THE INSIDES SPEAK

Modi to link Indian financial institutions with online fintech market place APIX in Singapore

New Delhi/Singapore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will link Indian financial institutions with API Exchange (APIX), an online fintech marketplace aimed at promoting financial inclusion, which would be launched at the Fintech Summit here on Wednesday. "The ASEAN countries have put together their financial institutions on one platform and Prime Minister would be launching that link with the Indian financial institution," said Vijay Thakur Singh, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs. When the last time Prime Minister was in Singapore in June this year, the Rupay Card was launched. The ASEAN Financial innovation Network (AFIN) spearheaded by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), the ASEAN Bankers Association and the World Bank's (Cont. on page 2)

Trailer of documentary on Kailash Satyarthi released

New Delhi, The first trailer of award winning documentary 'The Price of Free' featuring Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi has been released on YouTube. The film follows Mr Satyarthi along with his team of Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) activists through gripping secret (Cont. on page 2)

Kumaraswamy's Loan Waiver was only on announcement: Yeddyurappa

Kalaburagi, Opposition leader in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and BJP State President B S Yeddyurappa on Sunday alleged that Chief Minister H D Kumarswamy's announcement of Crop Loan waiver has not reached farmers. Addressing a press conference here, he said that the JDS-Congress coalition government is not responding to the problems of the farmers. Severe Drought situation was seen in more than 100 taluks of 13 districts in the State. He said the District In-charge Minister are not coming to the rescue of suffering farmers who are facing drinking water and other problems and the State administration has totally failed to tackle the situation. Mr Yeddyurapa warned that BJP would launch agitation against it if the State Government did not come to their rescue within next 15 days. The former Chief Minister said that the economic condition of the State has totally collapsed and the development works including SC/ST students scholarship amounts held up.

Note ban hurt poor, was aimed at turning black money of rich into white: Rahul

New Delhi/Raipur, Launching a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on demonetisation, Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said that the note ban was aimed at turning the black money of corporate into white. ''Through demonetization, the PM snatched the money of poor and put it into the pocket of industrialists,'' Rahul said while addressing a public rally at Mahasamund. A day after the PM hit out at Rahul and his mother Sonia Gandhi for questioning him on demonetization and said he did not need a "certificate of honesty" from the "mother-son duo" who are out on bail, Rahul said,''he said the note ban brought money out of pillows of people. He is right. But he did not tell from whom the money was snatched…all the poor people had to queue up to exchange notes. Did any billionaire queue up? Did anyone in suit-boot queue up.   (Cont. on page 2)

Boy found dead on rooftop

Nalgonda, A 9-year-old boy was found dead on the roof top of his Asbestos Sheets house at Nakerekal town in this district on Tuesday. According to Police, the deceased was identified as Sathvik. He was missing since last evening. A complaint also lodged at the police station this regard. However, his body was found on Tuesday morning. Police suspecting that Sathvik who was studying class three may died by accidentally falling from the tree, which is close to his house after climbing on it or some through the body after killing him. The exact cause will be known only after post-mortem. "A case has been registered and investigation is underway," police added.

Cabinet expansion expected before Winter Session : Fadnavis

Nagpur, The Chief Minister of Maharashtra , Devendra Fadnavis told mediaperdons that the much-awaited expansion of State Cabinet was expected before winter session of State Legislative. The session will be held in Mumbai this time from November 19. Fadnavis during an informal interaction with mediapersons at Ramgiri bungalow on Saturday, dropped (Cont. on page 2)

THE INSIDES SPEAK

Modi to link Indian financial institutions with online fintech market place APIX in Singapore

International Finance Corporation, is launching APIX. APIX is a banking technologyplatform designed to reach two billion people worldwide who are still without bank accounts. It will enable financial institutions to discover and connect with fintech firms through API channels on a "globally curated" platform, said MAS Managing Director Ravi Menon. It would also serve as a sandbox for financial institutions and fintech firms to collaborate and experiment on solutions. "It is the world's first cross-border, open architecture platform to enhance financial inclusion. APIX is both an online FinTech Marketplace and FinTech

Sandbox. As a marketplace, it will enable FIs to discover and connect with FinTech firms through APIs on a globally curated platform. "As a sandbox, it provides a platform for FIs and FinTech firms to collaborate and experiment on solutions in a contained environment," said Menon. Modi will give the keynote address at the Singapore Fintech Festival where there is also an Indian Pavilion. About 40,000 participants from more than 100 countries would be attending the festival, which ends on Friday, making it one of the biggest gathering of global fintech community. "This is for the first time that a head of government will

Trailer of documentary on Kailash Satyarthi released

raids and quests for retracting missing children keeping the audiences on the edge of their seats. The movie will provide audiences to understand the plight of millions of children trapped in child labour and slavery further galvanizing social and political will to curb these crimes against children by advocating and leading change in their communities and around

the world. The film was premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, where it won the US Documentary Grand Jury Prize. Co-produced and co-financed by Participant Media and Concordia Studio, the 90-minute YouTube Original feature length documentary will debut on SoulPancake's YouTube channel on November 27.

