

The Achievers IAS Academy

Patliputra colony, Near: Tennis Court; Patna. Contact: 8434931877, 7250667974

1. Bihar government raises minimum wages for workers.



- The new wages announced by the government will come into effect from today. As per a notification issued by the labour resources department on Wednesday, the new wages is for the next six months. Minimum wages are revised twice a year.
- As per the revised wages, unskilled labourers will get Rs 304 per day, while the minimum wage for semi-skilled labourers has been fixed at Rs 316 per day and skilled labourers will get paid Rs 385 per day.
- For highly skilled labourers, the minimum wage is fixed at Rs 470. Likewise, supervisors/clerical labourers will be paid Rs 8,703 per month. The new wages will apply to altogether 69 scheduled employment in private as well as public sectors.
- the last revised rates of minimum wages for unskilled labourers were fixed at Rs 292 per day. Similarly, semi-skilled labourers got Rs 304, skilled labourers Rs 370 and highly skilled labourers Rs 451 per day.
- the minimum wages are revised every six months under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (XI of 1948) read with clause (B) of sub-section (1) of Section 5 of the said Act. The officer clarified that the minimum wages were revised twice a year.
- Labour resources department minister Jibesh Kumar said the state has altogether 14.87 lakh registered labourers of up to 60 years of age. They will be paid Rs 3,000 per annum for health facilities. The government has sanctioned Rs 446 crore for the purpose.

2. PM bows to His Holiness Dr. Sree Sree Sree Sivakumara Swamigalu on his Jayanti.

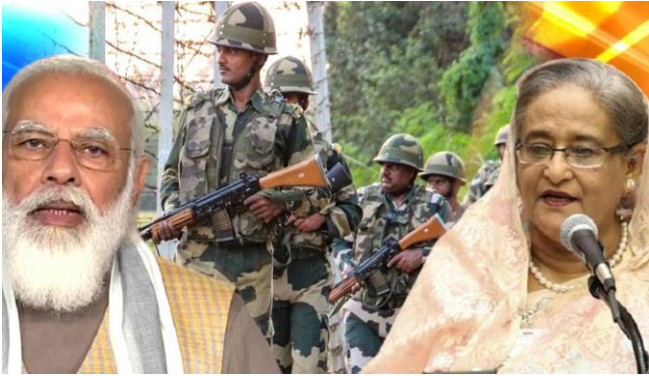


- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has bowed to His Holiness Dr. Sree Sree Sree Sivakumara Swamigalu on his Jayanti.
- Shivakumara Swami (born Shivanna; 1 April 1907 – 21 January 2019) was an Indian supercentenarian, humanitarian, spiritual leader and educator. He was a Lingayat religious figure, he joined the Siddaganga Matha in 1930 Karnataka and became head seer from 1941. He also founded the Sri Siddaganga Education Society. Described as the most esteemed adherent of Lingayatism (Hinduism), he was referred to as Nadedaaduva Devaru (walking God) in the state.
- Before his death at the age of 111 years, 295 days, he was one of the oldest people living in India.[8] In 2015, he was awarded by the Government of India the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian award.
- Awards and recognitions
- In recognition of his humanitarian work, the Swami was conferred with an honorary degree of Doctor of Literature by the Karnataka University in 1965. On his centenary in 2007, the Government of Karnataka awarded Swami the prestigious Karnataka Ratna award, the highest civilian award of the state. In 2015 the Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan.
- In 2017, the Government of Karnataka and his followers sought Bharat Ratna for him for his social service.

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3. Exercise 'Shantir Ogroshena -2021.



- Indian Army will participate in Multinational Military Exercise namely SHANTIR OGROSHENA -2021 in Bangladesh. The nine days exercise will start on the 4th of this month to commemorate the birth centenary of Bangladesh Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and mark glorious 50 years of liberation.
- Indian Army contingent comprising 30 personnel from the Dogra Regiment will participate in the exercise along with contingents of Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh Armies.
- The theme of the exercise is Robust Peace Keeping Operations. Military observers from the USA, UK, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Singapore will also be in attendance throughout the exercise.

4. Professor Suman Chakraborty has been selected for the thirtieth(30th) GD Birla Award for Scientific Research.



- Sumon Chakraborty is a school member on the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur's division of mechanical engineering.
- Professor Suman Chakraborty has been chosen for the 30th GD Birla Award for Scientific Research for his excellent contribution to engineering science and its purposes in growing applied sciences for

inexpensive healthcare, the KK Birla Foundation stated in an announcement on Thursday.

