Union Minister for Agriculture inaugurates the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela-2020.

NATIONAL NEWS

Union Minister for Agriculture inaugurates the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela-2020.

- The **Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela-2020 at the Mela Ground of **ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.**
- An Agriculture Science Fair, **Krishi Vigyan Mela** was initiated in the year **1972** an annual event of the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI, Pusa).**
- The event focusses on the theme of **agricultural research and technology transfer**.

MoU signed between ICAR and PBRI to promote Organic farming.

- **The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** signed an MoU with **Patanjali Bio Research Institute (PBRI), Haridwar** with a view of promoting Organic Farming acroos the country.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by the **Director General of ICAR, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra and the CEO of PBRI, Acharya Balkrishna.**
- On signing the pact ICAR and PBRI mutually works on research programme and sustainable agriculture development.
- Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare: **Narendra Singh Tomar**.

Indian Railways launches its First "Restaurant on Wheels" at Asansol Station.

- Indian Railways launched its first '**Restaurant on Wheels**' in the area of Asansol Station, in the district of **Bardhaman, west Bengal**.
- **Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Babul Supriyo** has inaugurated the India's first ever this kind of restaurant on 26th February, 2020.
- In addition to the restaurant he also launched the two new air-conditioned Retiring Rooms and **Electronic Reservation Chart Display System through MPLAD fund** and a Battery operated Car at Asansol station.
- Union Minister for Railways: **Piyush Goyal**.

SPMCIL contributed ₹1 crore towards National Sports Development Fund

- **Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India (SPMCIL)** under its **Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) initiative**, contributed an amount of ₹1 Crore towards National Sports

Development Fund under the **Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).**
- It is to fund the top athletes of our country.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Youth Affairs & Sports: **Kiren Rijiju.**
- CMD of SPMCIL: **Ms Tripti Patra Ghosh**.

National Workshop on Explosive Detection (NWED-2020) was held at Pune.

- **National Workshop on Explosive Detection (NWED-2020)** was inaugurated by DRDO chairman **Dr G Satheesh Reddy** and was organised by HEMRL Pune, a premier laboratory of DRDO.
- A new explosive detection device with the capability of detecting the explosives at a safe distance was unveiled at the NWED-2020, which was named as **RaIDer-X.**
- RaIDer-X was jointly developed by **High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) Pune** and **Indian Institute of Science(IISc), Bangalore**.

MoU signed between IAF and Savitribai Phule Pune University.

- The **Indian Air Force(IAF) and the Savitribai Phule Pune University** both signed MoU on an academic alliance in launching a **'Chair of Excellence'** at Department of Defence & Strategic Studies.
- As a tribute to the Marshal of the Indian Air Force **Arjan Singh** and honouring his centenary birth year the programme was named as **"Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Chair of Excellence".**

Forest Man of India honoured with Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award.

- Forest Man of India **Padma shri Jadav Payeng** an environmental activist from Jorhat in Assam was conferred with **Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award**.
- The award was instituted by **My Home India** for his continuous effort in creating a **real man-made forest** through massive reforestation.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

US - Taliban signs the peace deal.

- The historic event of the signing of peace deal between India and Taliban took place on 1st march 2020 in **Doha, Qatar**.
- By this deal they both end the war started since the **tragic 9/11 happening in America** and the withdrawal of thousands of US soldiers from Afghanistan.

Ekushey book fair concluded in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

- The month long Ekushey Book Fair got concluded in Dhaka, Bangladesh which was

inaugurated by **Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina** on February 2nd.
- **State minister for cultural affairs KM Khalid** presided over the closing ceremony.
- **Syed Waliullah Literature Award-2018** was awarded to the writers **Salma Bani and Sagufta Sharmin Tania.**
- **Chittaranjan Saha Memorial Award** was conferred to Kotha Prakash publications for publishing the highest number of books.

Muhyiddin Yassin affirmed as Malaysia's new Prime Minister.

- Muhyiddin Yassin was newly appointed as the Prime Minister of Malaysia by taking oath at the swearing-in ceremony held at the **national palace in Kuala Lumpur**.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

GST collection crosses ₹1 lakh crore.

The Goods & Services Tax(GST) collection of the Government had crossed **₹105000 crores** in February this year which is eight percent more than the GST collected in the same month of last year.

Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST) is over **₹20 thousand crores**.

State Goods and Service Tax (SGST) is over **₹27 thousand crores**.

Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST) is over **₹48 thousand crores**.

SPORTS NEWS

First Khelo India University Games concludes in Bhubaneswar.

- The first Khelo India University Games was concluded in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha.
- **Panjab University**, won the overall champion with 46 medals and **Savitribai Phule Pune University** won 37 medals won the second position and **Punjabi University, Patiala** won 33 medals gained the third position.

Athletics coach Joginder Singh Saini passes away.

- Veteran athletics coach, Joginder Singh Saini passed away in Patiala.
- He was 90, and was remained as the **chief national athletics coach** for many years from the 1970s to 90s.
- He became the chief coach of the then **Amateur Athletics Federation of India in 1970**.
- For the contribution of him to the Indian athletics, he was given the **Dronacharya Award in 1997.**

Former India hockey player Balbir Singh Kullar passed away.

- Former India hockey player and the **Olympic bronze medallist Balbir Singh Kullar** died after suffering a heart attack in Punjab.
- He was also a part of the Indian team that won gold in the **Asian Games, 1966 at Bangkok** and the **Olympic Bronze in 1968 in Mexico**.

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