Note ban hurt poor, was aimed at turning black money of rich into white: Rahul

India's prime minister helped turn the black money of the rich into white. He snatched money of the poor, but ensured benefits for the rich." He attacked the PM on the Rafale deal and Chhattisgarh chief Minister Raman Singh on the PDS scam and his son's alleged involvement in the panama papers. The Congress president questioned the claims of the PM of Removing corruption. He charged the PM and Chief Minister Raman Singh of snathing money from the poor and the underprivileged sections and giving it to their favourite industrialist friends. ''In the last 15 years of this government, all of you

have seen how the BJP Government has snatched money from the poor and put in in the pockets of its industrialist friends. Even the Prime Minister earlier talked of fighting corruption. But now things have changed,''Rahul said. Charging the Central Government for inaction against the chief Minister's son despite his name figuring in the panama papers, Rahul said,''in the neighbouring Pakistan, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was put in jail after his name appeared in panama papers. However, here, no action was taken against the son of the chief Minister's son despite his name figuring in Panama papers.

Cabinet expansion expected before Winter Session : Fadnavis

hint about State Cabinet expansion soon. Many in the BJP ,Shiv Sena and allies are eagerly waiting for the expansion as there is less than a year to go before the State Legislative Assembly polls. As per the norms , State Cabinet cannot have more than 42 ministers. At present , there are 38 Ministers in the Cabinet including 22 senior Ministers and 16 Ministers of State(MoS). So, there are four seats to be filled up through expansion.

Name Nagpur-Mumbai Expressway after Bal Thackeray: Shiv Sena

Mumbai, Amid the renaming frenzy in different parts of the country, the ruling Shiv Sena on Tuesday demanded that the upcoming Nagpur-

Mumbai Super Communication Expressway (NMSCE) should be christened in memory of its late patriarch, Bal Thackeray.
However, there have been demands from the ruling ally BJP to name NMSCE after late prime minister AB Vajpayee.
PWD Minister Eknath Shinde (Shiv Sena) led a delegation of party leaders to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday and submitted a memorandum, demanding that NMSCE be named after late Thackeray, whose sixth death anniversary will be observed on November 17.
"Balasaheb Thackeray was the architect of the country's first-

ever expressway project – the Mumbai-Pune Yeshwantrao Chavan Expressway, which came up during the tenure of the first Shiv Sena-BJP alliance government, which took office in 1995," Mr Shinde said.
The Mumbai-Pune Expressway was implemented by the then PWD Minister Nitin Gadkari (now, a Union minister) and Mr Thackeray's dream was realised in 2000, when the project was inaugurated, he pointed out.
The Minister said that since the NMSCE is expected to be a game-changer by connecting the state capital with the second capital Nagpur, it would be fitting tribute to name it after Balasaheb Thackeray, who was the guiding spirit behind the Mumbai-Pune expressway project.
Mr Shinde added that after the first (Mumbai-Pune) expressway, the second one (NMSCE) is also destined to come up during the tenure of the BJP-Sena government now and urged Mr Fadnavis to do the needful in the matter.
However, a section of BJP is keen that NMSCE should be named after late Vajpayee, who died three months ago on August 16, but there is no official reaction in the matter.

Dhangar Samaj marches for inclusion in ST cateogory

Aurangabad, Maharashtra, 'Sakal' Dhangar Samaj community activists marched from Aahilyabi Holkar Chowk to Divisional Commissioner Office here on Tuesday.
'Sakal' is a local term in Marathi language which is used for the enitre Dhangar samaj which is composed of shepherds,cowherds,buffalo keepers,blanket and wool weavers,butchers and farmers. The march themed 'pival vadal'(Yellow Storm) was taken out to raise the primary demand of Dhangar Samaj,which is the inclusion of the community in the Scheduled Tribes(ST) category. Convener of Sakal Dhangar community and MLA Ramrao Vadkute led the march which passed from Kokanwadi, Kranthi chowk,Paithan Gate,Gulmandi,City chowk and Aamkhas maidan.The community leaders Suresh Vadkute and Jaggnath Rithe also walked along with the march. A huge number of people belonging to the

Dhangar community flocked here from several parts of the state to join the march.Dressed in traditonal Dhangar attire,the masses trumped up their musical instruments all the way to press for their demands.
After reaching the Divisional Commissioner Office,a delegation met with the commissioner and submitted a memorandum which elaborated their demands.
Some of the demands listed in the memorandum include providing security to the sheperds,permission for sheep grazing on government land,issuance of arms licenses to the shepherds,withdrawal of cases against the Dhangar community members who were booked in state-wide agitation in the month of August. A state-wide agitation was called in the month of August to demonstrate for inclusion of community in ST category. Some youths committed suicides during the agitation to press for the above-said demand.

Fisherman goes missing after boats' collision at Vasai coast in Thane

Thane, A frantic search is on for a fisherman who fell into the water following the collision of an unidentified vessel with a fishing boat off Vasai coast in the early hours of Sunday, the district authorities at Palghar said.

The Vasai Tehasildar Kiran Survase told this correspondent that the coast guard and helicopter have been pressed into service to trace the missing fisherman. The local fishermen also were carryi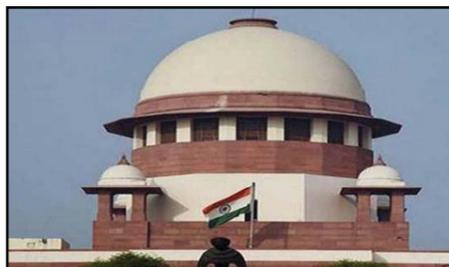ng out the search operations and it was immediately not not known as to which vessel had hit the fishing boat which had at least seven sailors on board , he said.

He further said that the district administration was monitoring the situation as of now now and further details were awaited.

Rafale deal: Govt submits details to Supreme Court

New Delhi, The Centre on Monday submitted the details of its decision-making process in the Rafale aircraft deal to the Supreme Court. It is expected to come up for hearing before the apex court on Wednesday.

