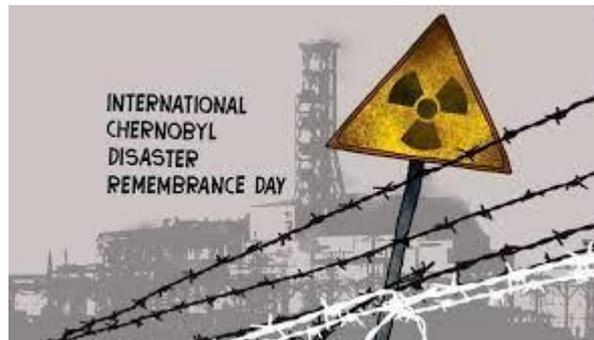


MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI ELECTIONS 2017 RESULTS



The counting of votes for the three Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) elections 2017 began on 26 April 2017. The three corporations for which the elections were held on 23 April 2017 include North Delhi MC, East Delhi MC and South Delhi MC. The result of 270 wards of three MCs is expected by the afternoon. Till last reports BJP was leading in 187, Congress in 40 and AAP in 37 seats.

INTERNATIONAL CHERNOBYL DISASTER REMEMBRANCE DAY 2017 OBSERVED



The International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day 2017 was observed across the world on 26 April 2017. The Day commemorates the explosion at the Ukraine's Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in 1986 which spread a radioactive cloud over large parts of the Soviet Union, now the territories of Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Due to the explosion, nearly 8.4 million people in the three countries were exposed to the radiation.

CHINA BANS 'MUHAMMAD', 'JIHAD', AND 'MEDINA' AS BABY NAMES



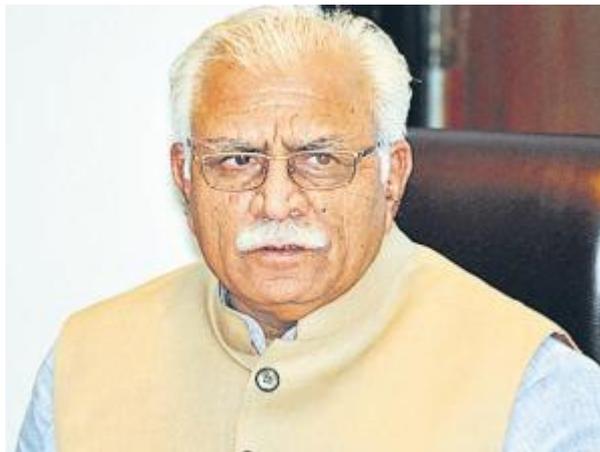
The Chinese government in April 2017 prohibited parents from choosing baby names like Islam, Medina, Jihad and Quran for their children, thereby strengthening its hold on Muslims living in western China. The ban is a part of the government's effort to curb religious fervor in the region. Western China or the western region of Xinjiang is home to over 10 million Uighurs, a Muslim minority group.

SUKMA NAXAL ATTACK: DID INTELLIGENCE FAILURE LEAD TO DEATH OF 25 CRPF JAWANS?



The recent Sukma Naxal Attack in which 25 CRPF Jawans sacrificed their lives has broken the silent ceasefire that existed between the Naxalites and Paramilitary Forces. The Sukma Maoist Attack of 24th April is the bloodiest since 2010 and raised some serious questions regarding the policy, perspective and the direction that Anti-Naxal operations have been given in the last two years by the Modi Government.

HARYANA'S BALLABGARH RENAMED AS BALRAMGARH BY CHIEF MINISTER MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR



Manohar Lal Khattar, Chief Minister of Haryana, on 24 April 2017 announced the renaming of Ballabgarh town in Faridabad as Balramgarh. However, the process to change the name of the town in official records may take a few months. State's MLA Moolchand Sharma and the Raja Nahar Singh Society had been demanding name change of the town from a long time. They wanted it to be renamed after its founder King Balram Singh.

WIKIPEDIA FOUNDER TO LAUNCH NEW SITE TO TACKLE FAKE NEWS



The founder of Wikipedia, Jimmy Wales is going to launch Wikitribune, a news site aimed at tackling the spread of false information, a major issue faced by a majority of other sites such as Facebook. The site would be jointly run by journalists and a community of volunteers who will verify the stories before publishing them in Wikipedia. The same was confirmed by Wales through a video posted on the site.

UNION GOVERNMENT TAKES 10 NEW SWACHH ICONIC PLACES UNDER SWACHH BHARAT MISSION



The Union Government on 25 April 2017 announced 10 Swachh Iconic Places to be taken under the Phase II of Swachh Iconic Places initiative. The announcement was made during second quarterly review meeting on the Swachh Iconic Places that was held at Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Katra, Jammu and Kashmir. The aim of the Swachh Iconic Places is to make 100 places model Swachh Tourist Destinations that will enhance the experience for visitors from India and abroad.

CHINA'S FIRST HOME-BUILT AIRCRAFT CARRIER HIT WATER IN DALIAN



China launched its first domestically built aircraft carrier on 26 April 2017, transferring the ship from a dry dock into open water in Dalian, a port city in China's Liaoning Province. The launch ceremony was held at 9 am in the morning, three days after the 68th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy that was on 23 April 2017.

NASA LAUNCHES SUPER PRESSURE BALLOON FROM NEW ZEALAND



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) on 25 April 2017 successfully launched its football-stadium-sized and heavy-lift Super Pressure Balloon (SPB) from Wanaka, New Zealand. The balloon will float for 100 or more days at 110000 feet (33.5 km) across the globe in the Southern Hemisphere's mid-latitude band. It will observe a broad swath of the Earth's atmosphere to detect the UV fluorescence from the deep space cosmic rays coming in from above.

