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Foreign tourist arrivals in India rose 3% in Jan-Nov 2019

India is gaining popularity among overseas travellers as foreign tourist arrivals grew by 3.23 per cent to 96,69,633 during January-November 2019.

As many as 93,66,478 overseas travellers had arrived in January-November 2018.

India's rank in Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum has moved to 34th rank in 2019 from 65th in 2013

UAE Cabinet approves issuance of 5-Year multi-entry tourist visa

The UAE Cabinet has approved the issuance of a five-year multi-entry tourist visa for all nationalities visiting the country. The decision was made during the Cabinet's first meeting of 2020.

The move comes in a bid to support the UAE's tourism economy, and affirm the country's position as a global tourist destination.

The country receives 21 million tourists annually and their aim is to establish the country as a major global tourist destination. The decision is also likely to benefit the near and dear ones of the lakhs of expat population staying in UAE.

Journalist Day Observed in Maharashtra on January 6

Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray extended his greetings for the Journalists' Day which is being celebrated on 6th of January every year in the state in the memory of late thespian journalist Balshashtri Jambhekar.

The Arogya Sanjeevani policy is a first of its kind standard health insurance product

As per the guidelines issued by the IRDAI, every general and standalone health insurer should offer a standard health product, the Arogya Sanjeevani Policy, with a minimum sum insured of Rs 1 lakh, with an upper limit of Rs 5 lakh. The policy term will be for one year. The minimum entry age will be 18 years with lifelong renewability and there is no exit age. The policy covers 22 diseases and treatments with a varying waiting period of from 24 to 48 months. It will be offered on indemnity basis, and should not be combined with critical illness covers or benefit-based covers. The premium under this product will be the same across India, and no geographic location and pricing will be allowed.

The insurers will now come up with product filing to the regulator and will have to offer it from April 1, 2020.

Dubai-based Indian girl who can sing in 120 languages wins Global Child Prodigy Award

Dubai-based Indian

girl, who can sing in 120 languages, has won in the 'Global Child Prodigy Awards 2020'.

The 13-year-old Sucheta Satish, known as the Dubai Indian High School's nightingale, won in the singing category.

The Global Child Prodigy Award is a platform to celebrate children's talent and power in different categories such as dancing, music, arts, writing, acting, modelling, science, innovation, sports etc.



Isro signs pact with astrophysics institute to set up optical telescopes

The Indian Space Research Organization signed a pact with Indian Institute of Astrophysics to establish an optical telescope under "Project NETRA".

The organisation also tied up with NIT-Karnataka to set up a regional academic centre for space to promote research and development.

Project NETRA was launched by ISRO in September 2019

Lucknow to host Defence Expo 2020, inauguration by PM Modi on Feb 5

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that 'Defence Expo-2020' will be held in Lucknow in February this year.

Uttar Pradesh will become a destination for defence manufacturing and aerospace manufacturing.

The theme of the Defence Expo India – 2020 will be '**India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub**' and focus will be on '**Digital Transformation of Defence**'.

Khelo India Youth Games-2020 to advocate for elimination of single-use plastics

The third edition of Khelo India Youth Games-2020, to be held in Guwahati from 10th of January, will be advocating for the elimination of single-use plastics this time.

The Games will continue till 22nd of this month. The event will be held in 20 disciplines at 11 venues.

P Magesh Chandran lifts 95th Hastings International Chess title

India's P Magesh Chandran lifted the title in the 95th edition of the prestigious Hastings International Chess Congress at Hastings in England.