

## President of India receives 2018 edition of the QS world University Rankings

The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee received the 2018 edition of the QS World University Rankings brought out by the Education Promotion Society of India (EPSI) today (June 9, 2017) at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Speaking on the occasion, the President urged EPSI to continue the efforts they are making in the education sector. He said that he was happy to find three Indian institutions – IIT Delhi and IISc Bangalore, which were already in the top 200, and the latest entrant IIT Bombay securing ranks within the coveted top 200 and IISc Bangalore being now ranked 6th globally for Citations per Faculty.

The President said that while in terms of infrastructure there has been considerable expansion in the higher education sector, quality of education in many institutes remains a matter of concern. In ancient times, we had renowned seats of higher learning – Nalanda, Takshashila, Vikramashila, Valabhi, Somapura and Odantapuri – that dominated the world higher education system for eighteen hundred years beginning sixth century BC. Scholars

from round the globe flocked to these centres of learning in search of knowledge. A reverse scenario exists today. Many meritorious Indian students pursue their higher studies from foreign universities. Our higher learning institutions are capable of producing world-class scholars but lose them to foreign universities.

The President said that during his visits to the universities in his capacity as Visitor to Central Institutions of Higher Learning, he had been sharing his concerns about the performance of Indian institutions in world university rankings. He stated that he always believed that the standards of our universities are higher than what these rankings suggested. Perhaps, it was the lack of importance given to the rankings process that stood in the way of our institutions being projected the way they should be. A high rank can boost the morale of the academic and student communities, open greater avenues of growth and placement for students, help attract the best faculty from across the world, and provide a benchmark for continuous quality enhancement.

## Sath Program Launched By Niti Aayog

Furthering the agenda for cooperative federalism, NITI Aayog has launched SATH, a program providing 'Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital' with the State Governments. The vision of the program is to initiate transformation in the education and health sectors. The program addresses the need expressed by many states for technical support from NITI.

SATH aims to identify and build three future 'role model' states for health systems. NITI will work in close collaboration with their state machinery to design a robust roadmap of intervention, develop a program governance structure, set up monitoring and tracking mechanisms, hand-hold state institutions through the execution stage and provide support on a range of institutional measures to achieve the end objectives. The program will be implemented by NITI along with McKinsey & Company and IPE Global consortium, who were selected through a competitive bidding process.

To select the three model states, NITI defined a three-stage process – expression of interest, presentations by the states and assessment of commitment to health sector reforms. NITI invited all states and UTs to participate in the program. Sixteen states expressed prima facie interest, of which fourteen made their presentations. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh presented their project proposal to a Committee headed by Member of NITI Aayog, Shri Bibek Debroy and comprising of CEO, Amitabh Kant as well as a representative from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Of these fourteen states, five have been shortlisted. Subsequently, three will be selected on the basis of further evaluations and objective assessment of criteria affecting the potential for impact and likelihood of success.

## Second edition of National Health Editors' Conference on Yoga held in New Delhi today

The second edition of National Health Editors' Conference on Yoga was inaugurated by Minister of State for AYUSH (Independent Charge), Shri Shripad Yesso Naik at National Media Centre in New Delhi today. The conference was organized by Ministry of AYUSH in association with the Press Information Bureau (PIB), M/o Information & Broadcasting; and Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (M/o AYUSH) as a part of celebrations of the 3rd International Day of Yoga on 21st June, 2017. The theme of this year's conference was "Yoga for Health and Harmony".

Addressing the participants, Shri Shripad Naik said that the International Day of Yoga is perhaps the only occasion where people across

the globe come together in such a large number and take active participation. The interest and zeal of participation in yoga is increasing considerably year by year due to which today yoga has become a household name in the real sense, the Minister added. Shri Shripad Naik said that the credit of increasing popularity of yoga also goes to media may it be print, electronic or social media.

