

SCIENTISTS AT IIT CREATE LOW COST SOLAR CELLS USING JAMUN



Scientists at IIT Roorkee have used Indian summer fruit, Jamun, to create low cost and more efficient solar cells. To create the solar cells, the researchers made use of naturally occurring pigment present in jamun as an inexpensive photosensitizer for Dye Sensitised Solar Cells (DSSCs) or Gratzel cells. Gratzel cells are nothing but thin film solar cells made of a porous layer of titanium dioxide (TiO₂) coated photoanode, a layer of dye molecules that are capable of absorbing sunlight, an electrolyte for regenerating the dye, and a cathode.

AIZAWL FC BECOME FIRST NORTHEASTERN CLUB TO WIN I-LEAGUE



Aizawl FC, a small team from Mizoram, created history on Sunday by becoming the first club from north-east to win the I-League as they beat Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan to the title race by drawing 1-1 with Shillong Lajong. Lajong had taken the early lead when centre-forward Asier Pierrick Dipanda slammed home a header in the ninth minute at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Shillong.

INDIAN RAILWAYS TO TRACK WAGONS AND COACHES WITH RFID TAGS



Leveraging information technology in a big way, the Indian Railways is set to make use of the radio-frequency identification tags (RFID) for tracking of wagons, coaches and locomotives to ensure the effective and transparent functioning of the system. For this purpose, the RFID tags have been designed by the Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS) at an estimated cost of Rs 1000 per tag. For the first phase of implementation of this project, the Railways have sanctioned a sum of Rs 57 crore.

LEANDER PAES WINS TALLAHASSEE CHALLENGER TITLE OF THE MEN'S DOUBLE



The top-seeded Indo-American pair of Leander Paes and Scott Lipsky defeated Argentine third seeds Leonardo Mayer and Maximo Gonzalez to win the Tallahassee Challenger title of the men's double. This title win is Paes' 2nd Challenger level title of the season. The 2017 Tallahassee Tennis Challenger was played on green clay courts between 24 and 29 April 2017.

TEJAS EXPRESS: NEW PREMIER TRAIN BETWEEN MUMBAI AND GOA



Indian Railways is expected to launch a new 20 coach premier train called the Tejas Express connecting Mumbai and Goa in June. The Tejas service aims to provide comfort to passengers in the inter-city journeys. Once the Mumbai-Goa run becomes operational, the Railways is likely to extend the Tejas service in Delhi-Chandigarh route. The Tejas service was promised in the Union Railway Budget 2016-17.

DUBAI BECOMES FIRST CITY IN WORLD TO GETS ITS OWN MICROSOFT FONT



Dubai has become the first city in the world to have its own Microsoft font. The font will have typeface both in Latin and Arabic script. It will be made available in 23 languages– Afrikaans, Arabic, Basque, Britannic, Catalan, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, Gaelic, German, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Norwegian, Farsi, Portuguese, Sami, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish and Urdu.

ANDHRA PRADESH CM CHANDRABABU NAIDU SELECTED FOR USIBC AWARD



The US-India Business Council (USIBC) has selected Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Chandrababu Naidu for the 'Transformative Chief Minister Award' for his role in advancing the US-India partnership at the state level. The award will be presented to him at the USIBC West Coast Summit in the Silicon Valley on May 8th.

INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY 2017 OBSERVED ACROSS THE WORLD



The International Jazz Day 2017 was observed across the world on 30 April 2017 with an aim to raise awareness in the international community of the virtues of jazz as an educational tool, and a force for peace, unity, dialogue and enhanced cooperation among people. This year, musically vibrant and culturally rich city of Havana, Cuba was selected to serve as the 2017 Global Host City of the Day. The Day was attended by UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, and UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Intercultural Dialogue Herbie Hancock in Cuba.

ANTHONY LIANZUALA TAKES OVER AS CONTROLLER GENERAL OF ACCOUNTS



Anthony Lianzuala on 1 May 2017 took over as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure, Union Ministry of Finance, in New Delhi. Lianzuala, a 1982-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) Officer, is the first person from the North-Eastern Region to hold the position. Lianzuala is a graduate from the Hindu College of Delhi University. He holds vast and rich experience in the government both at the Centre and the State levels.

THE REAL ESTATE ACT (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT), 2017 (RERA) COMES INTO EFFECT FROM TODAY



The much-awaited Real Estate Act comes into force from Monday with a promise of protecting the right of consumers and ushering in transparency but only 13 states and Union Territories (UTs) have so far notified rules. The government has described the implementation of the consumer-centric Act as the beginning of an era where the consumer is king. Real estate players have also welcomed the implementation of the Act, saying it will bring a paradigm change in the way the Indian real estate sector functions.

PANKAJ ADVANI WINS SILVER AT ASIAN SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP



The defeat in the final also meant that Advani could not complete a career Grand Slam in cue sport. Having won all the major events — Nationals, Asian Snooker Championship in both Billiards and Snooker and in both the long and short formats, this is the one title (15-red Asian Snooker) that has eluded Advani. A victory will make Advani only player in history to win all Majors in two sports at all levels and across all formats.

MAHARASHTRA CM INAUGURATED STATE'S 1ST AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATION



Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday inaugurated the state's first automatic weather station at Dongargaon in Nagpur. "Around 2,065 such weather stations will come across Maharashtra on public private partnership (PPP) model in this year and 1,000 of these will be set up by June 2017," said Fadnavis while addressing a farmers' gathering after the inauguration.

FAMOUS SUFI LEGEND BEGUM YAMAN PASSES AWAY AT 52



Famous sufi singer and daughter of legendary Sitar Maestro (late) Ustad Vilayat Ali Khan, Begum Yaman K. Khan has passed away after multiple organ failure. Khan was admitted to the Christian Medical College and Hospital, Ludhiana for the treatment of liver failure and breathed her last at 3 a.m. Her mother Begum Mohnisha Khan has confirmed her sad demise.

JOSHNA CHINAPPA BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO WIN ASIAN SQUASH TITLE



Joshna Chinappa today scripted history by becoming the first Indian to clinch the Asian Squash title with a thrilling win over compatriot Dipika Pallikal Karthik in the women's final, here. In the men's final, however, Saurav Ghosal went down fighting against No.1 seed Max Lee to finish second best. In a clash between two players, who train together at the Indian Squash Academy here, Chinappa held off a fighting Pallikal 13-15, 12-10, 11-13, 11-4, 11-4 in 78 minutes to win probably her biggest title.

INDIA AND TURKEY AGREE TO STRENGTHEN CO-OPERATION IN COMBATING TERRORISM



India and Turkey today strongly condemned the “use of double standards” in combating terrorism and agreed to strengthen cooperation in effectively dealing with the menace both bilaterally and at multilateral fora. A joint statement, issued after extensive talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, said both sides urged all the countries and entities to work sincerely to disrupt terrorist networks and their financing and stop cross-border movement of terrorists.