The Centre filed its document and gave it to all the petitioners, complying with the apex court's earlier order. In its affidavit, the government said that all the requisite steps as per the requirement of Defence Procurement Procedure 2013 were followed while procuring the fighter planes.

The Centre stated that an unnecessary controversy is being sought to be created regarding the selection of Reliance Defence and added that the present National Democratic Alliance dispensation was only adhering to the rules laid down by the United Progressive Alliance government.

It added that all requisite steps like preparation of Services Qualitative Requirements, approval of the Defence Acquisition Council, technical evaluation and acceptance of technically qualified platform were duly followed during the procurement of the fighter planes. The government said that as per guidelines, the foreign original equipment manufacturer is free to select any Indian company as its partner. It added that Government had no role in the selection of Indian offset partner which is a commercial decision of the Original Equipment Manufacturer.

PM dedicates first multi modal terminal port in Varanasi

Varanasi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation an inland multi modal terminal port on river Ganga here at Ramnagar in his parliamentary constituency on Monday and flagged off the inaugural run of the inland waterways between Varanasi and Haldia.

The PM inaugurated the first multi-modal waterways terminal on the Ganga river as part of the Centre's Jal Marg Vikas Project which aims to develop the stretch of the river between Varanasi and Haldia, over 1300 kilometers for navigation of large vessels weighing up to 1,500 to 2,000 tonnes. Mr Modi also received India's first container vessel that sailed from Kolkata, carrying cargo of PEPSICO (India). The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) vessel, MV Rabindranath Tagore is transporting 16 containers and it will make its return journey with fertilisers from IFFCO.

Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari, who was present there, described the PM how the inland waterways will work through models at an exhibition in presence of UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath and UP BJP president and Chandauli MP Mahendra Nath Pandey. The PM also went through the terminal and inspected the facilities there.

The PM also pushed a button of a hi-tech crane brought from Germany to start unloading of cargo from the ship and later flagged off the inland waterways service.

Mr Modi also took time to pray to Ganga after taking out his shoes and waved to the people standing far away from the spot on the banks of the river.

President stresses need to bridge gap between bio-scientists and regulators

New Delhi, President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday emphasised the need to close the gap between practitioners of bio-sciences and regulators. " As the bio-sciences grow and evolve, more practitioners should come into regulatory roles as well, to look at issues of bio-ethical dilemmas as well as legal questions," he said.

Addressing the commemoration ceremony here of the 10th anniversary of the partnership between the Department of Bio-technology under the Ministry of Science and Technology and the UK-based Wellcome Trust, he said that as the partnership completes its first decade, the India Alliance should draft its priorities for the next phase.

The Wellcome Trust is a bio-medical research charity based in London, United Kingdom.

Naveen urges industry captains to help Odisha develop as a manufacturing hub of South Asia

Bhubaneswar, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik today urged the Industry Captains to plan a long-term strategy for investment in Odisha over the next 10 years to develop the state as a manufacturing hub of South Asia.

Inaugurating the second edition of the five-day long Make in Odisha conclave organised here to attract more investment to the state the Mr.Patnaik assured the business houses to provide unmatched facilitation support and to appoint dedicated teams to handhold the implementation of the long-term plans.

Welcoming the the captains of business and industry from across the country and the globe, who have come all the way to join in Make in Odisha 2018 the Chief Minister said, "Odisha greets you all with an open heart and invites you to be partners in its growth story". "At this 2nd edition of the Make in Odisha Conclave, we look forward to interacting with you all and deliberate upon the vast opportunities that Odisha offers and how we can work together towards developing Odisha as a manufacturing hub of south Asia,"the Chief minister said.

He said the first Make in Odisha Conclave in 2016 was a huge success with 124 investment intents, worth more than Rs 2 lakh crore, and employment opportunities for above one lakh people.

With a view to giving further impetus to certain key manufacturing sectors, the state government, Mr Patnaik said had laid down the Odisha Industrial Development Plan: Vision 2025 with a target of attracting investment of Rs 2.5 Lakh crore and creation of 30 lakh job opportunities in 6 identified focus sectors by 2025.

He said the state government has recently launched a progressive Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing Policy to capitalize on the competitive advantages of Odisha's existing eco-system to attract investment in this high potential sector.

The government, he said

2019 Climate Summit: Luis Alfonso de Alba appointed as Special Envoy

United Nations, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has announced the appointment of Luis Alfonso de Alba of Mexico as his Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Summit.

Mr de Alba will be the task of providing 'leadership, guidance and strategic direction' towards Summit and will be engaging key strategic climate change leaders, including governments, and coalitions, to galvanize climate action ahead of the event, United Nations news reported. The 2019 Climate Summit will be held with the objective of building momentum, enhancing national ambition, as set out in the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Bringing together Heads of State and Government, business leaders, academics and scientists, youth, civil society representatives, local leaders and the UN system, it will aim to accelerate implementation of climate action worldwide.

Mr de Alba will work closely with Robert Orr, Special Adviser on Climate Change, as well as Peter Thomson, Special Envoy for the Ocean, Michael Bloomberg, Special Envoy for Climate Action and other UN senior officials.

Prior to this appointment, he served since September 2017 as Mexico's Under-Secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean. Appointed Ambassador in 2001, he brings experience as Permanent Representative of Mexico to the Organisation of American States, the International Organisations in Vienna, the UN, and other international organisations in Geneva, among others. As Mexico's Special Representative for Climate Change, Mr de Alba led negotiations for the 2010 UN Climate Change Conference (COP16) in Cancún, Mexico.