The AYUSH Minister stated that yoga has earned the global recognition in promoting positive health among people. Since treatments in the modern media hospitals are becoming expensive affairs for the people, yoga is gradually making new inroads into the health care system, he elaborated. The Minister further stated

that yoga not only makes people healthy but also helps to reduce the burden on the health care delivery system of the country. Replying to queries from the media, Shri Shripad Naik disclosed that CCRYN is conducting a mega multicentric research study on efficacy of yoga on diabetes in which around 2.50 lakhs people have been screened and the preliminary results of this research study are very encouraging. Replying to another question, Shri Naik said that as per survey conducted by ASSOCHAM, there is an increase of 30% in the practitioners of yoga since last two years. Even in foreign countries, there is an average increase of more than 15% in number of persons practicing yoga, he added. Secretary AYUSH, Shri

C. K. Mishra briefed the media persons about the activities being organized this year to celebrate the International Day of Yoga 2017. The Secretary said that every State will organize yoga events at the State/District/Sub-District level. The Ministry of AYUSH has also sought participation by educational institutions as well as trade bodies, he said. Giving introduction to the Health Editors' Conference, Principal Director General, PIB, Shri Frank Noronha said that the objective of the conference is to spread awareness about principles and practices of yoga for our well being. The conference was designed in such a way to bring out the scientific and technical aspects of yoga with the help of experts, Shri Noronha explained.

## Water level of 91 Major Reservoirs of the country goes down by One per cent

The water storage available in 91 major reservoirs of the country for the week ending on June 08, 2017 was 31.862 BCM, which is 20% of total storage capacity of these reservoirs. This percentage was at 21 for the week ending on June 01, 2017. The level of June 08, 2017 was 130% of the storage of corresponding period of last year and 107% of storage of average of last ten years. The total storage capacity of these 91 reservoirs is 157.799 BCM which is about 62% of the total storage capacity of 253.388 BCM which is estimated to have been created in the country. 37 Reservoirs out of these 91 have hydropower benefit with installed capacity of more than 60 MW. The northern region includes States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan. There are 6 reservoirs under Central Water Commission (CWC) monitoring having total live storage capacity of 18.01 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 4.72 BCM which is 26% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 22% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 28% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is better than the corresponding period of last year but is less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. The Eastern region includes States of

Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Tripura. There are 15 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 18.83 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 4.31 BCM which is 23% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 20% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 18% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 17% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is better than the corresponding period of last year and is also better than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. The Western region includes States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. There are 27 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 27.07 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 6.00 BCM which is 22% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 12% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 21% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is better than the storage of last year and is also better than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. The Central region includes States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. There are 12 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 42.30 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 13.04 BCM which is 31% of total live storage capacity of these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 20% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 17% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the corresponding period of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. States having better storage than last year for corresponding period are Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Tripura, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana. States having equal storage than last year for corresponding period are AP&TG (Two combined projects in both states) Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. There are 31 reservoirs under CWC monitoring having total live storage capacity of 51.59 BCM. The total live storage available in these reservoirs is 3.79 BCM which is 7% of total live storage capacity of

these reservoirs. The storage during corresponding period of last year was 10% and average storage of last ten years during corresponding period was 17% of live storage capacity of these reservoirs. Thus, storage during current year is less than the corresponding period of last year and is also less than the average storage of last ten years during the corresponding period. States having better storage than last year for corresponding period are Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Tripura, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana. States having equal storage than last year for corresponding period are AP&TG (Two combined projects in both states). States having lesser storage than last year for corresponding period are Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

largest supplier of uranium to India, and both sides agreed to maintain the partnership. Cooperation in this area of hydrocarbons was also discussed. The Prime Minister invited Kazakhstan to become a member of the International Solar Alliance. Both leaders also discussed the importance of enhancing connectivity. In this context, connectivity through the Chabahar port in Iran was also discussed. Two flights connecting Delhi and Astana will be launched soon. Prime Minister Modi had a cordial and positive meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping today.

## Gujarat Government Working Towards Reducing Fatal Road Accidents



Ahmedabad, Gujarat Government in its bid to remove state's name from the list of Top Ten in terms of number of road accident deaths in the country is working full time to reduce road accidents by 50 per cent by the year 2020.

