Nation remembers war heroes on 20th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas

NATIONAL NEWS

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- The 20th Anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas is being celebrated across the country today. The central theme of this year's celebrations is **'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'.**
- The day marks the victory of Indian armed forces in Operation Vijay in 1999, when they evicted the infiltrators backed by Pakistani army from high outposts in Kargil sector**.**
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, three service chiefs along with three Service Vice Chiefs paid homage to the Kargil Soldiers by laying wreath at the National war memorial in New Delhi.
- The Victory Flame traversed through eleven towns and cities and finally reached Drass. At Drass, the victory flame was received from Major DP Singh and passed on to Param Veer Chakra awardee Yogendra Yadav and then to Army Chief Bipin Rawat to merge at Kargil War Memorial with eternal flame.

ICMR launches platform to boost health data quality in India

- With an aim to improve the quality of health and demographic data in the country, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) launched an integrated national-level platform that can help close the knowledge gap and boost policy formulations.
- The National Data Quality Forum (NDQF) will integrate learnings from scientific and evidence-based initiatives and guide actions through periodic workshops and conferences.
- The NDQF is launched in collaboration between the **government research body's National Institute for Medical Statistics and global nonprofit organisation Population Council.**

Defence Minister launches dashboard to monitor defence production activities

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today launched a dashboard of Department of Defence Production to help in effective monitoring of various initiatives and schemes of the department.
- Secretary (Defence Production) Ajay Kumar explained the features and the main objectives of

the Dashboard.
- He informed that through this initiative, the Ministry will be able to keep track of the major components of Defence Production, including defence exports, defence offsets, Intellectual Property Rights and Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti.

Railway's first printing press heritage gallery opened

- western Railway has opened the first of its kind printing press heritage gallery at Mahalaxmi in Mumbai.
- This unique heritage gallery was inaugurated by V P Pathak, member (Materials Management) of the Railway Board during his recent visit to Mumbai.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pakistan to send its first man to space in 2022

- Pakistan announced that it will send its first astronaut to space in 2022 using close ally China's satellite launching facilities.
- Pakistan's decision came as India successfully launched its second lunar mission Chandrayaan-2.
- Fawad Chaudhry, Minister for Science and Technology, said the selection process of the astronaut for the space mission would start from February 2020.

FACTS

Prime Minister of Pakistan-Imran Khan

Pakistan Currency-Pakistani Rupee

China launches first private rocket capable of carrying satellites



- A Chinese startup successfully launched the country's first commercial rocket capable of carrying satellites into orbit (Jul 25), as the space race between China and the US heats up.
- **Beijing-based Interstellar Glory Space Technology** - also known as iSpace - launched two satellites into orbit around from Jiuquan, a state launch facility in the Gobi Desert.

APPOINTMENT

Yeddyurappa swearing-in Karnataka CM Updates: BJP leader takes oath as chief minister for the fourth time



- Days into Karnataka's political drama, in yet another development, **Governor Vajubhai Vala** has given a nod to **BJP's BS Yeddyurappa** to take oath as the Karnataka Chief Minister.
- BS Yeddyurappa met the Governor to stake claim to form the government as the BJP had become the single largest party in the assembly.

OBITUARY

Tunisia's first democratically elected president Beji Caid Essebsi dies



- Tunisia's president, a formidable figure in the country's politics whose career bridged the country's transition from colonial ward to dictatorship to fledgling democracy, died.
- **Mohammed Beji Caid Essebsi** was 92, the oldest sitting president in the world.

FACTS

Tunisia Capital -Tunis

Tunisia Currency- Tunisian dinar

SPORTS

Kristof Milak Breaks Michael Phelps Record to Win 200m Butterfly Gold at World Championships

- Hungarian teen sensation Kristof Milak was "honoured" to beat his hero Michael Phelps' 200 metres butterfly world record and vowed to be even stronger at next year's Tokyo Olympics.
- After flirting with the American's 10-year-old record all season, the 19-year-old overpowered defending champion Chad le Clos to become the first man to dip under one minute, 51 seconds in Phelps's pet race.