- Instituted in 1991, the award recognises eminent Indian scientists under the age of 50 for his or her authentic and excellent contributions to any department of science or know-how. It carries a money prize of ₹5 lakh. The recipient is chosen by a range board, whose current head is professor Chandrima Shaha, the president of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA).
- Chakraborty, a school member on the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur's division of mechanical engineering, accomplished his undergraduate diploma in mechanical engineering from the Jadavpur University in 1996. He went on to get a Masters diploma and a PhD from the Indian Institute of Science. He has additionally been an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, Indo-US Research Fellow, and a visiting professor at varied main establishments internationally.
- Chakraborty was additionally awarded the JC Bose National Fellowship by the Indian authorities's division of science and know-how.
- Apart from being a good educational, Chakraborty has invented applied sciences that haven't solely been patented but in addition licensed to industrial homes for commercialisation.
- He has innovated various inexpensive medical units, together with a low-cost spinning disc for assessing Complete Blood Count, extremely correct paper-strip based mostly know-how for frequent blood checks, tumour-on-a-chip machine for probing most cancers cell migration, and a low-cost nucleic-acid based mostly platform know-how for speedy detection of Covid-19 an infection (COVIRAP).
- He has additionally been a recipient of the Scopus Young Scientist Award (Elsevier, 2008), the Santi Swaroop Bhatnagar Award (2013) and various Young Scientist/ Young Engineer Awards from all the foremost nationwide academies, which is testimony to his contributions to the scientific subject.

5. DRDO lab develops light weight Bullet Proof Jacket.



- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) lab Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur has developed light weight Bullet

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Proof Jacket (BPJ) weighing 9.0 kilogrammes, meeting the qualitative requirements of Indian Army.

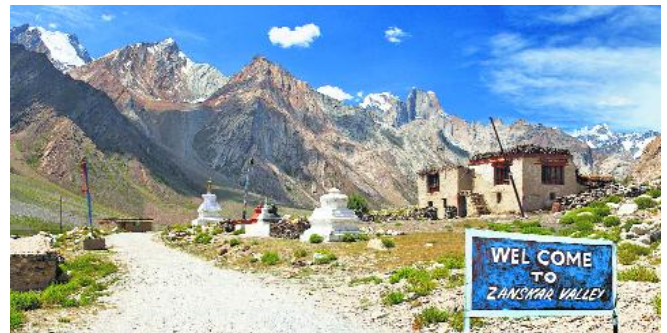
- The importance of this vital development lies in the fact that each gram of BPJ weight reduction is crucial in enhancing soldier comfort while ensuring the survivability. This technology reduces the weight of the medium sized BPJ from 10.4 to 9.0 kilogrammes. Very specific materials and processing technologies have been developed in the laboratories for the purpose.
- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh congratulated the DRDO scientists and Industry for developing the light weight BPJ to make the soldiers more comfortable.

6. Union Education Minister launches "MyNEP2020" platform of NCTE Portal .



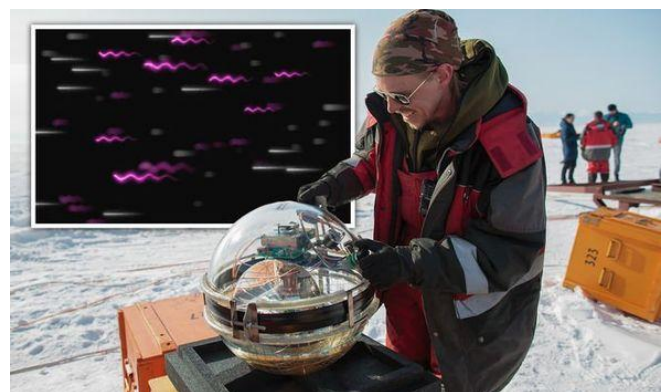
- Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' today launched the "MyNEP2020" Platform of NCTE Web Portal. The platform seeks to invite suggestions/inputs/membership from the stakeholders for preparing draft for development of National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) and National Mission for Mentoring Program membership (NMM).
- The "MyNEP2020" platform will be operational from 1st April 2021 to 15th May 2021.
- This exercise of digital consultation envisages the participation of teachers, education professionals, academicians, & other stakeholders in preparing the documents on teacher policy for sustainable and positive change in the Teacher's Education Sector.
- For preparing the documents on above two major recommendations of NEP 2020, NCTE will work in close consultation with individuals/organizations.
- Expert committee will extensively review the inputs collected during the consultation period and will finally formulate the Drafts for public review. Comments by the reviewers from the stakeholders will then be used to prepare a final Draft for notification.

7. Govt approves Rs 780 crore project for upgradation of Kargil Zaskar road .



- Union Government has approved a 780 Crore rupees project for upgradation of Kargil Zaskar road. The 2 lane Kargil Zaskar NH 301 road is sanctioned under EPC mode.
- Zaskar- Kargil road was declared National Highway in 2017 by the Centre. This road from Zaskar valley, also connects Suru valley, Sankoo valley of Kargil Ladakh with the Highway. The road will be a key for economic development of the remote region of Ladakh.
- After becoming Union Territory the pace of progress has been multiplied by initiation of various projects like Zojjila Tunnel Construction, Improved Air Connectivity and increase in the total road length by sanctioning various projects under CRF, PMGSY and other schemes.

