

### National Girl Child Day

On 24 January every year National Girl Child Day is celebrated to highlight the inequalities faced by a majority of the girls in India, importance of education, nutrition, legal rights, medical care and safety of girl children etc.

National Girl Child Day will be celebrated on 24 January in Madhya Pradesh on the theme of “**Aware girl child-able Madhya Pradesh**” (Jagruk Balika-Samarth Madhya Pradesh) under the “**Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao**” scheme.

Women and Child Development Department will also celebrate National Girl Child Week from January 24 to 30.

### International Day of Education

International Day of Education is an annual international observance day held on January 24 and is dedicated to education. On December 3, 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming January 24 as International Day of Education, in celebration of the role of education for bringing global peace and sustainable development.

### India opens its first Mahatma Gandhi convention centre in Niger

External Affairs Minister Jaishankar and President of Niger Mahamadou Issoufou jointly inaugurated the first convention centre established in Africa by India to honour the memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

The External Affairs Ministry stated that the establishment of the Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre (MGICC) is a landmark for India-Niger friendship, as also a symbol of India’s firm commitment towards Africa.

It is the first centre to be established in Africa by India to honour the memory of Mahatma Gandhi whose 150th Birth Anniversary was observed last year.

### Pakistan conducts training launch of nuclear-capable ‘Ghaznavi’ missile

Pakistan conducted a successful training launch of nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile ‘Ghaznavi’, which can strike targets up to 290 kilometres.

The training launch was part of Field Training Exercise of Army Strategic Forces Command aimed at rehearsing operational readiness procedures during day and night. The ‘Ghaznavi’ missile is capable of delivering multiple types of warheads upto a range of 290 kilometers.

### **Palestine takes over chairmanship of G77**

Palestine has taken over the chairmanship of G77 from Palestine will be formally elected chair at the annual G77 ministerial meeting, scheduled to take place in mid-September. The chairmanship of the G77 is based on the system of geographical rotation. 2019 was Asia's turn and the Asian group had unanimously endorsed.

### **India's first e-waste clinic opens in Bhopal**

The country's first e-waste clinic is being opened in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. It will enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.

The e-waste clinic is jointly setting up by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC). In the absence of a safe disposal mechanism, electronic waste at present is being disposed along with other waste.

### **13th Weld India expo from February 6**

India's potential to become a \$5 trillion economy will be highlighted at the 13th Weld India Exhibition being organised in association with the International Institute of Welding in Mumbai from February 6 to 9.

The event with the theme of advanced welding technology and quality systems for developing economies is expected to have participants from as many as 22 countries.

### **ECI To Host the 1st Sukumar Sen Memorial Lecture**

Election Commission of India has decided to institute an Annual Lecture Series as a tribute to the first Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Sukumar Sen. Sh Sen (1898-1963) commendably conducted the first two General Elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, thereby putting India firmly on the map of democracy. During his service, he held several important posts, including as Chief Secretary of West Bengal (1947-1950). He served as the first Chief Election Commissioner of India from 21st March 1950 till his retirement 19th December, 1958. He conducted the first two Lok Sabha elections of India held in 1952 and 1957 simultaneously with the Legislative Assembly Elections based on universal adult franchise under challenging circumstances and little precedence to guide him.

### **Sri Lanka topped the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative list**

Sri Lanka topped on breastfeeding rate according to a new survey conducted by the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi). The survey was taken among 97 countries globally.

Sri Lanka's rank is based on its performance on ten indicators of policies and programs. WBTi uses color-coded to rank countries. Sri Lanka earned a green color code, which implies the best level of performance.

Sri Lanka has been making an effort to support and provide supportive measures for breastfeeding since 2005.



### **India climbs eight places to rank 72 among 132 countries in global talent index**

India has climbed eight places to 72nd rank in the 2020 Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI), which was topped by Switzerland, the US and Singapore.

Sweden (4th), Denmark (5th), the Netherlands (6th), Finland (7th), Luxembourg (8th), Norway (9th) and Australia (10th) complete the top 10 league table.

The GTCI report compiled by INSEAD in collaboration with human resource firm Addeco and Google was released in Davos, Switzerland.

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