

France emphasizes partnership with India as a major pillar of its Indo Pacific strategy



France has emphasized partnership with India as a major pillar of its Indo Pacific strategy. It has stressed upon its continuing commitment to the Indo Pacific region as a resident power. This was highlighted during National Security Advisor Ajit Doval's visit to Paris for the annual India-France Strategic Dialogue. During his visit, the two countries have agreed to strengthen bilateral defence and security partnership.

India and France also agreed that emerging trends in global affairs reinforce the need for closer partnership between the two countries, including in the United Nations Security Council and other UN forums.

India to host Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan on 10th November



Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan will be hosted by India on 10th November. The NSA level meeting will be chaired by NSA Ajit Doval.

Central Asian countries as well as Russia and Iran have confirmed their participation. This is the first time all Central Asian countries, not just Afghanistan's immediate land neighbours, are participating in this format.

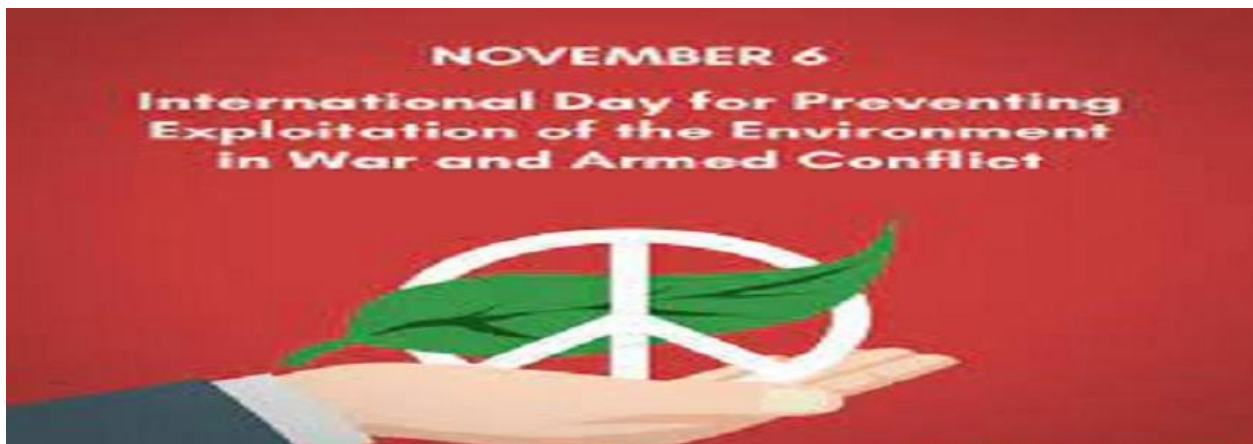
National Cancer Awareness Day: 7th November



The National Cancer Awareness Day is observed annually in India on November 7, to spread awareness on cancer, its symptoms and treatment. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cancer is the second leading cause of death globally.

On 7 November 2014, Former Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan announced that seventh November will be celebrated as national Cancer awareness day every year to highlight the contributions of an eminent scientist Marie Curie who is important and a role model for all those who are fighting cancer.

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict: November 6



The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is an international day observed annually on November 6.

At the time of war, it affects the ecosystem such as water supply is poisoned, the forest is burnt, animals being killed, etc. Though humanity has always counted its war casualties in terms of dead and wounded soldiers and civilians, destroyed cities and livelihoods, the environment has often remained the unpublicized victim of war.

Govt slashes basic duty on crude palm oil, crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil from 2.5% to nil



Government has slashed the basic duty on crude palm oil, crude soybean oil and crude sunflower oil from 2.5 percent to nil in a bid to reign in continuous rise in the cooking oil prices since past one year. The Agri-cess on these Oils has been brought down from 20 percent to 7.5 percent for crude palm oil and 5 percent for crude soybean oil and crude sunflower oil.

The government has rationalised import duties on palm oil, sunflower oil and soybean oil with a view to control prices of edible oils. It has also suspended futures trading in mustard oil on National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited and imposed stock limits.

Srinagar International Airport Declared as Major Airport by Indian Government



The Centre declared Srinagar international airport as a major airport. The Civil Aviation Ministry issued a notification declaring the airport of Srinagar as a major airport under the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Act, 2008.

With this move, the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) will determine tariff for aeronautical services at Srinagar airport.

