

Free LPG Ujjwala scheme achieves 8 crore target before schedule

The government will achieve the target of giving 8 crore free cooking gas (LPG) connections to the poor nearly seven months ahead of schedule with Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to handover the 8-croreth connection. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched on May 1, 2016, with a target to give 5 crore connections to women members of poor households by March 2019. The target was later raised to 8 crore connections by March 2020.

Project 'Bal Basera' at AIIMS Rishikesh to be inaugurated

A creche or 'Bal Basera' built with the support of CPWD at AIIMS Rishikesh will be inaugurated on September 9. Bal Basera, a project for the welfare of Children of Construction Workers deployed at the site will be inaugurated by Deepa Singh, President CPWD Officers' Wives Association (OWA). It will accommodate about 35 children and shall be run by the CPWD OWA. The AIIMS Rishikesh Project is being executed by CPWD.

RBI to launch mobile app for visually impaired to identify banknotes

RBI to launch mobile app for visually impaired; it'll help them identify banknotes. Reserve Bank of India has selected Daffodil Software Pvt Ltd to develop a mobile phone based application for them. Internet connection would not be required for its proposed mobile application. The app will also generate "audio notification" intimating the currency note denomination to the user if image is captured correctly.

India's first 'water-grid' in Maharashtra

The country's first-ever 'water-grid' costing Rs 3,50,000 crore will come in the parched Marathwada region of Maharashtra in the next five years as part of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JMM). The Marathwada region will benefit in a big way from this as it will increase water availability for the people. It will free women from the hassles of having to toil hard to fetch water. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also inaugurated the country's first greenfield industrial smart city, Auric City [Aurangabad Industrial City] at Shendra in Aurangabad. It is India's first 'Walk-to-Work' Smart City. It is projected to attract around Rs 70,000 crore in investments on completion.

Visakhapatnam railway station sets up 'fun zone' for kids

In a first of its kind in the Indian Railways, a paid gaming zone has been provided at Visakhapatnam railway station in Andhra Pradesh. The facility was set up at the platform number 1 for public. It is an innovative initiative by the Waltair division of East Coast Railway (ECoR) under non-fare revenue for entertaining waiting passengers/kids.

S Jaishankar to Visit Maldives for Indian Ocean Conference

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will visit Maldives from September 3-4 to attend the fourth Indian Ocean Conference 2019. The Union minister, who is listed as one of the speakers at the event, will be in the company of Maldives' President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Ranil Wickremesinghe and the Foreign Ministers of Singapore, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal and Bhutan. The theme of the fourth Indian Ocean Conference — IOC 2019 — is "Securing the Indian Ocean Region: Traditional and Non-Traditional Challenges". The first edition of the conference was hosted in Singapore in 2016 followed by two successive editions in Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

India to host 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue

India will host the 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue in New Delhi. The dialogue will focus on collaboration between two countries on areas of infrastructure, energy, hightech, resource conservation, pharmaceuticals an policy coordination. The three-day dialogue will be chaired by NITI Aayog vice chairman Rajiv Kumar and Chinese side will led by chairman, National Development and Reforms Commission (NDRC).

Lata Mangeshkar to be honoured with Daughter of the Nation title on 90th birthday

The Narendra Modi government has plans to honour legendary playback singer Lata Mangeshkar with the "Daughter of the Nation" title when she turns 90 on September 28. Mangeshkar will be conferred the title as a tribute to her contribution to Indian film music over seven decades. She represents the collective voice of the Indian nation.

Vijay Kumar Chopra elected as new PTI chairman, Vineet Jain as vice chairman

Punjab Kesari Group of newspapers' chief editor Vijay Kumar Chopra on Friday was unanimously elected Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI) Managing director of Bennett, Coleman and Company Limited (BCCL) Vineet Jain was elected as PTI's vice chairman. Chopra succeeds former editor-in-chief of The Hindu N Ravi as PTI's chairman

Savarkar -Echoes From A Forgotten Past, 1883-1924

Author Vikram Sampath has written a book named "Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past, 1883-1924". The book is based on the life of freedom-fighter and Hindutva philosophy formulator Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Sampath has been lauded by PM Modi for his book.

Phoolproof: Indian flowers, their myths, traditions and usage

A new book titled 'Phoolproof: Indian flowers, their myths, traditions and usage' has been penned by Jhelum Biswas Bose to acknowledge the importance of flowers in our lives. The book has been published by Penguin India and will hit stands on September 8. It contains the foreword written by actor Lisa Ray.

Indo-Lanka maritime fleet exercise - SLINEX 2019

Sri Lankan Navy is sending two ships to India to participate in the SLINEX 2019, the joint maritime naval exercise with the Indian Navy. The offshore patrol vessels, SLNS Sindurala and Suranimala left Trincomalee and are scheduled to arrive at the port of Visakhapatnam. The

week-long exercise will be attended by 323 Sri Lankan navy personnel including the commanding flag officer of the naval fleet. The exercise features wide-ranging naval exercises including helicopter operations.



Bianca Andreescu clinched US Open Women's singles title

Canadian teenager Bianca Andreescu defeated Serena Williams 6-3, 7-5 to grab the US Open 2019 women's singles title. The 19-year-old Andreescu becomes the first Canadian singles player to win a Grand Slam event. Andreescu also jumps into the top 10 in the WTA rankings. Serena Williams has lost each of her last four Grand Slam finals, all with a chance to tie Margaret Court's record of 24 Grand Slam singles titles.

Rafael Nadal beats Daniil Medvedev to win US Open men's final

Rafael Nadal beats Russia's Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 in the US Open final to capture his 19th Grand Slam title. It was also his fourth US Open title. World number two Nadal took the top prize of \$3.85 million at Arthur Ashe Stadium and added to his US Open trophy haul from 2010, 2013 and 2017.

Veteran lawyer and former Union minister Ram Jethmalani passes away

Noted lawyer Ram Jethmalani, one of India's finest criminal lawyers, passed away at the age of 95 after suffering from prolonged illness. He was the highest paid lawyer in the Supreme Court of India. He became the Chairman of the Bar Council of India in 2010. He had served as Law Minister of India and Minister of Urban Development during the prime ministership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Legendary Pakistan leg spinner Abdul Qadir dies aged 63

The legendary Pakistan leg spinner Abdul Qadir has died after a cardiac arrest. Qadir played 67 Tests from 1977 to 1990, taking 236 wickets including nine for 56 against England at Lahore in 1987. He also featured in 104 one-day internationals, claiming 132 victims. He was a key member of Pakistan's team during the 1980s and became a mentor to the next generation of leg spinners such as Shane Warne and Mushtaq Ahmed.