#### 2-day Conference on Crowd Management begins in Kerala



The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) jointly with the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) is organising a two-day national-level conference on "Crowd Management" at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, starting today.

- The conference aims to strengthen the capacity of all the stakeholders to organise safe mass gathering events.
- Shri E. Chandrasekharan, Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management, Government of Kerala, inaugurated the conference and stressed upon the need to understand risks related to crowded assemblies and to develop specific guidelines for planning and inter-agency coordination.
- Speaking on the occasion, Shri R. K. Jain, Member, NDMA, said that crowd disasters are essentially man-made and can be prevented with holistic planning and efficient execution.
- He further underlined the need to improve preparedness and capacity of all stakeholders.

# Minister of Railways Inaugurates Madgaon leg of the Science Express today



The IX Phase of the prestigious Science Express exhibition train which is on a Nationwide tour since 17 February 2017 reached Madgaon in Goa today i.e. 11 July 2017.

- This phase of train is being referred as "Science Express Climate Action Special (SECAS)" highlighting the global challenge of climate change. Minister of Railways Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu Inaugurated this Madgaon leg of Science Express today through Video Conferencing from Delhi.
- SECAS is focusing on Climate Change and Science & Technology. The exhibition conveys message about Climate Change and is also a good opportunity to generate dialogue and discussion.
- This exhibition train will be available for public viewing at Madgaon from 11 to 13 July 2017, then the train will move forward to next destinations as per its itinerary.
- Science Express is a flagship programme of the Dept. of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India. It is an innovative mobile science exhibition mounted on a 16 coach AC train, traveling across India since October 2007.
- Since then, it has made eight tours of the country, traveling about 1,53,000 km and exhibiting at 495 locations. Over its 1712 exhibition days, Science Express received an overwhelming response and 1.64 crore visitors.

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• Science Express has become the largest, the longest running and the most visited mobile science exhibition and has twelve entries in the Limca Book of Records.

#### J P Nadda launches new family planning initiatives on World Population Day



"Mission Parivar Vikas will focus on 146 high fertility districts in 7 states with high TFR. Under this, specific targeted initiatives shall be taken for population stabilisation through better services delivery".

- This was stated by Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare at a function organised by Jansankhya Sthirita Kosh (JSK) to mark the World Population Day, here today.
- Smt. Anupriya Patel, Minister of State (HFW) also graced the occasion.
- Shri Nadda stated that Mission Parivar Vikas is a new initiative conceived by the Ministry with a strategic focus on improving access through provision of services, promotional schemes, commodity security, capacity building, enabling environment and intensive monitoring.
- Shri Nadda congratulated the team for undertaking micro-planning for these districts and developing need-based programmes to address TFR.
- The Health Minister also advised the officials to undertake half yearly review of the programme and correlate the achievements with time to gauge whether the programme is moving in the right direction or not.
- He stated that "We have enhanced the basket of contraceptive choices to meet the changing needs of people and have taken steps to ensure quality assured services and commodities are delivered to the last-mile consumers in both rural and urban areas."

#### MRP, other details must for items sold online from 2018



To protect online consumers, the government has made it mandatory for e-commerce companies from January 2018 to print not only the maximum retail price (MRP) on goods but also information like expiry date and customer care details.

- An amendment in this regard has been made to the legal metrology (packaged commodities) rules, 2011 by the consumer affairs ministry in June.
- A six-month deadline has been given to the companies to comply with the new rule.
- "Consumers deserve the same protection online as offline. At present, only MRP is printed on the goods sold online. We have asked the companies to declare additional details on the label," a senior official in the consumer affairs ministry said.

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- Along with MRP, the companies have to declare manufacturing date, expiry date, net quantity, country of origin and consumer care details on the label, he said.
- Enough time has been given to the companies for complying with the new norms.
- From January 2018, it is must that goods sold via e-commerce platform should have all these declarations else the companies will face stringent action, the official said.

#### India to become largest milk producer in 2026: Report



India, projected to be the most populous country over the next decade, will be the world's largest milk producer by 2026 and will account for the biggest increase in wheat production globally, according to a report by the UN and OECD.

- The OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026 said the world's population will increase from 7.3 to 8.2 billion over the course of the next decade with India and Sub-Saharan Africa accounting for 56 per cent of total population growth.
- India's population will grow from 1.3 billion to 1.5 billion, an increase of almost 150 million.
- India will overtake China and is projected to be the most populous country in the world by 2026.

# Union Government launches new tax payer service module Aaykar Setu

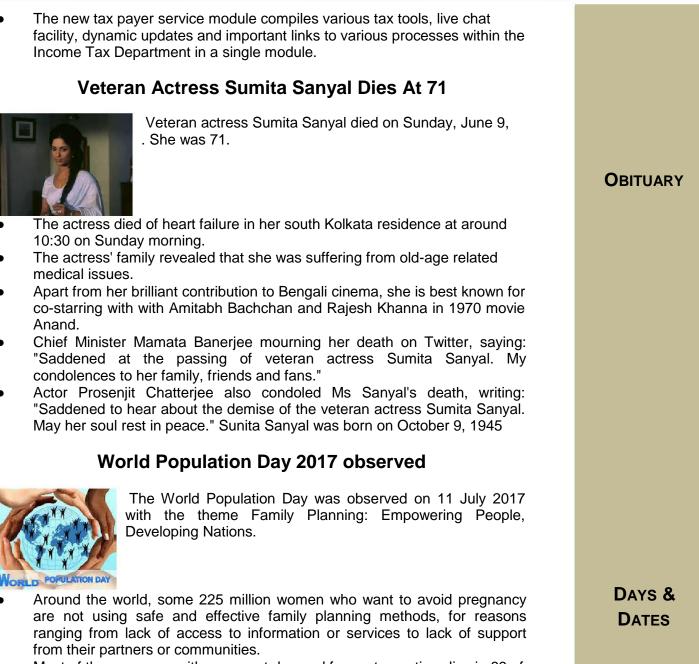


Arun Jaitley, the Union Finance Minister, on 10 July 2017 launched Aaykar Setu, a new tax payer service module.

- The module was launched in a mobile responsive android version along with the desktop version to enhance mobile access experience.
- Union Government launches new tax payer service module Aaykar Setu
- While launching the Aaykar Setu, Arun Jaitley stated that this e-initiative would help in reducing physical interface between assesses and tax assessing authorities and thereby minimizing the chances of any tax harassment.
- The new step is an effort by the Income Tax Department (ITD) to directly communicate with the taxpayers, on a range of multiple informative and useful tax services aimed at providing tax information at their fingertips.

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- Most of these women with an unmet demand for contraceptives live in 69 of the poorest countries on earth.
- World Population Day is an annual event observed on 11 July every year.
- The day seeks to raise awareness of global population issues.
- The event was established by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1989.
- The day aims at increasing people's awareness on various population issues such as the importance of family planning, gender equality, poverty, maternal health and human rights.