He also held several elected positions including Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (2012) and First President of the Human Rights Council in Geneva (2006-2007).

NATO chief raises concern about Chinese missiles

Moscow, NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg on Tuesday has raised concern about the Chinese investment in the modern weapons including nuclear capable missiles. The NATO chief expressed concern in an interview with Germany's ZDF TV at China "investing heavily in new, modern weapons," including new nuclear-capable missiles. He also noted that it would be a good idea to include China in the INF treaty, since currently half of its missiles would be in violation of it, Sputnik international reported. "We support expanding this treaty so that China is also bound by it," the NATO chief said. The accord on nuclear weapons, signed by the US and Soviet Union in 1987, is on the verge of termination after Washington announced that it plans to withdraw from the treaty in the near future, citing purported violations of the agreement by Moscow. Russia has firmly denied the allegations and has instead accused Washington of having been in violation of the INF treaty for some time, pointing out that the launch sites of its missile defence systems in Europe could be used to launch Tomahawk cruise missiles.

US condemns 'Sham' elections in Donbas, vows to continue imposing sanctions

Moscow, Nov 13 (Sputnik) The United States on Tuesday slammed the elections of leaders and members of parliaments in the self-proclaimed people's republics of Donetsk and Luhansk (DPR and LPR respectively), calling them a "farce," US Department of State spokeswoman Heather Nauert said. On Sunday, the DPR and LPR held leaders' and parliamentary elections. The turnout in the DPR amounts to 80.1 percent of voters while the turnout in the LPR to 77 percent, according to the republics' central election commissions. DPR acting head Denis Pushilin won the election with 60.85 percent of the vote. LPR acting leader Leonid Pasechnik won the election by gaining 68.3 percent.

States with power must take action to end suffering of Yemenis:UN

United Nations, 'Outraged' by the 'unconscionable toll' caused by the escalation of hostilities in Yemen, the UN human rights chief, Michelle Bachelet, on Saturday, urged the warring parties and those supplying them with weapons, to take immediate steps to end the suffering of civilians. "The Saudi-led coalition and pro-Hadi forces, the Houthi forces and those who supply arms or other support to the parties to the conflict, all have the power or the influence to stop the starvation and killing of civilians, to give some reprieve to the people of Yemen," UN human rights Commissioner Bachelet stated. Conflict in the country has its roots in 2011, but the situation escalated dramatically in 2015, when a Saudi-led coalition was invited by the internationally-recognised Government to intervene, uprooting millions and destroying civilian infrastructure across the country, United Nations news reported. According to information received by the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), at least 110 airstrikes were carried out in Al Hudaydah, Sa'ada and Sana'a between 31 October and 6 November. In the past four days, conflict has continued to intensify, with coalition warplanes hovering at low altitude over Al Hudaydah city since Thursday morning, Houthi forces firing anti-aircraft missiles and mortars, and violent street clashes ongoing. At least 23 civilians have been confirmed dead in the governorate since 24 October, but the total death toll is believed to be much higher. About 445,000 people have been internally displaced since early June. "Violations by one party to the conflict do not give carte blanche to the others to fight back at all costs," said the High Commissioner. "Even wars are regulated by law – all parties to the conflict are bound to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law as applicable." OHCHR noted there are also serious concerns about the fate of 900 detainees in the Central Prison and six pre-trial detention centres in Al Hudaydah city, the Central Prison was hit on Monday morning by two mortar shells, injuring five people, and cutting off power and water to the facility.

Armed confrontations are also reportedly taking place very close to the main hospital, Al Thawra.

BNP Jamaat men implicated in 106 more cases after dialogue with Hasina

Dhaka, Some 106 cases have been filed against the leaders and activists of the BNP-led 20-party alliance between 1 and 10 November, police records shows.

BNP leaders alleged that all these cases are false and fictitious and said cases were filed to harass the BNP leaders and activists.

During the dialogue with prime minister at her official Ganabhaban residence on 1 November, the BNP leaders pointed out that BNP leaders and activists are being implicated in false cases.

In response, the prime minister assured them that no new cases will be lodged to harass anyone politically. But six cases were filed with six police stations in Dhaka on 6 November, the day the Jatiya Oikya Front held a rally at Suhrawardi Udyan.

According to records, the incidents of vandalism, attacks on police, sabotage and blasting cocktails were mentioned in the case statements.

The police detained 138 BNP men in connection with the incidents from the spots of the occurrences. The authenticity of law enforcers' version was not found to be true, according to Prothom. Alo investigation. Locals in those areas expressed surprise after hearing the statements of the police. It not fair to implicate anybody in false case and without any specific allegation, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) chairman Kazi Reazul Hoque told reporters.

Xerox India appoints Vineet Gehani as Tech and Channels Director

Gurgaon, Xerox India has appointed Vineet Gehani as Director of Technology and Channels. "Mr Gehani, who joins Xerox from HP, will help the brand drive further growth in the Indian and South Asian markets with an increased focus on expanding Xerox's technology availability across the channel," said Raj Kumar Rishi, Managing Director, Xerox India. Mr Gehani will lead the channel sales team in India and South Asia, helping drive profitability for all Xerox products and services – such as office equipment, production printing equipment, channel managed print services and solutions, consumables and paper – as well as focus on strategic partner development and expanding Xerox's go-to-market network. "Xerox is one of the most well-known and trusted business solution providers in the market. I look forward to building a stronger channel partner network and to find new ways to deliver more value and support to the company in its strategic growth," Vineet Gehani, Director, Technology and Channels, Xerox India.