Total of 23,183 road accidents took place in the state as per a report released by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) during the year 2015 accounting for 4.6% of road accidents in the country thus ranking Seventh. Tamil Nadu state ranks first in the

list. "The Gujarat government in its bid to cut the road accident fatality by half through a new road safety policy that focuses on first response at the 'golden hour' (the first hour after the accident). The state wants to reduce the fatal accident by nearly 50% by 2020." Said Mr J.N.Singh, Chief Secretary, Gujarat Government while inaugurating a day long conference on 'Fast Tracking Road Safety Initiatives in Gujarat' organised by Global road safety body International Road Federation (IRF) in Ahmedabad today. "Gujarat government has already announced Road Safety policy in the state assembly last year with quick rescue of injured and administration of first aid is the principal focus of the policy. A new guideline to ensure that best practices in road designing are followed by those involved in road construction is also in the pipeline. The Government also plans to have uniform design of all roads so that the number of accidents due to faulty designs can be minimized." Said Mr Singh. (1-7)

## PM's bilateral meetings on the sidelines of SCO Summit in Astana

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, held bilateral meetings with the leaders of Kazakhstan, China and Uzbekistan, on the sidelines of the SCO meeting in Astana. In his meeting with President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan on Thursday, the Prime Minister congratulated Kazakhstan for membership of the UN Security Council in 2017-18. President Nazarbayev received the Prime Minister warmly and recalled his earlier visit to Kazakhstan in 2015. Both leaders reviewed progress on decisions and agreements made during that visit. Kazakhstan is currently the

largest supplier of uranium to India, and both sides agreed to maintain the partnership. Cooperation in this area of hydrocarbons was also discussed. The Prime Minister invited Kazakhstan to become a member of the International Solar Alliance. Both leaders also discussed the importance of enhancing connectivity. In this context, connectivity through the Chabahar port in Iran was also discussed. Two flights connecting Delhi and Astana will be launched soon. Prime Minister Modi had a cordial and positive meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping today.

## PNB adopts 'Gandigiri' to shame loan defaulters



Employees of the Punjab National Bank Circle Office Ahmedabad have started a non conventional campaign to help the bank to recover its overdue loans. The employees have decided to do 'Gandigiri' to shame the defaulters into paying up their dues. They are holding peaceful demonstration outside the homes and offices of the defaulters holding placards in their hands. The pro-

gram has evoked positive response and many defaulters have come forward to repay their loans. The bank is ready for one time settlement with NPA account holders. Among others Smt. Vibha Aren, Circle Head, Circle Office, Ahmedabad with other senior officials have joined the campaign to urge the defaulters to repay their loans on Monday.

## Sagarmala A Game Changer in Country's growth: First Workshop Held in Capital

The Ministry of Shipping organized a workshop on its flagship programme titled, "Accelerating Sagarmala Implementation – Engaging with States" in New Delhi today. The main objective of the workshop was to enhance the engagement among Ministry of Shipping, other line ministries and various maritime States of India for Sagarmala Programme.

The workshop was presided over by Sh. Rajive Kumar, Secretary (Shipping) and the key note address was delivered by Sh. Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog. Speaking on the occasion Sh. Kant said, that ports can act as the catalyst of growth and help in achieving 10% consistent growth rate for the country, hence making Sagarmala programme the game changer for the country's development.

Exemplifying the success stories of China, Korea, Japan and Singapore, where the ports have led the country's growth strategy, Shri Kant said that there is a need for conglomeration of all the stakeholders for proper execution and have an export focused strategy. For India to increase its current growth rate of 7.6%, it's essential to penetrate the global markets which only ports can drive. He pointed out that land is not a challenge and all what is required is optimum utilisation of available resources.

For Indian goods to be at par with global markets the logistic costs need to be reduced and that will be possible if ports become the manufacturing hubs, he added. He also reiterated the potential of cruise tourism in India and appealed to all the coastal states to work towards promoting the same. Speaking at the inaugural

session Sh. Rajive Kumar, Secretary (Shipping) called out for active participation from the State authorities for execution of the projects. The Sagarmala programme has moved from planning to implementation stage and three key areas where states can take up projects is connectivity enhancement, development of cruise ships and promotion of coastal shipping, he said.

The objective of the workshop was to familiarize the key stakeholders with the provisions of the Sagarmala programme, its objectives and avenues available for them to implement the projects under Sagarmala. The workshop provided a platform for the maritime states to exhibit their ongoing work and work envisaged for future and also to provide a feedback mechanism to address their concerns with regards to Sagarmala Programme. Funding Guidelines, Coastal Berth Scheme and initiatives under the Coastal Community Development especially for skill development was also discussed during the workshop.

