

India and US sign defence deals worth 3 billion dollars

India and the United States finalized defence deals worth three billion dollars and signed three agreements, including in health and oil sectors.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on mental health between the health departments of both the two countries. Another MoU on the safety of medical products was signed between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization with the US Food and Drug Administration.

A Letter of Cooperation was signed between Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Exxon Mobil India LNG Limited and Chart Industries Inc, US.

Pranab Mukherjee to address Bangladesh Parliament on Mujib Centenary

Former President Pranab Mukherjee will be invited to address the special session of Bangladesh Parliament, Jatiya Sangsad, on the occasion of the centenary year of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. This was announced in Dhaka by the Press Secretary to President of Bangladesh. Nepalese President Bidhya Devi Bhandari will also be invited to address the special session.

3,000 kilometre long power grid from Myanmar-Thailand to India: BIMSTEC

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is working on connecting about 3,000-kilometre long power grid from Myanmar-Thailand to India. This was announced by the Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Dr Tawfiq-E-Elahi Chowdhury while inaugurating the energy conference of BIMSTEC in Dhaka.

He stated that the grid connectivity would ensure better capacity utilization by complementing member country's demand and supply situation. consumers will also benefit as the price of electricity will come down and they will get uninterrupted power supply.

Himachal Pradesh: First to achieve 100% LPG coverage

Himachal Pradesh became the 1st state in the country to have 100% LPG coverage due to the implementation of PMUY (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana) scheme.

Under the scheme except families having a pensioner, income taxpayer or any member employed with the government, board, corporation etc, all households of the state without an LPG connection were eligible.

Nearly 2.64 lakh free gas connections were provided through the state funded Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana & 36 lakh were benefited through PMUY scheme

South Sudan rebel leader Machar sworn in as vice president

South Sudan's rebel leader Riek Machar has been sworn in as first vice president.

Four other vice presidents from the current regime and other opposition groups will also form part of a bloated government of 35 ministers, in addition to 550 lawmakers.



Indian-origin minister Suella Braverman sworn in as UK's new Attorney General

Indian-origin Suella Braverman, appointed the UK's new Attorney General in British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's reshuffled Cabinet earlier this month, was formally sworn in for the post at a ceremony at the Royal Courts of Justice in London. The 39-year-old minister, a barrister and Cambridge University law graduate who specialised in public law and judicial review, stated that her priority will be to restore confidence in the justice system.

21 Indian cities among world's 30 most polluted; Ghaziabad tops list

Delhi topped the list of most polluted capital cities in the world in 2019, which also revealed that 21 of the world's 30 most polluted cities are in India.

According to the World Air Quality Report 2019 compiled by IQAir Air Visual, Ghaziabad is the most polluted city in the world, followed by Hotan in China, Gujranwala and Faisalabad in Pakistan and then Delhi in the fifth place.

The 21 Indian cities which are in world's 30 most polluted cities, in the order of their ranking, are, Ghaziabad, Delhi, Noida, Gurugram, Greater Noida, Bandhwari, Lucknow, Bulandshahr, Muzaffarnagar, Baghpat, Jind, Faridabad, Coraut, Bhiwadi, Patna, Palwal, Muzaffarpur, Hisar, Kutail, Jodhpur and Moradabad.

According to country-wise data, India ranked fifth in the world's most polluted countries with Bangladesh on top of the list followed by Pakistan, Mongolia and Afghanistan.