Under the AERA, the Centre can designate an airport as a major airport if it has an annual passenger traffic of at least 35 lakh.

Madras HC launches portal for women to lodge sexual abuse complaints



The Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) of the Madras High Court has launched an online portal for women to lodge complaints related to sexual harassment within the precincts of the court complex.

Complaints could be lodged in English or Tamil through the portal on the High Court's website. The initiative for the online portal was taken by GSICC members Justices Pushpa Sathyanarayana, P.T.Asha and R.N.Manjula. An in-house software team of the computer wing of the court had created the portal.

IFFI announces selection of films for Indian Panorama section to be screened during its 52nd edition in Goa



International Film Festival of India has announced the selection of films for the Indian Panorama section to be screened during its 52nd edition in Goa. Jury's choice for the opening feature film of Indian Panorama 2021 is the film Semkhor (Dimasa) directed by Aimee Baruah. Ved. The Visionary directed by Rajiv Parkash will be the opening Indian non-feature film.

The festival is being organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in collaboration with the Goa government from 20th to 28th November.

China posts record trade surplus in October on galloping exports



China posted a record monthly trade surplus in October as exports surged despite global supply-chain disruptions. Exports rose 27.1 per cent in dollar terms last month from a year earlier to \$300.2 billion, the data from the General Administration of Customs.

China's exports to the European Union and the US have grown fastest among its major trading partners this year, customs data showed. The nation's trade surplus with the US, a source of trade tensions between the world's two largest economies, rose to 2.08 trillion yuan (\$325 billion) in the 10 months through October from 1.75 trillion yuan a year earlier, partly because Chinese imports of US soybeans slowed due to weather-related issues in recent months.

Googles parent company launches AI-driven drug discovery start-up



Google parent company Alphabet Inc. has launched a new company in London called Isomorphic Labs. The company aims to use AI (artificial intelligence) for drug discovery and medicine to find cures for some of humanity's most devastating diseases. Demis Hassabis will be the CEO of Isomorphic Labs.

The London-based Isomorphic Labs will work on the most important applications of AI — in the field of biological and medical research.

Lakshya Sen & Kidambi Srikanth's campaign at Hylo Open Super 500 Badminton Championship ends in semifinals



Indian shuttlers Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth's campaign at Hylo Open Super 500 Badminton Championship ended in semifinals at Saarbrucken in Germany.

In the first semifinals, former champion and world no 21 Lakshya went down to world no 39 Singapore's Loh Kean Yew 18-21, 12-21. Srikanth lost to Malaysian Lee Zii Jia 19-21, 20-22 in the second semifinals.

Eminent Cricket Coach Tarak Sinha passes away



Eminent Cricket Coach and Dronacharya Awardee Tarak Sinha passed away. He was a father figure in coaching and produced some of the country's finest cricketers who ruled domestic and international cricket. Tarak Sinha trained stalwarts including Manoj Prabhakar, Raman Lamba, Ajay Sharma, Atul Wassan, Surinder Khanna, Sanjiv Sharma, Aakash Chopra, Anjum Chopra, Rumeli Dhar, Ashish Nehra, Shikhar Dhawan and Rishabh Pant.

T20 World Cup 2021: England, Australia qualify to semifinals from Super 12 Group 1



England and Australia sealed their T20 World Cup 2021 semifinal spots from Group 1 of the Super 12 stage.

In a bid to gain the remaining spot, South Africa was required to restrict England under 131 or fewer to pip Australia's net run-rate (NRR) while earning eight points. However, Morgan's men crossed the mark in the 16th over of their chase, forcing England into its second successive T20 World Cup semifinal after 2016 where it finished runner-up.

Australia will see the last four of the marquee event for the first time since 2012 where it succumbed to eventual winner West Indies. It had finished runner-up in 2010 behind England while also making the semifinal in the inaugural World Cup in 2007.

President's Cup shooting championship: Manu Bhaker and Javad Foroughi win air pistol mixed team gold



Manu Bhaker in partnership with Olympic champion Javad Foroughi of Iran won the mixed air pistol gold in the President's Cup shooting championship in Wroclaw, Poland. The Indo-Iranian team beat Mathilde Lamolle of France and Artem Chernousov of Russia 16-8 in the match for the gold.

Three other Indians in the fray, Saurabh Chaudhary, Abhishek Verma and Yashaswini Singh Deswal with different partners could not win the medals.