minister said that the Sursagar Dairy would bring enormous benefit to the people.

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**OCTOBER 8 AND 9 2017**

### **1. Prime Minister launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)**

- Let no child suffer from any vaccine-preventable disease: Prime Minister
- Improving the health status of children of our country is amongst the top priorities of the Government: Sh J P Nadda

**Aim:** To reach each and every child under two years of age and all those pregnant women who have been left uncovered under the routine immunization programme.

**Focus:** Improving immunization coverage in select districts and cities to ensure full immunization to more than 90% by December 2018.

- The achievement of full immunisation under Mission Indradhanush to at least 90% coverage was to be achieved by 2020 earlier. With the launch of IMI, achievement of the target has now been advanced.
- Earlier the increase in full immunization coverage was 1% per year which has increased to 6.7% per year through the first two phases of 'Mission Indradhanush'.

#### **Features of Intensified Mission Indradhanush :**

- Will cover low performing areas in the selected districts and urban areas.
- Special attention will be given to unserved/low coverage pockets in sub-centre and urban slums with migratory population.
- The focus is also on the urban settlements and cities identified under National Urban Health Mission (NUHM).
- Will have inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination, action-based review mechanism and intensified monitoring and accountability framework for effective implementation of targeted rapid interventions to improve the routine immunization coverage.

### **2. World post day:**

- In India it will be a part of the National Postal Week till 15th October 2014.
- On all the days school children will be involved to educate them on functioning of the Postal Department

## Background:-

- World Post Day is celebrated each year on 9<sup>th</sup> October, the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in Berne.
- The Minister for Communications launched e-IPO (Indian Postal Order) in the denominations of Rs. 10/-, Rs. 20/-, Rs. 50/- & Rs. 100/-, as a pilot project in Bihar, Delhi and Karnataka.
- e-IPO will be used for all purposes like fee payment for RTI/ educational institutions/ Court/ online registration for Cable Operators etc.

### 3. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid Foundation Stone for Bhadbhut Barrage over the River Narmada.

The Prime Minister also flagged off the Antyodaya Express between Udhna (Surat, Gujarat) and Jaynagar (Bihar).

#### Proposed advantages:

- Connects people and particularly helps those who are from Uttar Pradesh or Bihar, and work far from their home.
- Train will make it easier for people from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to go home for Chhath Puja.

### 4. Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala is all set to conduct the fourth edition of the prestigious annual *Dilli* seminar on 12th and 13th of October 2017.

Theme: 'India and Southeast Asia – Maritime Trade, Expedition and Civilisation Linkages'.

#### Background :-

INA conducts the annual *Dilli* seminar on elements and issues of maritime history and heritage of the nation to help the young officers and cadets keep an eye on future developments in the maritime domain with a strong foundation of the past.

### 5. Trails pass.

- Traill's Pass (5400m) is a high altitude pass in Nandadevi National Park (Kumaon Region) which joins the Milam and Pindari Glaciers.

## 6.Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)

- PMGDISHA is aimed at imparting digital literacy to citizens in rural areas. It will provide access to information, knowledge, education, and healthcare.
- It will create avenues for livelihood generation, and financial inclusion through digital payments.

## 7.ImTeCHO

- ImTeCHO is an innovative mobile phone application to improve performance of ASHAs through better supervision, support and motivation for increasing coverage of proven maternal, newborn and child health interventions among resource-poor settings in India.
- ImTeCHO stands for “Innovative mobile-phone Technology for Community Health Operations”.
- “TeCHO” in Gujarati means “support”; therefore, “**ImTeCHO**” means “**I am support.**”
- The Prime Minister will distribute e-tablets to health workers to mark the launch of ImTeCHO.

**OCTOBER 10 AND 11 2017**

## 1.Vice President inaugurates the third International Conference on 'Yoga for Wellness'

- The theme of this year's conference is “**Yoga for Wellness**”
- The vice President expressed his appreciation that the conference will focus on **seeking** solutions to contemporary health problems caused by modern stressful lifestyle.
- Yoga is the mother of all exercises and provides physical fitness, mental alertness as well as spiritual succour.
- Yoga has nothing to do with religion as some people unfortunately attribute religious overtones to this ancient scientific system.
- The conference is being organized by the Ministry of AYUSH.



## **2.The President of India, presented the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics and Management for the year 2017 to Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak at Rashtrapati Bhavan**

Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak is the founder of Sulabh International and has developed and implemented, on a pan India scale, a low cost and appropriate toilet technology popularly known as the Sulabh Shauchalaya system.

### **Further notes:**

The Mayor of New York had declared April 14, 2016 as the ‘Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak International Day’ keeping in mind this contribution made by Dr. Pathak.

## **3.The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has Released two books**

- ❖ **Names:** ‘Minimally Invasive GI Cancer Surgery’ and ‘Bariatric Surgical Practice Guide’

## **4. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has embarked upon several digital friendly steps for extension of the benefits of Atal pension yojana(APY) to the citizens of India.**

Any person in the age group of 18 to 40 years with a savings bank account and Aadhaar can register for APY by providing the minimum information in the **APY@eNPS portal**

## **5.The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the four-day first BIMSTEC DMEx.**

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Disaster Management Exercise (BIMSTEC DMEx-2017) .
- India is organizing the first annual Disaster Management Exercise for the region.
- The Exercise is being conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency .

## 6. Indian Railways and German Railways sign Joint Declaration

- Joint declaration of intent regarding carrying out of feasibility study on existing Chennai-Kazipet corridor of Indian Railways for increasing the speed trains to 200 kmph .

## 7. The Prime Minister launched the DISHA Portal

- A smart governance tool developed for MPs and MLAs for monitoring of implementation of various Programmes and Schemes of different Ministries in their constituency through a single portal.

## 8. The prime minister launched Gram Samvaad

- A citizen centric mobile app to serve and empower the rural citizens of India, by facilitating single window access for citizens to information at Gram Panchayat level, on various Rural Development programs.

## 9. New Chairman for Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune.

- Anupam Kher, veteran cine star, has been appointed as Chairman of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune.
- Shri Kher succeeds Shri Gajendra Chauhan.

### FTII :-

FTII is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting .

## 10. First Meeting of EAC-PM spells out the road map for acceleration of economic growth.

The EAC-PM is an independent body to give advice on economic and related issues to the Government of India, specifically to the Prime Minister.

### The composition of the EAC-PM is as follows- {NOT IMPORTANT}

1. Dr. Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog- Chairman
2. Dr. Surjit Bhalla- Part-time Member
3. Dr. Rathin Roy- Part-time Member
4. Dr. Ashima Goyal- Part-time Member
5. Shri Ratan Watal, Principal Advisor, NITI Aayog Member-Secretary.