Commerce Minister leads delegation for RCEP meet in Singapore

New Delhi, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu is leading the delegation for the meeting for trade Ministers of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) member countries which is taking place in Singapore on November 12-13. Mr Prabhu held meetings with ministers from Japan, New Zealand, China and Singapore. 'Held a bilateral meeting with Mr Hiroshige Seko, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. Our discussions were centered around RCEP, WTO reform and cooperation in Africa for mutual growth,' he said in a series of tweets. Mr Prabhu also had a meeting with the Minister for Agriculture and Food Safety of New Zealand, Mr Damien O'Connor in Singapore on the sidelines of the Summit. 'Had detailed discussion on RCEP issues and we are closely working together towards satisfactory outcomes,' he said. The Commerce Minister also held a meeting with Vice Minister of Trade of China, Wang Shouwen. 'Had positive discussions with him on RCEP, WTO reform and bilateral issues such as India's exports to China and prospects for Chinese investments in India,' the minister said. Mr Prabhu also met with Singaporean Trade Minister Chan Chun Sing on the sidelines of the Summit.

Govt committed to promoting sustainable tourism : CM

Himachal Pradesh government is committed to promoting sustainable tourism in the state by encouraging private sector to develop tourism related infrastructure without disturbing the existing ecology and environment.

This was stated by the Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur while addressing the valedictory session of Indian Tourism Conclave at Chandigarh on Monday. The conclave was organised by the Centre for Economic Policy Research, Chandigarh in collaboration with the HPTDC, Haryana Tourism, Uttar Pradesh Tourism, Punjab Tourism and Uttarakhand Tourism. The Chief Minister said that tourism not only has immense potential of strengthening the economy of the state, but it also has great potential for employment and self employment generation.

He said that Goa was one such state of the country, which has made immense progress in tourism development and its economy was based on tourism industry. Other states should also take some lessons for making tourism a major source for strengthening the economy of their respective state. He said that peaceful environment was the main attraction for the tourists visiting our state and the State can also boost its clean and pollution free environment as about 67 percent of the area in the State is covered with forests.

Mr Thakur said that six destinations of the state viz. Baddi, Shimla, Rampur, Nathpa Jhakhri, Mandi and Manali have been included under Udaan-II. Himachal Pradesh was probably the first state of the country which has pressed its State helicopter as Heli Taxi between Shimla and Chandigarh for three days in a week. He said that efforts were being made to construct more and more rope way in the state and recently a MoU has been signed between the state government and Punjab to construct ropeway between Shri Anandpur Sahib and Shri Naina Devi Ji. This rope would be completed by the year 2021, he added. He said that the state government has succeeded in getting approved Rs 1,900 crore ADB Project for development of tourism infrastructure in the state. Under this Project Chanshal in Shimla district would be developed as skiing site, Jhanjheli in Mandi district from eco tourism point of view, Pong Dam in Kangra district as a water sports site and Bir Billing in Kangra district as paragliding site. He said that efforts were being made to ensure better road connectivity to the remote areas of the state and for ensuring better air connectivity existing three airports of the state were being expanded. He said that the state government has recently launched a new Scheme 'Nai Raahein- Nai Manzilien' with a budget allocation of Rs. 50 crore for development of unexplored and untapped tourist places in the country side.

Lupin's Nagpur facility receives EIR from US FDA

Mumbai, Pharma Major, Lupin today said that company has received the Establishment Inspection report (EIR) post the completion of a Pre-Approval Inspection (PAI) for its Phenytoin Sodium Extended Release 100 mg capsules, carried out by the US FDA at its Nagpur facility in Maharashtra. The inspection conducted in September 2018 concluded without any observations, company said in a filing with BSE. Lupin's Nagpur facility is the company's latest site and manufactures Oral Solid Dosage products. The site also houses Lupin's state of the art injectable manufacturing facility. Commenting on the development, Nilesh Gupta, Managing Director, Lupin said,"The receipt of the EIR for our Nagpur facility is a positive development as we continue our journey on meeting and exceeding global quality standards at all of our facilities"

Cipla receives final approval for generic version of Roche's Valcyte

Mumbai, Pharma Major, Cipla Limited today said that it has received final approval for its Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) for Valganciclovir Tablets 450mg from the United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA). Cipla's Valganciclovir Tablets 450mg is AB-rated generic therapeutic equivalent version of Roche's Valcyte, company said in a filing with BSE. It is a deoxynucleoside analogue cytomegalovirus (CMV) DNA polymerase inhibitor indicated for use in the treatment of CMV retinitis in patients with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and prevention of CMV disease in kidney, heart, and kidney pancreas transplant patients at high risk.

According to IQVIA (IMS Health), Valcyte and its generic equivalents had US sales of approximately USD79M for the 12-month period ending September 2018. The product is available for shipping immediately.

New Board of Governors to regulate IIMs; Govt gives nod for its formation: Javadekar
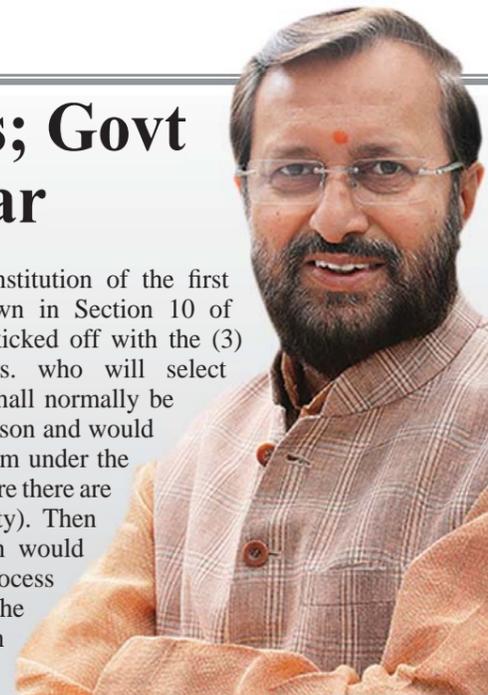
New Delhi, The Government on Monday approved the process of constitution of new Boards of Governors for the IIMs, as per the IIM Act 2017.

