

### World Wildlife Day

This day is celebrated globally on 3rd March, which focuses on marine species and to highlight the problems, critical issues of marine wildlife to our everyday life.

World Wildlife Day will be celebrated in 2020 under the theme “**Sustaining all life on Earth**”, encompassing all wild animal and plant species as key components of the world’s biodiversity

### World Hearing Day

World Hearing Day is observed on 3rd March every year to raise awareness about how to prevent deafness and to promote hearing across the world.

The theme for World Hearing Day in 2020 is “**Hearing for Life: Don’t let hearing loss limit you**”

### China assumes presidency of UN Security Council for March 2020

China has taken over as president of the UN Security Council for the month of March 2020, pledging to promote solidarity and cooperation in this capacity. China’s permanent representative to the UN, Zhang Jun stated his country attaches great importance to the work during its presidency and will act responsibly and constructively.

China will make an effort to strengthen solidarity and cooperation with all parties to ensure that the council fulfills its responsibility and plays a constructive role in maintaining international peace and security, Zhang stated.

### Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu claims victory in general elections

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has claimed victory in the general elections. Exit polls indicated that Mr Netanyahu is in a strong position to form the next government.

The election, Israel’s third in less than a year, was called after inconclusive votes in April and September plunged the Jewish state into a political stalemate

### Saudi Arabia starts issuance of permanent premium residency permit to foreigners

As Saudi Arabia started the issuance of Permanent Premium Residency Permit to Foreigners, Indian investor Yosuffali M A, Chairman of the Lulu group became one of the first to be given the permanent residency permit by Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Premium Residency, informally known as Saudi Green Card, is a residence permit in Saudi Arabia that grants expatriates the right to live, work and own business and property in the Kingdom without need for a sponsor.

## **Fitch cuts India growth forecast to 4.9 per cent for fiscal year 2020-21**

Fitch Ratings cut its forecast for India's economic growth to 9 per cent in the current fiscal on weak domestic demand and supply chain disruptions due to the coronavirus outbreak.

It stated that the GDP growth is forecast to recover slightly to 4 per cent in 2020-21 (April 2020 to March 2021).

Fitch Solutions are revising down our forecast for India's real GDP growth to 9 per cent in FY2019/20, from 5.1 per cent previously, and 5.4 per cent in FY2020/21, from 5.9 per cent previously, the agency stated in its outlook for the country.

India's real GDP growth decelerated to 7 per cent in the third quarter (October-December) from an upwardly revised 5.1 per cent in the second quarter owing to slower government consumption.

## **Unemployment rate rises to 7.78 per cent in February, highest in four months**

India's unemployment rate rose to 7.78 per cent in February from 7.16 per cent in January, the highest since October last year, according to a report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).

According to the Mumbai-based private think-tank, the unemployment rate in rural areas surged to 37 per cent in February 2020 from 5.97 per cent in January. However, the trend was the opposite in urban areas as it fell to 8.65 per cent from 9.7 per cent, according to a report by Reuters.

## **Historic City Chowk in Jammu renamed as 'Bharat Mata Chowk'**

The historic City Chowk, the commercial hub in old Jammu, was renamed as 'Bharat Mata Chowk' following the passage of a resolution by the general house of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC).

This place is historic and a witness to major decisions and protests in the past. Every year people are hoisting the tricolour on Republic and Independence days in this chowk. There was a popular demand from the public to rename this chowk as Bharat Mata Chowk

## **Sarbananda Sonowal receives Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee Award 2020 for Politics**

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal was presented the prestigious Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee award 2020 for Politics at the 6th India Ideas Conclave.

The award was presented at Tent City Narmada in Gujarat.

The award, instituted by India Foundation, was presented to Chief Minister Sonowal by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Speaker of People's Majlis of Maldives Mohamed Nasheed.

The award carries a citation, a specially designed trophy and a cheque worth Rs one lakh

<b>Winner</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Field</b>
Sarbananda Sonowal	Dr S P Mukherjee Award	Politics

K Parasaran	Sree Narayana Guru Award	Social Work
Bharatbala	Ustad Bismillah Khan Award	Culture
N K Singh	Dr B R Shenoy Award	Economics

### 70th Berlin International Film Festival

The 70th edition of Berlin International Film Festival( Berlinale) 2020 was held in Berlin, Germany.

The Opening film of the festival was ‘My Salinger Year’ and the Closing film was ‘There Is No Evil’.

Jury President is Jeremy Irons

Category	Winner
Golden Bear for Best Film	There Is No Evil by Mohammad Rasoulof
Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize	Never Rarely Sometimes Always by Eliza Hittman
Silver Bear for Best Director	Hong Sang Soo for The Woman Who Ran
Silver Bear for Best Actress	Paula Beer for Undine
Silver Bear for Best Actor	Elio Germano for "Hidden Away"
Silver Bear for Best Screenplay	Favolacce by Fabio D’Innocenzo and Damiano D’Innocenzo
Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution	Jürgen Jürges for cinematography on DAU. Natasha
Silver Bear Special Prize	Delete History by Benoît Delépine and Gustave Kervern
Best Film in the Encounters Competition	The Works and Days (of Tayoko Shiojiri in the Shiotani Basin) by C.W. Winter and Anders Edström

Special Jury Award in the Encounters Competition	The Trouble With Being Born by Sandra Wollner
Best Director in the Encounters Competition	Cristi Puiu for Malmkrog
Special Mention by the Encounters Jury	Isabella, Matías Piñeiro
Berlinale Documentary Award	Irradiés by Rithy Panh
Special Mention by the Jury for the Berlinale Documentary Award	Notes From the Underworld by Tizza Covi and Rainer Frimmel
Special Mention by the GWFF Best First Feature Award Jury	Nackte Tiere, Melanie Waelde
GWFF Best First Feature Award	Los conductos by Camilo Restrepo
Golden Bear for Best Short Film	"T" by Keisha Rae Witherspoon
Audi Short Film Award	Genius Loci by Adrien Mérigeau
Silver Bear Jury Prize (Short Film)	Filipiñana by Rafael Manuel
Special Mention of the International Jury Generation Kplus	The Kites by Seyed Payam Hosseini
Special Prize of the International Jury in Generation Kplus for the Best Short Film	El nombre del hijo by Martina Matzkin
Grand Prix of the International Jury in Generation Kplus for the	Los Lobos by Samuel Kishi Leopo

Best Film	
Special Mentions of the International Jury Generation Kplus	Mignonnes by Maimouna Doucouré; Mamá, mamá, mama by Sol Berruezo Pichon-Rivière
Panorama Audience Award for Best Documentary	Welcome to Chechnya
Panorama Audience Award for Best Feature Film	Otac by Srdan Golubović
Compass-Perspektive-Award	Walchensee Forever by Janna Ji Wonders

### FIH rankings: Indian men's hockey team climbs to fourth position

The Indian men's hockey team has climbed to the fourth position, their highest since the inception of the FIH world rankings in 2003, in the recently released chart.

India's excellent form in the first three rounds of the second edition of FIH Hockey Pro-League has seen them move from fifth to the fourth position. India's rise comes at the expense of Olympic champions Argentina, who dropped to fifth place.

World champions Belgium remains in pole position, with Australia 2nd and the Netherlands 3rd also holding their positions in the top three. Germany and England remain in sixth and seventh positions, while New Zealand is static at the eighth place after briefly dropping below Spain to ninth last month.

In the women's list, India occupies the ninth spot. The Netherlands is at the top followed by Australia, Argentina, Germany and England.