8. Baikal-GVD (Gigaton Volume Detector)



- Russian scientists launched one of the world's biggest underwater neutrino telescopes called the Baikal-GVD (Gigaton Volume Detector) in the waters of Lake Baikal, the world's deepest lake situated in Siberia.
- The construction of this telescope, which started in 2016, is motivated by the mission to study in detail the elusive fundamental particles called neutrinos and to possibly determine their sources. Studying this will aid scientists' understanding of the origins of the universe since some neutrinos were formed during the Big Bang,

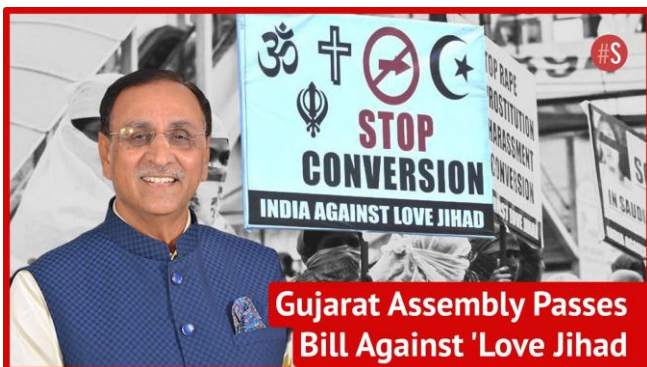
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others continue to be formed as a result of supernova explosions or because of nuclear reactions in the Sun.

- The Baikal-GVD is one of the three largest neutrino detectors in the world along with the IceCube at the South Pole and ANTARES in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Lake Baikal
- Lake Baikal is the largest freshwater lake by volume in the world, containing 22 to 23% of the world's fresh surface water. With 23,615.39 km³ (5,670 cu mi) of fresh water, it contains more water than all of the North American Great Lakes combined. With a maximum depth of 1,642 m (5,387 ft), Baikal is the world's deepest lake. It is among the world's clearest [9] lakes and is the world's oldest lake, at 25–30 million years. It is the seventh-largest lake in the world by surface area.
- The region to the east of Lake Baikal is referred to as Transbaikalia or as the Transbaikai, and the loosely defined region around the lake itself is sometimes known as Baikalia. UNESCO declared Lake Baikal a World Heritage Site in 1996.

9. Gujarat passes Bill to stop 'love jihad'.



- The Gujarat Assembly on Thursday passed the Freedom of Religion Act, 2003 amendment Bill that seeks to penalise forcible or fraudulent religious conversion by marriage or "love jihad", bringing in stringent provisions against forcible conversion through marriage or allurement.
- The Bill has provisions for 3-10 years in jail and a fine of up to ₹5 lakh if the accused is found guilty.
- The Bill amends a 2003 Act, and seeks to curb the "emerging trend in which women are lured to marriage for the purpose of religious conversion" as per its "statement of object." The Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act, 2003, deals with religious conversion "through allurement, force or by misrepresentation or by any other fraudulent means".
- The Gujarat amendment Bill says it is necessary to prohibit "forcible conversion by marriage or by getting a person married or by aiding a person to get married", and hence the amendment is being carried out in the law.
- The amendment also defines "allurement" as promising "better lifestyle, divine blessings, or otherwise".

- As per the provisions of the Bill, "Forcible conversion by marriage or by getting a person married" shall invite imprisonment of 3-5 years and up to ₹2 lakh fine.
- If the victim is a minor, a woman, a Dalit or tribal, then the offenders may be punished with a jail term of 4-7 years and a fine of not less than ₹3 lakh.
- If any organisation is found violating the law, the person in-charge can be sentenced to between three years and 10 years in jail and a fine of up to ₹5 lakh can be imposed.
- Additionally, marriages solemnised for the purpose of such conversion will be declared void and the burden of proof shall lie on the accused.
- Parents, siblings or any other person related by blood, marriage or adoption to the victim can lodge the complaint and the offences shall be non-bailable.

10. CDS Rawat launches joint logistics facility in Mumbai.



- As part of measures to boost tri-service integration and resource optimisation, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat on Thursday operationalised the third joint logistics node (JLN) in Mumbai.
- These JLN's will provide integrated logistics cover to the armed forces for their small arms ammunition, rations, fuel, general stores, civil hired transport, aviation clothing, spares and also engineering support in an effort to synergise their operational efforts," a Defence Ministry
- The initiative would accrue advantages in terms of saving of manpower, economise utilisation of resources, besides financial savings.
- Establishment and operationalisation of JLN's is a very important first step in the direction of logistics integration of our three Services. Acceptance of each other's limitations and learning from each other's strengths and best practices is essential to help improve the functioning and efficacy of these nodes,"
- after inaugurating the node through videoconference. He also released the standing operating procedure of the JLN.
- The government sanction letter for the establishment of the JLN's in Mumbai, Guwahati and Port Blair was signed on October 12, 2020. Subsequently, the JLN's in Guwahati and Tri-Services, Andaman and



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Nicobar Command, Port Blair, were operationalised on January 01, 2021.

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