"The process of constitution of Boards for the IIMs, which have been given full powers of running the institutions, is a major development which signals complete autonomy of quality institutions in higher education and will ensure quality expansion of higher education", said Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar after approving the process of constitution of Boards for the (20) IIMs in accordance

with the IIM Act 2017. This process is in accordance with the provisions of the Section 10 of the IIM Act 2017, and has been approved in consultation with the Ministry of Law and Justice. The IIM Act is a historical step of the Govt which for the first time, provided comprehensive autonomy to the higher educational institutions.

In accordance with the spirit of the Act, Govt has decided to immediately withdraw the Govt nominees who are in excess of the provisions of the Act. This will pave way for complete control of the institutions by reputed academicians and alumni.

The process of constitution of the first Boards as laid down in Section 10 of the Act would be kicked off with the (3) Ex-officio members. who will select Chairperson, who shall normally be the current Chairperson and would be given the full term under the new Act(except where there are issues of ineligibility). Then on, the Chairperson would lead the further process of constitution of the Boards as laid down under the Act.

Artificial Intelligence and Remote Sensing to Increase Crop Yields for Indian farmers

By Richa Vani

India is waking up to the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to help farmers increase their crop yields, control common pest attacks and price forecasting to gain better money for their yield. The farmers are waiting with ploughed fields and furrows running through for the seeds to be sown. The wait is for a text message to tell them about the right time to go ahead with the sowing.

Digital agriculture is shaping the lives of farmers using technologies like AI, Cloud Machine Learning, Satellite Imagery and advanced analytics. It is helping small-holder farmers to increase their income through higher crop yield and greater price control.

Across the states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh, farmers receive text messages in their native languages. They are receiving automated voice calls to alert them about the risks of pest attacks, based on weather conditions and crop stage.

Sowing Advisories Lead To 30% Higher Yields

Sowing date is the most critical aspect of farming for them to harvest a good crop. The cost incurred on a crop failure due to seeds and fertilizer applications are huge.

To counter the loss, Microsoft partnered with the non-profit International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) to create an AI Sowing App. It is powered by Microsoft Cortana Intelligence Suite including Machine Learning and Power BI. The app calculates the optimal date to sow based on the historic climate data spanning over 30 years and the Moisture Adequacy Index (MAI) of the soil. The future MAI is calculated based on the weather forecasting models downscaled to build predictability.

Farmers do not need to install any sensors in their fields or incur any extra capital expenditure to avail it. This service is text message based, and even farmers using feature phones can avail the benefits of the same. It is available in 10 languages, wherein farmers can sign up to get three free SMS every day.

The pilot programme to calculate the benefits of AI-based sowing advisories was initiated in Andhra Pradesh in 2017. The programme had 175 farmers participating, who received an average of 30% higher yield per hectare, following the farming inputs. According to Microsoft, over 4000 farmers received farming insights for the Kharif crop cycle in 2018 from ICRISAT.

Pest attack prediction

Microsoft, in collaboration with United Phosphorous (UPL), created Pest Risk Prediction API that utilises AI and machine learning to predict the risk of pest attack. It provides guidance to farmers on taking preventive actions on the probability of pest attacks. In the pilot phase, about 3,000 marginal farmers in Telangana, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh received automated voice calls for their cotton crops.

Price forecasting model

A multivariate agricultural commodity price forecasting model helped predict the future of commodity arrival and their corresponding prices. The AI software is also helping the government get price forecasts for essential commodities, three months in advance. It uses remote sensing data from geostationary satellite images to predict the yield through various phases of farming. Other data points used to evaluate the same is; historical sowing area, production, yield and weather. Farmers are getting affected by the changing weather patterns. Leveraging cloud and AI to predict advisories for sowing, pest control and commodity pricing is a way towards creating increased income and providing stability for the agricultural community.

EDITORIAL

Unearthing 'Big Data'

Analytics & Databases Heaping Technology Advantage for Future

Scenario & Insights

Amidst a bustling business domain, for many enterprises, it's been a reinventing work out, to attain analytical knowledge that invariably enables to harness 'eternally renewable Data'. Yes, the buzz all over is – sighting the 'unstructured data' which is also legendarily known as "Big Data." And, for sure, it's essential to pioneer the capability, amidst the most fiercely competitive phase of business intelligence progression, to acquire the big data. An innovative insight to identify and recognize customer's priorities, and certainly, a pledge to deliver, is the test of time, in the process.

To find concrete solutions, meeting business objectives and uniting enormous data to augment businesses have been the predetermined targets for numerous organizations. Of course, whilst gaining the ability to manage the mammoth range of unstructured information that scamper at over 15 times higher rate over the structured ones, on various platforms, is a staggering task every player in the arena is grappling with.

