BIMSTEC NDRF begins in Bhubaneswar,odisha.

NATIONAL NEWS

Ministry of Earth Sciences to set up a decadal forecast system.

- The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is drafting a "**decadal forecast**" system along with the **United Kingdom's Meteorological Office**.
- The system plan is to ensure **better predictability in the climate stretch**.
- **Dr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary, MoES** announced the above plan during **the 6th International Conference on Climate Services** which was held at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune.

NIFM to be renamed as Arun Jaitley national institute of financial management.

- **National institute of financial management(NIFM)**, Faridabad a registered society under Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and Government of India.
- The government of India has planned to rename the NIFM, Faridabad to Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management.
- The Organisation is formed to train officers of various Finance and Accounts Services recruited by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and also officers of Indian Cost Accounts Service (ICoAS).
- President of the NIFM Society: Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**.

India and UK to hold joint military drill

- India and UK will carry out their **5th edition** of joint military drill "**Ajeya Warrior-2020**" at **Salisburg plains** in UK.
- Exercise "Ajeya warrior" will encourage defence cooperation and elevate compatibility between both the armies.
- This exercise is being held from 2005 conducting alternatively in India and United Kingdom.

Hornbill Festival celebrated for the first time in Tripura.

- The **first-ever hornbill festival** of Tripura was celebrated in the capital city of Tripura, Agartala.
- **Chief Minister of Tripura Biplab Kumar Deb** inaugurated the festival at **Barmura Eco park**.
- The festival begun with the aim to raise awareness among people for **bird conservation**.

AAP to hold power in capital city for the third time.

- **Aam Aadmi Party(AAP)** winning Assembly elections with a majority of 62 out of 70 assembly seats comes to power for the third time consecutively.
- **Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal** dissolved the Sixth Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. And the new seventh legislative assembly will be formed.

CCI approves joint venture of Mahindra & Mahindra and Ford Motor

- **The Competition Commission of India (CCI)** approves joint venture of Mahindra & Mahindra ltd (M&M) and Ford Motor company.
- And also the transferring of the automotive business of **Ford India Private Limited (FIPL)** to the joint venture.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Deadly coronavirus disease named as "COVID-19"

- **WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** announced that it named the coronavirus disease as "**COVID-19**".
- The virus has claimed 1017 lives in china and infected 42,708 people all over the world.
- "COVID-19" – **CO stands for corona, VI stands for virus and D stands for disease**.
- The virus itself has been designated as "**SARS-CoV-2**" by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses.
- The number of deaths has overtaken that of the SARS epidemic in 2002-2003.

African union (AU) summit,2020

- The African union (AU) summit was held at **Addis Ababa**, **the capital of Ethiopia**.
- The theme of the summit is "**silencing the guns**", aiming to get grips with terrorism.
- The summit becomes more important for India as it recently signed MoUs, defence agreements "Lucknow declaration" with 50 African nations during the DefExpo 2020.

BIMSTEC NDRF begins in Bhubaneswar,Odisha.

- The **second BIMSTEC disaster management exercise 2020** is to be held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha from February 11 to February13, 2020.
- The event was hosted this time by the **National Disaster Response Force of Government of India**.
- The theme of the event is "**A Cultural Heritage Site that suffers severe damage in the Earthquake and Flooding or Storm**".
- The BIMSTEC countries are namely, **Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand and Bhutan**, where Thailand and Bhutan are not participating in the exercise this year.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Infosys to buy Simplus for $250 mn.

- **The US – based salesforce partner Simplus** is to be acquired by Infosys for about **$250 mn** to speed up its enterprise cloud capabilities.
- Infosys would conduct the acquisition through its subsidiary **Infosys Nova Holdings**.
- CEO & co-founder, Simplus: **Ryan Westwood**.
- CEO & MD of Infosys: **Salil Parekh**.

SPORTS NEWS

Australia awarded with ICC women's championship trophy

- Australia was presented with the ICC championship trophy 2020.
- For maintaining their victories in the 8-team one-day championship from 2017 to 2020, they won the trophy for the last time as well (that is the first edition 2014-2016).
- The Australian team was led by **Meghann Moira Lanning**.

Lalremsiami – FIH women's rising star of year,2019.

- India's **Lalremsiami** named as 2019 FIH Women's Rising Star of Year by the International Hockey Federation.
- She took the prize ahead of **Julieta Jankunas(Argentina)** and **Frederique Matla (Netherlands)**.

Gulmarg to host National Winter Games

- **A five-day national winter games** event is to be hosted by Gulmarg under the banner of **Khelo India**.
- There will be 30 events under five major activities- snowboarding, snow skiing, cross country, snow show in which 800 players from all over India would participate.