

## CURRENT AFFAIRS= 25/26-01-2020



### National Voters' Day

The 10th National Voters' Day (NVD) will be celebrated on 25th January every year since 2011.

The theme for NVD-2020 is Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy.

The theme sets the tone for year-long activities with focus on voter education and renewal of citizens' faith in the electoral process.

President Ram Nath Kovind will be the Chief Guest at the 10th National Voters' Day function which is being organized by the Election Commission of India at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.

### Switzerland mints world's smallest gold coin

Switzerland state-owned Swissmint has minted World's smallest gold coin of 2.96 millimeter (0.12 inches). The coin will feature face of scientist Albert Einstein sticking out his tongue.

It weighs 0.063 grams and has a nominal value of 1/4 Swiss francs (USD United States Dollar- 0.26).

Swissmint has minted 999 coins which will be sold for 199 francs with a special magnifying glass to see Einstein's face.

### India's First War Memorial for Animals to Come up in Meerut

Meerut city in Uttar Pradesh will be host to India's first war memorial for service animals including dogs, horses and mules.

This place will dedicate itself to the contributions and heroics of animals who have helped the army in counter-insurgency operations in Kashmir and in the battlefield during the Kargil War.

The memorial is to be similar to the National War Memorial in Delhi, will come up at the army's specialized breeding, rearing and training centre for animals in the Remount and Veterinary Corps (RVC) Centre and College, Meerut.

### Srinagar declared Open Defecation Free

Mayor of Srinagar Junaid Azim Mattu announced that Srinagar has joined the list of 'Open Defecation Free'

Srinagar receives its Swachhata Certificate from Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Central Government and joins the list of cities that are now "OPEN DEFECATION FREE". Another achievement after Srinagar gets 45th Rank in Cleanest Cities in the country.

## Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2020 announced

In order to recognise the excellent work done by individuals and institutions in India in the field of disaster management, Government of India has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar. The award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.



The award scheme for the year 2020 was given wide publicity. Nominations for the award were solicited from 1st August, 2019 onwards.

For the year 2020, Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre, Uttarakhand (in the institution category) and Kumar Munnann Singh (Individual category) have been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for their commendable work in Disaster Management.

## Prem Chand Verma appointed India's Deputy Chef de Mission for Tokyo Olympics

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) appointed Prem Chand Verma as the Deputy Chef de Mission of India for the upcoming 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Rakesh Sharma will not be accompanying the Indian Contingent to the Olympics due to personal reasons and IOA relieved him of his duties.

## Global unemployment to rise by around 2.5 million in 2020

Global unemployment is estimated to increase by around 2.5 million in 2020, the United Nations' International Labour Organisation report has revealed.

The World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2020 (WESO) report states that global unemployment has been stable for the last nine years but slowing global growth means not enough new jobs are being generated to absorb new entrants to the labour market.

Currently, there are approximately 188 million unemployed people in the world in addition to the 165 million people who are underpaid.

## India ranked 80th in Corruption Perception Index

India has been ranked at the 80th position among 180 countries and territories in the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) prepared by Transparency International.

The CPI, released at the WEF 2020, ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, according to experts and business people.

Denmark and New Zealand have cornered the top spot, followed by Finland, Singapore, Sweden and Switzerland in the top ten.

Other countries in the top level are Norway (7th rank), the Netherlands (8th), Germany and Luxembourg (9th).

With a score of 41, India is at the 80th spot. The rank is also shared by China, Benin, Ghana and Morocco. Neighbouring Pakistan is ranked at the 120th place

### **Hagley Oval to host 2021 Women's Cricket World Cup final**

Six New Zealand cities will host the tournament's 31 One Day International matches, which runs from 6 February to 7 March. The cities are Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton, Tauranga, Dunedin and Christchurch.

Hamilton and Tauranga will host the semifinals while Christchurch was awarded the final after consents were granted for the installation of lights at Hagley Oval last year.

### **New India Co-op Bank to convert into SFB**

New India Co-operative Bank (NICB) has been decided to be converted into a Small Finance Bank (SFB) after being agreed by its shareholders under Voluntary Transition of Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs) into SFB.

NICB will now approach the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Central Registrar of Societies for further action.

With two multi-state Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) initiating steps to convert into a SFB, larger UCBs such as Saraswat Co-operative Bank, SVC Co-operative Bank, Bharat Co-operative Bank, Abhyudaya Co-operative Bank and Thane Janata Sahakari Bank, are also expected to weigh the possibility of converting into an SFB.