

## Bhopal to have India's first privately run rail station



Indian Railways has decided to push the accelerator, in order to increase non-fare revenues via innovative schemes and strategies.

- During 2016-17, Rs 10,181 crore was earned by Indian Railways via non-fare revenues, which they want to increase it to Rs 14,000 crore in this current fiscal year.

- As we had shared earlier this year, some of the most interesting concepts for increasing non-fare revenues include branding of important trains, offering railway stations to private players and others.

- The good news is that Railway Board has already approved several of these plans, and in the coming days, things would move swiftly.
- One of the most talked about plans of Indian Railways was allowing brands to sponsor who trains, inner walls and the outer surface of coaches; and this plan is now approved.
- A Railway official has given two examples: train named Paytm Express and Savlon Swachh Bharat Express, which would be soon running near your location.

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## All 4 GST bills cleared by President



President Pranab Mukherjee today cleared all four Goods and Service Tax (GST) Bills, days after they were passed by the Parliament.

- The bills were passed in the Lok Sabha on March 29, and in the Rajya Sabha on April 6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cabinet had approved them on March 20.

- The bills are related to Central GST (C-GST), Integrated GST (I-GST), Union Territory GST (UT-GST) and the Compensation to the States Law.

- The C-GST Bill makes provisions for the levy and collection of tax on intra-state supply of goods or services - or both - by the Central Government.
- On the other hand, the I-GST Bill makes provisions for the levy and collection of tax on inter-state supply of goods or services - or both - by the Central Government.

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the UT-GST Bill makes provisions for the levy and collection on tax on intra-UT supply of goods and services in the Union Territories without legislature.

### **MoU Signed Between NSFDC & Development Commissioner (Handlooms)**



The CMD, National Scheduled Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Development Commissioner (Handlooms) under Ministry of

Textiles signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the presence of Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment and Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Union Minister of Textiles here today.

- Senior Officers of both the Ministries, DC (Handlooms) and NSFDC were also present on the occasion.
- The objective of signing this MoU is to help Scheduled Caste weavers and their families by promoting production and marketing of high value quality Handlooms products at Block level Cluster in various States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Odisha etc.
- Handlooms Sector is a part of Textile Industry, the second largest economic activity after agriculture.
- There are around 44 lakh Handloom weavers in the country out of which 3.90 lakh are Scheduled Caste Weavers.
- Under the cluster approach, new strategy for promoting production and marketing of high value quality handloom products shall be adopted to ensure more earnings of the Scheduled Caste Handloom Weavers.

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## Indian Academy of Highway Engineers signs MoU University of New South Wales for establishing Centre of Excellence in Smart Transportation



In line with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vision to influence and adopt global innovation into the transportation sector, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry through the Indian Academy of Highway Engineers and University of New South Wales

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(UNSW) to set up a Centre for Advanced Transportation Technology and Systems (CATTS).

- The MoU was exchanged between the Director of IAHE Mr. V L Patankar and Vice Chancellor of UNSW Prof. Ian Jacobs on April 10th, 2017 in the presence of Simon Birmingham, Australian Minister for Education. The vision for CATTS is to:
- Accelerate the evaluation and adoption of new transportation technologies and explore market opportunities for them in India and Australia.
- Conduct research, development and training in the areas of transport system modelling and data for smart cities.
- This would be the world's first transportation centre involving two countries committed to seeing technological innovation for economic development through improved safety and reduced congestion.



## Padma Shri awarded to recipients

President Pranab Mukherjee on Thursday conferred the Padma awards at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

- 89 people were awarded by President this year for their exceptional work in various fields.
- This year the President gave out 7 Padma

Vibhushan awards, 7 Padma Bhushan awards and 75 Padma Shri Awards.

- Among those who received the Padma Shri awards were Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, Discus Thrower Vikas Gowda, Gymnast Dipa Karmakar and Wrestler Sakshi Malik.
- The ceremony was also attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Rajnath Singh and other dignitaries.

The Minister said that the National Sports Talent Identification and Development Portal would be launched shortly.

**AWARDS**

## Indian Software engineer wins UN Open Source tool challenge



An Indian software engineer has won the top prize at a global challenge for an open-source tool that enables users to interactively view UN General Assembly resolutions and gain a deeper understanding of the voting patterns of member states.

● Abdulqadir Rashik, also an entrepreneur, won the 'Unite Ideas #UNGAViz Textual Analysis and Visualisation Challenge' for his 'Global Policy', an open-source tool that enables users to search and interactively view General Assembly resolutions to gain a deeper understanding of the voting patterns and decisions made by United Nations Member States.

- Rashik's prototype will be made public and shared with United Nations bodies and member states.
- He will also receive recognition from the Department of State and the Office of Information and Communications Technology.
- Rashik is a frequent contributor to Unite Ideas challenges and he previously won the top prize in the #LinksSDGs challenge for his 'Links to Sustainable Cities', an interactive visualisation that identifies and maps the links between various Sustainable Development Goals.

### PERSONS

## Dainik Bhaskar group Chairman Ramesh Agarwal dies at 73



Former union minister and Congress leader Akhilesh Das died here on Wednesday after suffering a cardiac arrest, a family source said.

- He was 56.
- Son of former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Banarasi Das Gupta, he was admitted to the Lari Cardiology Centre after he complained of distress, a family member told IANS.
- Das was the Minister of State for Steel in the Manmohan Singh-led government in 2004-09. He was also a former Mayor of Lucknow.
- Das was a three-time Rajya Sabha member — twice from the Congress and once from the Bahujan Samaj Party.
- He was also the President of Badminton Association of India.

### OBITUARY

in November 2014, Das quit the BSP.

- He rejoined the Congress before the Uttar Pradesh assembly elections this year.

### Malayalam Actor Munshi Venu Passes away at 63



Munshi Venu, who's known for playing supporting roles in Malayalam films, passed away at a palliative care centre at Chalakudy, Thrissur. According to reports, the actor suffered kidney failure today. He was 63.

### OBITUARY

- The actor, was diagnosed with kidney-related ailments last year, had been undergoing dialysis since then.
- Munshi Venu didn't own a house and that he was living at a lodge in Chalakudy for the last 10 years.
- Making his acting debut with Kamal's comedy drama Pachakuthira, Munshi Venu will be more remembered for his comical characters.
- Venu has acted in over 75 Malayalam films. He's known for films like Chotta Mumbai, Salt 'n' Pepper, Kanyaka Talkies, Immanuel and Daddy Cool.