It's an unstated fact that every entity is in the race to expand its resources and excel. The sphere has plenty to offer through enhanced up-to-date data immeasurably swarming across various media viz. social, digital, visual, telecommunication and suchlike. Among the myriad offerings, Big Data promises analytics- the unprecedented power to be able to serve customers with enhanced might of thinking, interacting and working forward.

By the whirl of the century, the sphere of information technology has immensely evolved, and transitioned through the generation, phase to phase and end to end. Collectively, big data has been a key leverage to reorganize and elucidate the nucleus of businesses.

Ideal Strategy

Now, how to catch the big fish in the deep dark whirling ocean is the question! Who'll get a crucial part and the most of it, what we call as "lion's share", is a formidable challenge before them. This is the vocal analogy accentuated in the business world.

In the scheme of ideas and plans, the strategy of an inclusive approach of exploring analytics could pay off. Predominantly, identified from case studies, strong emphasis on extensive research implies that involvement of big data and its composition of analytics assure deliverable productivity and profit growth; almost up to a significant 6% increase, compared to the competitors.

Moreover, the landscape of businesses that are data oriented, with superior operational precision and transparency appears more prolific, with an edge of improved calculation, forecast and quicker experiment & trials. Although those alone can't be a holistic recourse, as the path to catch up asks for more. A much larger requirement is - a heavily amassed investment, which clearly includes dedicated management and monetary capital, together. Also, more emphasis, by several CIOs, from various organizations, has been on the necessity to re-architect applications and data.

Meanwhile, vendors prey on the unstructured data externally, with their notorious power to replicate, recording the movement of information; needless to say, they grope through to achieve the source-and- outcome associations. Often caught between the horns of disgruntlement, business heads and managers persist hard to know about the blunt and brusque reality of returns from the heavy investments; obviously, also about the most dreaded latent organizational variations and disparities.

Simplistically, the only remedy that works well is to build up a handy plan. In the arsenal of effective planning, one of the core elements is spending proactive and practical time on converging cutting edge apparatus, analytics, data, whilst assembling the 'people' quotient to generate business advantage. The plan, as a versatile and usable strength, orientates the process of creating a universal language, empowering managers, technology experts, data scientists and so on, to thrash out the sources of excellent profits or returns, and more than two places to initiate and implement.

Achieving Results

Managing Data Pool

Seemingly, the most tangible results can be pulled off by an unbeaten plan that concentrates on some of the fundamental essentials like a fertile strategy of amalgamating and accumulating data. Vital collection of data may have been gathered and hoarded in IT systems, which have been pivotal in numerous support areas such as supply chains, customer service and pricing; although colossal data inhabit in unstructured form of information as chats, exchange of information, conversations, on social network that may have been untapped.

It is implicit that to perpetuate these information or data as a positive feature necessitates great investments. Data architecting or restructuring by the passage of time becomes equally indispensable, putting them through a sieve, all the way through intertwined storage areas. In order to uphold precision, building unmistakable and clear-cut premium source data can prove to be a practical solution; further, contracting out the related predicaments and glitches to data professionals or experts, who are well-versed in employing ideal software to coalesce adequate data to hit the early analytics prospects and advantages.

Building Analytics Models

Mere amalgamation of data is not sufficient, therefore, to facilitate data oriented optimization, there's always a call for highly developed analytic models. Furthermore, companies, sooner or later, to crack and resolve wide-ranging optimization crises, will desire to connect these models across business units. Without a doubt, as part of the development method, "plants or workshops" of analytics, which bring together an array of robust models and maintain track of the mounting record of variables followed by implementation of systems, may be required.

For instance, in consumer driven businesses, application of advanced analytics can prove highly effective if they are capable of managing apt data, producing insights and transforming them into leading-edge actions. In the entirety, Consumer Packed Goods (CPG) and companies in the retail segment have the advantage of advanced data analytics and big data mix that offer abundant opportunities. They have an impetus endowing benefit of getting detailed data information of their customer needs and outlook.

Identifying consumer fragments, developing their capability to aim at their principal value opportunities becomes a lot easier, for them; it monumentally helps in determining the "return of outlays", largely for marketing investment, across both, long-established traditional and latest marketing mediums like social media.

A meticulous and detailed hourly watch and scrutiny of stock rates, minimization of out-of-stock status by retailers and a lot more, can be crucial in improving consumer shopping experience, further heightening their sales volume, enabling their counterparts and CPG to benefit from.

Exploring Tools

Outwardly, the productivity of modelling may appear prominently loaded yet the realization aspect stands eminent when frontline manpower or task managers are cognizant about the ways to utilize it. Insightful tools for routine data integration processes are paramount, as they are immensely helpful in transforming productivity into real-time substantial business execution and decisions. As part of inculcation, organizations require a clear plot or pathfinder to accumulate faculty vehicle with the right combination and volume.

A perfectly delineated structure to foster frontline manpower, data scientists and analytic model architects, will prove ideal in moving further in the process. Consequently, this exercise of structuring slab tools and infrastructure will enable companies to devise and incorporate big- data arrangement akin to the one that is reviewed in the pre-marked plan.

Certainly, the specific strategies viz. analytic development, decision sustaining apparatus or tool and foundation of business worth will differ. The key differentiators in the process will be operational promotion of data integration, and organizations will need to strategize extensively in that direction. Moreover, several developed data sources will comprise operational & information, transactional statistics and internal records along with peripheral data from associates and counterparts paralleled to the value sequences.

