



January - 17

TAMIL NADU

National Youth Award

- ❖ Masha Nazeem from nagercoil receives the prestigious National Youth Award for her contributions to science and technology.
- ❖ The annual award is instituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❖ It is given to recognise outstanding work and achievements of youngsters and further motivate them to excel in the field on National Development and Social Service.
- ❖ Masha has invented 14 socially useful gadgets such as a flameless seal marker, which is now used by State government officials, hi-tech train toilet system, fuel dispensers, anti-sinking alarm.
- ❖ Three of her innovations are in the process of getting patented. She has also won several awards and accolades including the State Youth Award 2016.

NATIONAL

iCREATE

- ❖ The Prime Minister of India and his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu inaugurated the iCreate centre in Ahmedabad.
- ❖ Called as the International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology (iCreate), the venture has been started to promote and nurture entrepreneurs by providing them finance, mentors and technology.
- ❖ iCreate is an independent centre to promote 'Start-up India' scheme.
- ❖ iCreate provides 13-week grooming program to equip an individual with the right skill and tools required in the entrepreneurial world. At end of the program, financial assistance up to Rs 50,000 is provided by the venture for deserving ideas from the trainees.

INTERNATIONAL

Iron Fist

- ❖ American and Japanese military forces have launched joint exercise named Iron Fist. The 13th annual Iron Fist exercises kicked off in the U.S. western state of California.



- ❖ It is a realistic and challenging training to prepare both USA and Japan from anything that might happen in the Pacific so that they are ready to respond.
- ❖ This will be the last joint exercise before Japan establishes its Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade in March.

BBIN Agreement

- ❖ Bangladesh, India and Nepal have given nod to operating procedures for movement of passenger vehicles in the sub-region under Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) motor vehicles agreement.
- ❖ The Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA) was signed for the Regulation of Passenger, Personnel and Cargo Vehicular Traffic among the four South Asian neighbours.
- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been providing technical, advisory, and financial support to the BBIN MVA initiative as part of its assistance to the south Asia sub-regional economic cooperation (SASEC) programme.
- ❖ SASEC is a projects-based economic cooperation initiative that brings together the BBIN countries, Maldives, Sri Lanka and more recently, Myanmar.

STATES

Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav

- ❖ The Ministry of Culture organized the 7th edition of the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat matrix in Karnataka.
- ❖ The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme was launched to promote engagement amongst the people of different states/UTs so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures, thereby securing stronger unity and integrity of India.
- ❖ The State paired with Karnataka is Uttarakhand.
- ❖ The Mahotsav covered a profusion of art forms, music, dance, theatre, literature and the visual arts.

Public Cloud Policy – Maharashtra

- ❖ Maharashtra has unveiled a public cloud policy, virtually mandating its departments to shift their data storage onto the cloud.
- ❖ It intends to make the data available for free to the general public.



- ❖ Under the framework, government will make it mandatory for the data to be stored within the country.
- ❖ The broad idea is to use public cloud in cases wherever the Right to Information Act is applicable, and then go in for enhanced security features for private and sensitive data, which will also be stored on the cloud.

Global Forum for Food and Agriculture

- ❖ The 10th edition of Global Forum for Food & Agriculture was held in Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ The theme of this year's event is "Shaping the future of livestock – sustainability, responsibly, efficiently".

About GFFA

- ❖ The Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) is an international conference that focuses on central questions concerning the future of the global agri-food industry.
- ❖ The forum gives representatives from the worlds of politics, business, science and civil society an opportunity to share ideas and enhance understanding on a selected topic of current agricultural policy.
