

One liners

BY ANUJ JINDAL

1. The **Indian Ocean Research Vessel (ORV), Sagar Nidhi**, will set out from Chennai as part of an **Indo-US expedition** seeking to find answers to the vagaries of the **Bay of Bengal-fed south-west monsoon**, which accounts for **70% of India's annual rainfall**.
2. There's been a **186% spurt** in Indians looking for employment in robotics, with **Maharashtra** offering most of the jobs in the sector, according to a new study by the job site, **Indeed**.
3. **Gujarat Gas Ltd (GGL)**, India's largest city gas distribution (CGD) company, is looking to pick up the entire **50% stake of GAIL Gas** in **Vadodara Gas Ltd (VGL)**.
4. The legal global market in cannabis is currently worth **\$7.7 billion**, and is expected to hit **\$31.4 billion by 2021**, the **Brightfield Group**, a US-based cannabis market research firm estimates.
5. India is likely to face greater scrutiny at the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** after the centre hiked the **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** for **paddy by 13%**.
6. **Union Minister of Coal, Railways, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Shri Piyush Goyal** launched the **Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS)** and Mobile Application '**Khan Prahari**'.
7. IRCTC said that, the **National Security Guard (NSG)** will be the **first central paramilitary force** to opt for e-ticketing instead of the railway warrant as per a MoU signed with the IRCTC.
8. **The UP Government** announced a new **Defence Manufacturing policy** named '**UP Defence Aerospace Unit and Employment Generating Policy, 2018**'.
9. **Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy** presented the Congress-JD(S) coalition government's first budget, announcing farm loan waiver worth **Rs 34,000 crore**.
10. **China, UAE, Cyprus** and **Mauritius**, along with 21 other countries have been named as "**high-risk jurisdictions**" by global banks acting as custodians for foreign funds.
11. The **Law Commission of India** submitted a report to the government, saying that since it is **impossible to stop illegal gambling**, the only viable option left is to "**regulate**" gambling in sports.
12. **Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP)** - The Bharatiya Janata Party government in Rajasthan is lobbying hard for the Centre's approval for the ambitious **ERCP**.

13. Cities like **Gwalior, Bhopal and Jabalpur** will also issue Municipal Bonds just like **Indore**.
14. **Railways** have now said that they will accept **soft copies of Aadhar** and **driving licence** provided they are in your **DigiLocker**, a digital storage service operated by the government that enables Indian citizens to store certain official documents on the cloud.
15. The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** has told WhatsApp to take **remedial measures** to prevent proliferation of these fake and at times **motivated/sensational** messages.
16. All **97 people who contracted rabies in 2017 died**, making it the deadliest communicable disease last year in India.
17. The ongoing negotiations between **India and the U.S.** on multiple trade tussles is likely to involve bringing down the duty on high-end **Harley-Davidson motorcycles to zero**.
18. Archaeologists in **Peru** have uncovered an extensive **Incan burial site** inside an adobe pyramid in a **Coastal Desert Valley** far from the Andean heart of the empire.
19. US President **Donald Trump** is preparing to **slap tariffs** on **\$34 billion of Chinese goods**, the **first** shot in a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.
20. With a view to fast track **NPA (Non-Performing Asset)** resolution, bankers finalized the **Inter-Creditor Agreement (ICA)** framework.
21. **SBI Card**, the country's second largest credit card issuer, announced the launch of **ELA' (Electronic Live Assistant)**, a virtual assistant for customer support and services.
22. **ICICI Bank** announced that its mortgage loan portfolio crossed **the Rs 1.5-trillion** milestone, making it the **largest private player** in the segment.
23. **Bandhan Bank**, the newest private sector lender has received **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** approval for the re-appointment of current **Managing Director (MD)** and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), **Chandra Shekhar Ghosh**, for three years.
24. **United India Insurance Company** announced the appointment of **K B Vijay Srinivas** as its **Director and General Manager**.
25. Journalist **Rajat Sharma** was elected the **President of Delhi & District Cricket Association (DDCA)**.
26. **Major General VD Dogra** became the **first** serving Indian Army officer and the only General in the world to have completed '**Ironman**' competition held in **Austria**.

27. Scientific studies have shown an epidemiological shift in dengue viruses, which means **changes in the virus's geographical incidence and distribution**, and have indicated that **climate change might be a reason for increase in dengue cases**.
28. The **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** has approved to include 4 species: **Northern River Terrapin (riverine turtle), Red Panda, Clouded Leopard** and **Arabian Sea Humpback Whale** in the recovery programme for critically endangered species.

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