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Joint IAF-HPTDC Multi adventure Expedition



Indian Air Force in coordination with Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (HPTDC) is undertaking a Joint Multi Adventure Expedition from 12 Jun 17 to 17 Jun 17.

- The expedition includes Parasailing, Paramotor over Shimla Airport (Jubbar hatti).
- A joint team of IAF and HPTDC would participate in Mountain Terrain Biking (MTB) competition at Shimla, Paragliding at Joginder Nagar (Bir Billing), Trekking at Beas Kund and River Rafting at Pirdi (Kullu).
- A team of 25 talented air warriors, including four women officers, led by Wing Commander SS Malik will participate in the activities.
- The aim of the expedition is to inculcate a spirit of adventure and team work among air warriors.
- The joint expedition with HPTC will give exposure to our air warriors and will promote the motto 'Join the IAF with Pride' and will provide wide publicity to Indian Air Force.

Govt. Make changes to benefit small businesses



The GST Council on 11 June 2017 reduced the GST Rates of 66 items including insulin, pickles, printers, agarbattis, school bags, and cashew nuts.

- However, the GST rates for telecom services, marbles, granite and spectacles were retained.
- The GST Council, headed by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, went beyond the equalisation principle of maintaining the current tax incidence in certain cases.
- All goods and services, under the GST regime, are broadly placed in five tax slabs 0, 5, 12, 18, and 28 per cent.
- Revised GST Rates of few Goods and Services
- The GST Rates on insulin, cashew nuts and agarbattis were lowered to 5 per cent from 12 per cent proposed earlier.

Batman actor Adam West dies at 88



Adam West, the actor best known for playing Batman in the 1960s television series, has died aged 88 of leukaemia.

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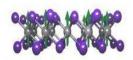
- He is remembered by fans for his kooky, exaggerated portrayal of the superhero in the ABC show, which ran for three seasons from 1966 to 1968.
- West once said that he played Batman "for laughs, but in order to do [that],

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- one had to never think it was funny. You just had to pull on that cowl and believe that no one would recognise you."
- Tributes have poured in from the media world. David Walliams tweeted: "Thank you AdamWest for being the funniest superhero of all time as Batman."
- Many of those expressing their sadness shared the fact that West's portrayal of the Caped Crusader had been their childhood hero.
- Author Neil Gaiman tweeted: "Rest in peace Adam West. We met once in 1987 and I
 was too embarrassed and too foolishly "cool" to tell you what you meant to my
 childhood."

Scientists discover rare two-dimensional magnets



Scientists have for the first time discovered two-dimensional magnets that are formed by a single layer of atoms.

- A team led by the University of Washington (UW) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the US has for the first time discovered magnetism in the 2D world of monolayers.
- Scientists have for the first time discovered two-dimensional magnets that are formed by a single layer of atoms and may pave the way for more compact and efficient devices.
- Magnetic materials form the basis of technologies that play increasingly pivotal roles in our lives today, including sensing and hard-disk data storage.
- For smaller and faster devices, researchers are seeking new magnetic materials that are more compact, more efficient and can be controlled using precise, reliable methods.
- A team led by the University of Washington (UW) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the US has for the first time discovered magnetism in the 2D world of monolayers, or materials that are formed by a single atomic layer.
- The findings, published in the journal Nature, show that magnetic properties can exist even in the 2D realm opening a world of potential applications.

French Open 2017: Jelena Ostapenko beats third seeded Simona Halep



Jelena Ostapenko on 10 June 2017 grabbed her first ever grand slam title by beating the match favourite, third-seeded Simona Halep in the final of French Open 2017.

- Ostapenko, after losing the first set 4-6, made a stunning comeback with two straight wins 6-4 and 6-3, making way for one of the biggest Grand Slam upsets.
- With the win, she became the first Latvian to ever win a Grand Slam singles title.
- Ostapenko rallied up to the finals beating world no. 9 Timea Bacsinszky in

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the semi-final, former world no. 1 Caroline Wozniacki in the quarter-final and Olympic champion Monica Puig and former finalist Sam Stosur in the qualifying rounds.

England beat Venezuela to win FIFA U-20 World Cup for first time



England on 11 June 2017 lifted the FIFA U-20 World Cup for the first time ever.

- England defeated Venezuela 1-0 in the summit clash held in Suwon, South Korea.
- The only goal of the match, played at the Suwon World Cup Stadium here, carried the signature of Everton striker Dominic Calvert-Lewin 34 minutes in the game.
- Serbia, the 2015 champions, were not able to defend their title as they failed to reach the final round of the UEFA qualifying tournament.
- In doing so, they became the fifth consecutive incumbent title holder to fail to qualify for the subsequent tournament.

Railways to Induct 40000 Refurbished Coaches for Rs 8000 Cr



The Indian Railways is all set to induct about 40000 revamped coaches at an estimated cost of Rs 8,000 Cr to provide world-class comfort to passengers.

- The new coaches will reportedly come with improved interiors and upgraded facilities.
- The coaches will be retrofitted with refurbished interiors, improved seating arrangement and newly designed bio-toilets among other facilities.
- The total estimated cost of retrofitting would be about Rs 30 lakh per coach.
- The target is to complete the process of refurbishing of coaches with improved interiors and modern facilities in the next five years.

Veteran Telugu poet, writer C Narayana Reddy passes away



Noted Telugu and Urdu poet and writer C Narayana Reddy passed away on 12 June 2017 in Hyderabad.

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- He was rushed to a private hospital in the early hours of morning following health complications and was pronounced dead. He was 85.
- Reddy is known to have written more than 80 publications that include poems, songs, lyrical dramas, ballets, essays, travelogues, ghazals -both original and in translation and literary criticism.
- He is survived by four daughters.
- Born on 29 July 1931 in anumajipet, Karimnagar District, Hyderabad state (now in Telangana), Reddy was one of the most distinguished Telugu poets of his generation.