The workshop was also attended by Principal Secretaries of the maritime states, Chairmen of ports and officials of the line ministries.

Special sessions were also held for port-rail connectivity by Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited (IPRCL) and development of coastal community.

To create more awareness about the Sagarmala programme and to increase interactions with the stakeholders, the Ministry of Shipping plans to organize a series of workshops over the next 6-8 months under the aegis of the Sagarmala Programme.

## Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey, MoS HRD visited the IIM, Shillong today

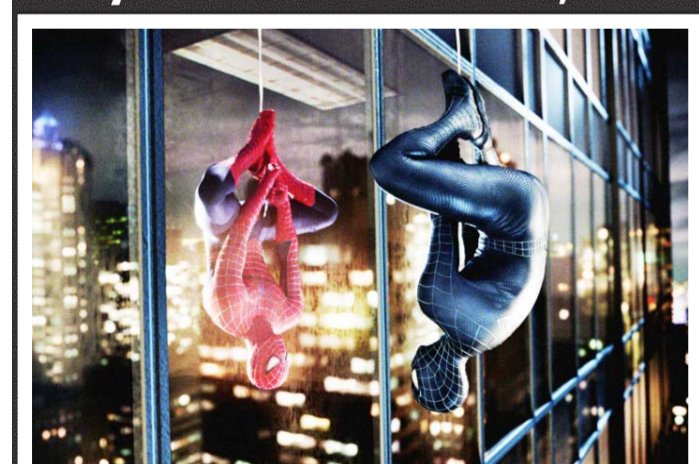
Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey, MoS HRD visited the Indian Institute of Management, Shillong today. On arrival, the Minister was taken for a first-hand view of the premises at IIM Shillong's current campus, including the auditorium where Dr. Kalam had delivered his last lecture.

During his visit, Dr. Pandey was welcomed by the Institute's fraternity, post which he had an interaction with the Director and faculty members on various issues of regional and national importance. Visibly happy with the strides of progress made by the institute, Dr. Pandey encouraged the gathering to exercise continuous efforts in the days to come, so as to be able to maintain standards to meet both national and international expectations. He remarked that it is amply evident that each member of the Institute has been working from the heart. This sense of ownership is what will further the cause of institutional building.

Another facet of responsibility that the honourable Minister felt IIM Shillong should persistently take up is in ensuring its role as a catalyst focusing on the developmental needs of the India's North-eastern region where the Institute operates from, thereby making itself accessible for overall growth of NER apart from imparting quality higher education to the students from across In-

dia. He congratulated the efforts of the Institute's leadership in meeting PM Modi's vision towards holistic societal development. The job of the Institute's stakeholders, given their rich expertise is to draw new ideas and explore areas for innovative practices, which he was sure would assist in further building the dream for New India. During the interaction, the Director of the Institute shared the success stories of the Institute through the persistent achievements of its student and faculty community during its 10 year span of existence. He further informed the Minister regarding the support through DoNER and NEC towards setting up of the APJ Abdul Kalam Center for Policy Research & Analysis. "The Center aims at achieving developmental framework on six key areas such as Tourism, BPO, Logistics, Handloom and Handicraft," remarked Prof. De. "In addition, the Center for Development of NER set up since inception of the Institute is assisting in capacity building to ensure employability of the youth of this region. The students of IIM Shillong have also initiated Nurturing Minds wherein students of local schools are being given quality tuition in the area of science and mathematics, keeping up the urge of Dr. Kalam for transfer of knowledge to the underprivileged."

## Sony LePlex FPC 12 June, 2017



India Time	12-Jun-17 Monday
6:00 AM	STEVE JOBS
8:52 AM	RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! S03E12
9:53 AM	MONSTERS UNIVERSITY
12:07 PM	VAN HELSING
2:26 PM	RAMBO: FIRST BLOOD 2
4:30 PM	FINDING NEMO
6:49 PM	DEATH RACE 3
9:00 PM	SPIDER-MAN 3
12:01 AM	ANACONDA 2
1:58 AM	GOOSEBUMPS
3:38 AM	BARB WIRE

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