Amongst several Data & Analytics, the pacesetter technologies that have proved effective include - Data Lakes, Search & Self Serving Capabilities, NoSQL & In-Memory Databases, Data Virtualization, Security & Governance Solutions, Predictive – Prescriptive - Streaming Analytics, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Edge Computing, Block Chain; the list continues with the Hadoop Ecosystem, Spark or R, Knowledge Discovery, Data Integration – Preparation & Quality Analysis and many more.

What It Takes To Be Prepared

Obviously, countless companies are on a tremendous spree to get their hands on it(Big Data); in the process, their focus is on evaluating and appraising the managerial prowess for the multiplicity, speed and volume of the unexploited and unrecorded information, which has already been defined as 'unstructured data.' Evidently, the drone of Big Data that's getting omnipresent, for the most part, engages organizations in the exercise of building toughened and colossal big data platforms that constitute multipronged competencies like revolutionary data search, innovation and exploration. Also, building visualization and analytics strengths put into effect.

By Srinivasan Chari

THE INSIDES SPEAK

ICC Women's World T20

Harmanpreet brillaint century guides India towards victory

Guyana, Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur brilliant century (103) and fine bowling spell by the spinners helped India women's cricket beat New Zealand by 34 runs in the group B of the ICC Women's World T20 here on Friday night.

India won the toss and opted to bat first scoring 194/5, however, New Zealand were bundled out for 160/9 in 20 overs.

For India Hemalatha and Poonam Yadav scalped 3 wickets each while Radha Yadav took 2 wickets and Reddy one wicket.

Stage set to host Intl FIH20 powerboat racing from tomorrow

Vijayawada, The bank on the river Krishna at Bhavanipuram here was filled with a buzz as the three-day first FIH20 World Championship of single-seater inshore circuit powerboat racing will commence from Friday. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will inaugurate the International event. On behalf of the State government, the Tourism department is hosting one round of the F1H20 Powerboat racing here from November 16 in river Krishna, upstream the Prakasam barrage. The final race will be held on November 18 and practice sessions will be held tomorrow and day after, Tourism and Culture Department Secretary Mukesh Kumar Meena said, adding that the aim behind hosting this international event is to put AP in World Tourism map. Nine teams comprising 19 Formula 1 drivers and nine Formula 4 drivers from 14 countries were taking part in the event. The Powerboats and racing equipment were brought here by special containers from Krishnapatnam port. The boats were imported from China, organizers said. Apart from hosting the event, Andhra Pradesh had also put an Amaravati team in this race with the branding of "team Amaravati" and the team is participating in all the seven races.

Knoxville Challenger: Top seeded Paes-Reyes-Varela stunned in quarter-final

Tennessee, Top seeded pair of Leander Paes of India and Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela of Mexico were stunned by American duo of Alex lawson and Jackson Withrow in straight sets 6-3, 6-4 in the doubles quarter-final of the 75,000 dolar Knoxville Challenger in Tennessee (US).

The match lasted 58 minutes. Lawson-Withrow won 75 per cent points (21/28) on first service and 75 per cent (18/24) on first service. The American pair save five out of six break points while won three break points out of six. Paes-Reyes-Varela won 71 per cent points (24/34) on first service and 47 per cent (7/15) on second service. This pair saved three out of six break points and won one out of six break points.

Hindi and Bengali content to feature on ICC website for first time

The International Cricket Council (ICC) today announced a series of digital firsts for the ICC Women's World T20 in the West Indies bringing fans closer to the event than ever before with comprehensive coverage. Hindi and Bengali content will feature on the ICC website for the first time Fans can follow the action across a range of ICC digital platforms including the official tournament website www.worldtwenty20.com, the new look ICC mobile app, dedicated social media channels and for the first time ever Apple Watch devices. The tournament website has everything fans need to know about the event including exclusive content, live match centre with live blogs and stats as well as interactive quizzes and in-depth team and player pages. There will be in-match clips and short form clipped highlights from every game, plus a brand new video section with team specific content, playlists and cinema view. Additionally, the ICC will be providing a selection of the best daily news and features in Hindi and Bengali for tens of millions of fans around the world in what represents the first foray into multi-lingual content. In an added bonus, fans worldwide will be able to listen to every game via a live English audio commentary stream supplied by the BBC. The official ICC mobile app available on iOS and Android has undergone a transformation to support the event including a dedicated tournament section complete with full team pages for all 10 competing sides and the ability to follow specific nations and receive personalised push notifications.

Slovak Open: Ramanathan-Vasilevski storm into men's doubles final

Slovakia, Ramkumar Ramanathan of India and Andrei Vasilevski of Belarus, defeated fourth seeded Spanish pair of Gerard Granollers and David Marrero by 7-5, 4-6, 10-6 in 85 minutes in men's doubles semi-final to storm into the finals of the 106,000 Euro Peugeot Slovak Challenger Tour Open in Slovakia here on Friday.

Ramanathan-Vasilevski unleashed nine aces and committed four double faults. Their first service was 72 per cent in and won 77 per cent points (40/52) on first service and 40 per cent (8/20) on the second service. Ramanathan-Vasilevski saved three break points out of 5 and won two break points out of five.

Granollers-Marrero fired four aces and committed one double fault while their 69 per cent first service was in. They won 73 per cent (35/48) points on first service and 45 per cent 10/22) on the second service.

The Spaniards saved three out of five break points and won two out of five break points.

Ramanathan-Vasilevski will clash with third seeds Denys Molchanov (Ukraine) and Igor Zelenay (Slovakia) in the final.

In another match Molchanov-Zelenay upset top seeds from United Kingdom Jonny O'Mara and Ken Skupski 6-4, 7-5 in the doubles semi-final in 69 minutes.