INDIA TO HOST 18TH WORLD ROAD MEETING (WRM 2017)



The International Road federation (IRF) on 26 April 2017 announced that India will host the 18th World Road Meeting (WRM 2017) which will be held on 13 November 2017. The theme of World Road Meeting 2017 is 'Safe Roads and Smart Mobility: The Engines of Economic Growth'.

GUJARAT NARMADA VALLEY FERTILISERS AND CHEMICALS LTD (GNFC) WINS GOLDEN GLOBE TIGERS AWARD



Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd (GNFC) has won the prestigious Golden Globe Tigers Award for Excellence and Leadership in CSR for the year 2017 in the category of 'E-Payment Leadership'. GNFC has been awarded for the implementation of digital transactions in its township at Bharuch (Gujarat). Award was given to GNFC at Golden Globe Tigers Night 2017 held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

JOINT OPERATIONAL DOCTRINE FOR TRI-SERVICES UNVEILED FOR PROVIDING DEEPER OPERATIONAL SYNERGIES



Joint operational doctrine aimed at providing deeper operational synergies among the tri-services was unveiled by the chairman of the chiefs of staff committee (COSC) and Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba in presence of Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat and IAF Chief B S Dhanoa. The doctrine is aimed at coherently dealing with all possible security threats faced by India such as conventional and proxy wars. This document is the second edition of the joint doctrine. The first edition of the document was released around eight years ago.

NITA AMBANI MADE MEMBER OF IOC'S IMPORTANT COMMISSIONS



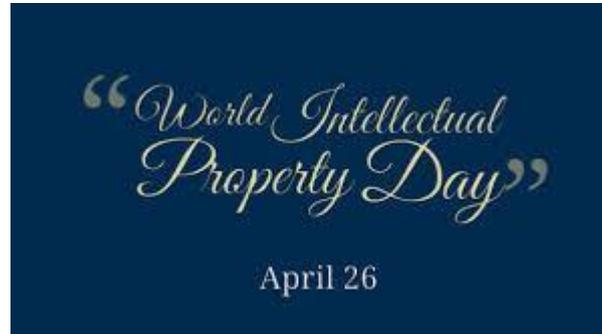
Nita Ambani has been made member of two important commissions of IOC's governing body. She has been made as a member of the prestigious Olympic channel and Olympic education Commission. Nita Ambani already holds the distinction of being India's first woman International Olympic Committee member. She was elected as an individual member of International Olympic Committee (IOC) last year. She will serve the IOC till she turns 70.

WHITE HOUSE NAMES RANDOLPH AILES AS NEW DIRECTOR OF SECRET SERVICE



The White House on Tuesday named a retired Marine major general as the new director of the Secret Service. Randolph Ailes will oversee an agency that for years has been beset with a series of high-profile embarrassments. Alles, who was in the Marine Corps for 35 years, has been the acting deputy commissioner of Customs and Border Protection and previously oversaw the agency's air and marine division.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY OBSERVED ON 26TH APRIL



World Intellectual Property Day observed on 26th April. The role of intellectual property—patents, trademarks, industrial designs, utility model, copyright—in encouraging innovation and creativity takes center stage every April 26, as the world celebrates the World Intellectual Property Day. This year’s theme, “Innovation: Improving Lives”, highlights the impact of innovation in the numerous aspects of our lives, such as food security, comfort, connectivity, safety, transportation, communication, health care and sports.

YES BANK ANNOUNCED THE ALLIANCE WITH PAISABAZAAR.COM



Private sector lender Yes Bank today announced alliance with Paisabazaar.com under which the bank will offer conditionally approved loans to the latter’s existing customers. As part of the partnership, the bank will help Paisabazaar.com through its advanced analytics and data mining capabilities to offer customers of the financial marketplace with customised and conditionally approved offers across retail lending products, Yes Bank said in a statement.

YOUNGEST INDIAN CHANCELLOR BAGS DR BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARD



The youngest ever chancellor of any university in the nation, Dileep K Nair, has added another feather to his cap of achievement after bagging the award for excellent performance in the field of education in Trivendrum, Kerala. The 38-year-old academician, who currently is the Chancellor of the North East Frontier Technical University (NEFTU) in Arunachal Pradesh, received Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar International Foundation Kerala State award for the year 2016-17.

INDIA AND SRI LANKA SIGN MOU ON ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION



With joint development of Trincomalee port high on agenda, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Sri Lankan counterpart, Ranil Wickremesinghe, on Wednesday “welcomed” signing of an MoU for cooperation in economic co-operation. Modi, who is likely to visit Sri Lanka between May 12 and 14, signed off on the broad-based umbrella agreement, which will enable India to work on a host of projects in Sri Lanka, covering all aspects of infrastructure, sources said.

BELGIUM, FIRST TO OPEN HONORARY CONSULATE IN GIFT CITY, GUJARAT



Belgium has become the first country to open an honorary consulate office in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City). Besides the Belgian Embassy in New Delhi, two Consulates-General in Mumbai and Chennai, and an honorary consulate in Kolkata, Belgium has expanded its diplomatic representation in India with this new office in Gandhinagar, according to a press release here on Wednesday.

INDIA, ARMENIA SIGN THREE AGREEMENTS TO BOOST BILATERAL TIES



India will help Armenia to build satellite and remote sensing data matters and train Armenian scientists as both the countries today signed three agreements to boost bilateral cooperation. The agreements were signed after Vice President Hamid Ansari held talks with the top leadership of Armenia including President Serzh Sargsyan, Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan and Foreign Minister Eduard Nalbandian.