

INDIA LICENSING EXPO (ILE) TO BE HELD IN MUMBAI IN AUGUST



India Licensing Expo is scheduled to be held on August 20-21 in Mumbai. The expo will be India's first and most influential brand licensing event that will collate opportunities, knowledge and recognitions under one roof. The expo will be organised by License India, India's first licensing media Services Company and supported by Franchise India. The expo is expected to see the participation of over 100 global and domestic companies.

PUNJAB GOVERNMENT PROHIBITS VIP NAMES ON PLAQUES AND FOUNDATION STONES



Punjab government has prohibited the inclusion of names of the government functionaries, including ministers and MLAs, on foundation stones and inaugural plaques so as to build a stronger connect with the people by shedding the VIP culture. The state government has clarified that though there is no bar on government functionaries and leaders attending or laying the foundation stone of any project, the practice of inscribing their names on foundation stones or plaques would be discarded with immediate effect.

SEABED RESIDENT EVENT PROFILER (SREP) ROBOT DEVELOPED BY NIO



Scientists at CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) have developed a robotic platform, Seabed Resident Event Profiler (SREP) that is capable of being stationed at any water depth from 0-200 metres to track the oceanic processes. The robot has been designed to regularly record the water column information at every 10 to 25 cm during every profile four times a day.

70TH HIMACHAL DAY CELEBRATED ACROSS HIMACHAL PRADESH



Himachal Pradesh is celebrating 70th Himachal Day function. The hill state came into existence after the merger of 30 odd princely states in 1948. In 1948, state's per capital income was mere Rs 240 and State Gross Domestic Product was just Rs 26 crore which now increased to Rs 1,47,277 and Rs 1,24,570 crore respectively. In last seven decades, literacy percentage has gone up from 7 per cent in 1948 to 83.78 per cent.

ISRO TO SHARE TECHNOLOGY FOR MANUFACTURING OF LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES FOR PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES



The government has directed the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to share battery technology for mass production of Lithium-Ion batteries for electric vehicles. The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre under ISRO has developed indigenous technology to manufacture high-power batteries for use in two- and three-wheelers and their feasibility tests conducted by the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) was found to be successful.

NASA'S SCIENTISTS FIND SECOND GREAT SPOT ON JUPITER



Scientists have found second Great Spot in Jupiter which is cold and high up. The Great Spot was found to be 24,000 km across and 12,000 km wide. It is found to be in the upper atmosphere and is much cooler than the hot surroundings. Unlike the Great Red Spot which was identified in 1830, this newly discovered Great Spot is continuously changing its shape and size.

SATURN'S MOON ENCELADUS MAY BE HABITABLE: NASA



NASA has announced that Saturn's sixth-largest moon Enceladus and Jupiter's fourth-largest moon Europa may be habitable as they have the necessary ingredients required to sustain life. The key ingredients of life are liquid water, a source of energy for metabolism, and chemicals such as carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulphur.

IBM APPOINTS NIPUN MEHROTRA AS CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER (CDO) FOR INDIA



IBM has appointed Nipun Mehrotra as chief digital officer (CDO) for India, one of the first countries outside the US to have such a position, and marks the importance the country holds as IBM morphs into a platform company with the focus on cloud and cognitive. IBM veteran Nipun Mehrotra is the CDO for India/South Asia, and the appointment comes with months of Bob Lord, IBM's first ever chief digital officer, being charged with bringing together the digital business group (DBG).

INFOSYS APPOINTS INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR RAVI VENKATESAN CO-CHAIRMAN



Infosys Ltd on Thursday appointed independent director Ravi Venkatesan as co-chairman, a move seen as a step taken by the company board to end the public spat with the IT firm's founders, mainly N.R. Narayana Murthy. Infosys co-chairman Venkatesan has been on the Infosys board since April 2011.

CANADA'S LIBERAL GOVERNMENT GOES 'BOLD' AND 'RISKY' BY LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA



The Liberal government – as promised during the 215 election campaign – is moving ahead with legalizing recreational marijuana use for those 18 and older. It's being called a "bold and risky social experiment" by many and would include tough laws against illicit dealers and those who break them. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said legalizing pot is the best way to keep the drug from being used by younger, impressionable children.

UTTAR PRADESH GOVERNMENT, CENTRE SIGN MOU FOR POWER FOR ALL SCHEME



The Uttar Pradesh government on Friday signed an agreement with the Centre for Power for All scheme. The agreement was signed in presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Power Minister Piyush Goyal. Uttar Pradesh government, Centre sign MoU for Power for All scheme was the only state in the country which had not signed the scheme aimed at providing power to all, said Mr Goyal, and also lauded state Power Minister Shrikant Sharma and his team for wrapping up the agreement in such a short time.

PM LAUNCHES GNFC'S CASHLESS/LESS CASH TOWNSHIP MODEL ACROSS 12 STATES



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Friday, launched in Nagpur a cashless/less cash township model, developed by Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (GNFC), across 81 townships in 12 States. These townships will deliver 2.5 lakh cashless transactions per day, translating into 9 crore cashless transactions in a year. GNFC's township at Bharuch in Gujarat became India's first cent per cent cashless/less cash township model after demonetisation.

PRADHAN MANTRI MUDRA YOJANA TOPS TARGET FOR 2016-17, LOANS CROSS TARGET OF RS 1.8 LAKH CRORE



Loans extended under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) during 2016-17 have crossed the target of Rs 1,80,000 crore for 2016-17. Sanctions currently stand at Rs 1,80,087 crore with final data still awaited from some of the smaller non-banking lenders.

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES 'OPERATION CLEAN MONEY-II'



The income-tax department has zeroed in on high-value property deals, outward remittances and large cash sales made by at least 60,000 assesseees during the demonetisation period, as part of Operation Clean Money launched in January. The department will conduct detailed investigations into the transactions made by these assesseees, of which 1,300 have been identified as "high risk" due to their "excessive cash sales" during the period from 8 November-31 December.

PM MODI INAUGURATES NEW UNITS IN KORADI THERMAL POWER STATION



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday inaugurated various units of thermal power plants at Koradi, Chandrapur and Parli with a total capacity of 3,230 Mega Watts. These include three super-critical units 660 MW each at Koradi, two of 500 MW each at Chandrapur and one of 250 MW at Parli.