

16th August, 2021

Nation celebrated 75th Independence Day

The 75th Independence Day is being celebrated with patriotic fervor across the country and around the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the national flag on the 75th Independence Day and addressed the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort in New Delhi. He also inspected the Guard of Honour.

For the first time this year, as soon as the national flag was hoisted by the Prime Minister, two Mi 17 1V helicopters of the Indian Air Force showered flower petals.

First nasal COVID-19 vaccine developed by Bharat Biotech gets regulatory approval for second and third phase trials

The first nasal COVID-19 vaccine developed by Bharat Biotech has got regulatory approval for the second and third phase trials. This is the first of its kind COVID-19 jab to undergo human clinical trials in India. The Department of Biotechnology said the phase one Clinical trial has been completed in the age groups ranging from 18 to 60 years. The Company reports that the doses of the vaccine administered to healthy volunteers in this phase has been well-tolerated and no serious adverse events have been reported. Previously, the vaccine was found to be safe, immunogenic and well-tolerated in the pre-clinical toxicity studies.

Bombay HC partially stays operation of IT (Intermediary Guidelines & Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021

The Bombay High Court today partially stayed the operation of Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. The High Court in its ruling said that they have found that prima facie it is in intrusion of petitioner's rights and goes beyond substantive law Information Technology Act.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice GS Kulkarni stayed Rule 9 (1) and Rule 9 (3) of the new IT Rules. The portion which is stayed brings Code of Ethics under the IT Rules and self-regulation by the publishers, self-regulation by the self-regulating bodies of the publishers and oversight mechanism by the Central Government.

The court observed that Rule 9 -observance and adherence to the code, prima facie seems to be against the freedom of speech. The court was hearing one petition filed by a legal news website, The Leaflet and a public interest litigation by a journalist. The pleas urged for direction from court to restrain authorities from taking any coercive action against them for any failure to comply with the new Rules. Petitioners argued that the Rules go far beyond permissible restrictions of freedom of speech and freedom of trade for digital news publisher.

In a first, J&K Police gets all three top peacetime gallantry awards

For the first time in its history, Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel bagged Ashok, Kirti and Shaurya Chakras together, apart from the President's Police Medal for Gallantry and 256 other gallantry medals, announced on the eve of Independence Day.

Assistant Sub Inspector Babu Ram, Constable Altaf Hussain Bhat and Special Police Officer Shahbaz Ahmad have been posthumously awarded Ashok Chakra, Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra, respectively.

These are the three highest peacetime gallantry awards, given for showing exemplary courage in service of the nation. The Ashoka Chakra is India's highest peacetime gallantry honour; Kirti Chakra is the second in order of precedence of peacetime gallantry awards.

144 Gallantry awards announced for Armed Forces, Police and Paramilitary personnel

President Ram Nath Kovind has approved 144 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces, police and paramilitary personnel on the eve of Independence Day. These include one Ashok Chakra, one Kirti Chakra, 15 Shaurya Chakras, four Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 116 Sena Medals (Gallantry), five Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and two Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).

ASI of Jammu and Kashmir Police, Babu Ram has been posthumously honoured with Ashok Chakra while Altaf Hussain Bhat who was serving as a Constable in Jammu and Kashmir police has been posthumously honoured with the Kirti Chakra. Of the 15 Shaurya Chakra awardees, three have been given the honour posthumously. The President has also approved 28 Mention-in-Despatches to the Army personnel for their significant contributions in different military operations which include three posthumous for

‘Operation Rakshak’. Besides, President also approved four awards for conspicuous gallantry and meritorious service to ICG personnel including one Tatrakshak Medal (Gallantry), and three Tatrakshak Medal (Meritorious Service).

One thousand 380 police personnel medal announced on occasion of Independence Day

A total of one thousand 380 police personnel have been awarded medals on the occasion of Independence Day. President’s Police Medal for Gallantry has been awarded to Amar Deep and Late Sunil Dattatraya Kale. Among the majority of the 628 Gallantry Awards, 398 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu and Kashmir region, 155 personnel for their gallant action in Left Wing Extremism affected areas and 27 personnel for their gallant action in North-East Region. Among the personnel receiving Gallantry Awards, 256 are from J&K Police, 151 are from Central Reserve Police Force and 23 are from Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force.

Army organises 12 kms “Run for Nation” event at Kalaroos in north Kashmir’s Kupwara district

On the eve of 75th Independence Day, Indian Army organised a 12 kms “Run for Nation” event at Kalaroos in north Kashmir’s Kupwara district to celebrate the spirit of “Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav” and Naya Kashmir. The event was aimed at promoting the sports culture in the area to channelise the youth energy in right direction and to celebrate India’s Independence.

Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy inaugurates Exhibition - Katha Kranthiveeron Ki to mark 75th yrs of Independence

Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy today inaugurated an Exhibition - Katha Kranthiveeron Ki to mark the 75th years of Independence as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav at Rabindra Bhawan, New Delhi.

The Exhibition has on display more than 100 artworks recognising unsung heroes like Alluri Sitarama Raju and Artwork created during Shaheedi Diwas, Champaran Satyagraha and Jallianwala Bagh camp. The exhibition is open for public viewing till 30th August from 11.00 AM to 7.00 PM

Festival of Parsi New Year Navroz being celebrated on 16th August, 2021

Today is Navroz, the Parsi New Year. It is the most widely celebrated festival of the Parsi community. This is seen as a harbinger of peace and prosperity. According to Parsi priests, the arrival of the New Year mainly depends on their Lunar calendar and that with every New Year, there is a recreation of the universe.

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