

2nd Jan, 2020

353rd birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh being celebrated on 2nd Jan 2020

The birth anniversary of the tenth Sikh Guru, **Guru Gobind Singh** ji is being celebrated on 2nd January. Born in **1666**, Guru Gobind Singh is considered to be one of the most celebrated of all Sikh gurus.

Born at **Patna Sahib** in 1666, Guru Govind Singh was the **10th Sikh guru**. He succeeded his father **Guru Tegh Bahadur** ji as leader of Sikhs at the age of just nine. On this auspicious day, the Sikh community remembers Guru Gobind Singh's contribution by offering prayers. The 10th Sikh Guru was a spiritual leader, philosopher, poet and master warrior. He is considered as the eternal guru by his followers because of his contribution to Sikhism. All Gurudwaras of the state are illuminated. Devotees visited Gurudwaras from early morning to offer prayers. On the eve of Gurupurab Religious processions were also organised at many places.

PM Modi disburses 12,000 crore rupees to six crore farmers as third instalment of PM-KISAN scheme

In **Karnataka**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** electronically released **12,000 crore rupees** under **Pradhan Mantri Samaan Yojana** to six crore farmers in **Tumakuru** on 2nd Jan 2020. He also awarded the **Krishi Karman Award** to the progressive farmers from **21 states**. The fishermen of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were also given deep sea fishing boats and transponders that will help them to navigate in the deep sea.

Prime Minister emphasised on agro exports, value-addition of produce, marketing and doubling of farmers income by 2022. He said that special programmes are launched for coffee, rubber, coconut, cashew and pulses. He also said that his government is committed to improving irrigation facilities and providing skills to the agriculturists.

EC launches Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System

The Election Commission has launched a **Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System** to enable applicants to track the status of the applications.

The Commission had amended the guidelines for registration last month. The new norms have come into force from yesterday. Under it, applicants, applying for the party registration from 1st of this month will be able to track the progress of applications and will get the status through SMS and e-mail.

An association seeking registration has to submit an application to the Commission within a period of 30 days from the date of its formation.

India State of Forest Report, 2019

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change released **India State of Forest Report, 2019**. The report predominantly talks about forest cover in the country. The report also mentions about forest fires in the country.

According to the report, **21.4%** of Indian forests are prone to forest fires **between 2004 and 2017**. The total number of forest fire alerts issued between November 2018 and June 2019 were 29,547.

Out of these alerts, **Mizoram recorded the highest**. Of the alerts received, one-third were from north-eastern states. The major reason for increased number of alerts in north eastern region is slash and burn cultivation (**Jhoom Cultivation**).

Third Khelo India youth games to be held in Guwahati in Jan 2020

The 3rd Khelo India youth games will be held in **Guwahati** between **10th and 22nd of February, 2020**. Six thousand five hundred athletes from 37 teams will take part in the event. **Chief Executive Officer of the Games Avinash Joshi** said, the upcoming event is going to be the biggest multidisciplinary games ever held in the country. He said Cycling and lawn ball have been introduced as new disciplines in the games.

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the torch relay of the competition in Guwahati on Sunday. The torch will be carried to all district headquarters to elicit the cooperation of the people for the success of the Games.

Mr Sonowal asked the people of Assam to create a fantastic environment for all the athletes who will be participating in the competitions.

The opening ceremony of the third Khelo India Youth Games will take place at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in Guwahati on January 10 before the athletes take part in their respective events in full flow.

Climate Change Performance Index 2020: India ranks 9th

India for the first time ranks among the **top ten (9th Position)** in the **Climate Change Performance Index**. On the basis of standardised criteria, the CCPI currently evaluates and compares the climate protection performance of **57 countries** and of the **European Union (EU)**, which are together responsible for more than **90% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**. This year for the first time **Chile**, as the country holding the **COP25 presidency**, is added to the CCPI. **The CCPI 2020 has been released at COP25 in Madrid on 10th December 2019.**

Highlights:

- The ranking results are defined by a country's aggregated performance in 14 indicators within the four categories "GHG Emissions", "Renewable Energy" and "Energy Use", as well as on "Climate Policy", in a globally unique policy section of the index.
- The CCPI 2020 results illustrate the main regional differences in climate protection and performance within the 57 evaluated countries and the EU. Still no country performs well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in the index. Therefore, **once again the first three ranks remain empty.**
- In this year's index, **Sweden leads the ranking on rank 4**, followed by Denmark (5) and Morocco (6). The bottom five in this year's CCPI are Islamic Republic of Iran (57), Republic of Korea (58), Chinese Taipei (59), Saudi Arabia (60) and **the United States (61)**, rated low or very low across almost all categories.

Ritualistic festival 'Lai Haraoba' begins in Tripura

In Tripura, **Lai Haraoba**, a ritualistic festival observed by **Manipuri Meitei** communities since ancient times, began in **Agartala** on 2nd January 2020. The five day long festival is jointly organised by Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of Tripura, Puthiba Lai Haraoba Committee and Puthiba Welfare & Cultural Society, Agartala.

The festival was inaugurated by Speaker of state legislative Assembly, Rebati Mohan Das. The festival aims to uphold tradition and cultural values of Meitei community. Lai Haraoba is celebrated through oral literature, music, dance and rituals. A cultural troupe from Manipur has also come to take part in festival.

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