

Current Affairs=05-05-2020



Russia to launch its 1st satellite 'Arktika-M' to monitor Arctic climate & environment

Russia to launch first Arktika-M satellite



General Director of Lavochkin aerospace company of Russia, Vladimir Kolmykov on May 04, 2020. The 2nd Arktika-M satellite is still under development and will be launched in 2023. **Arktika-M** is a series of planned Russian remote-sensing and emergency communications satellites which will allow to improve weather forecasts and will enable scientists to better study climate change in Arctic region.

Russia will launch its 1st Arktika-M satellite by December 9, 2020, to monitor the Arctic climate and environment. It will be launched from Baikonur space center (Kazakhstan) using a Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket with a Fregat booster. This announcement was made by

FINA postpones 2021 Fukuoka Aquatics World Championships to May 2022



Following the postponement of 2020 Tokyo Olympics to 2021 the governing body of swimming Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) has postponed the 2021 aquatics world championships, Fukuoka, Japan to May 13 to May 29 of 2022 due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

About FINA:

President– Julio C. Maglione

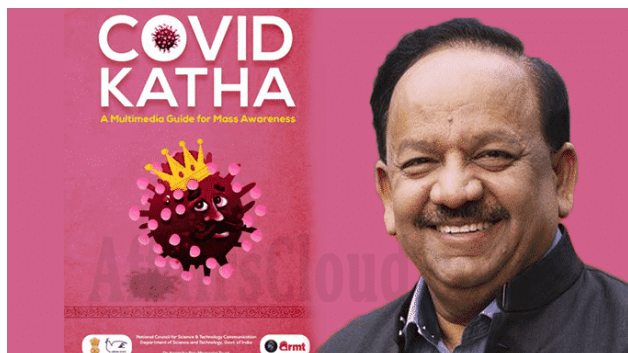
First Vice President– Husain Al Musallam

Second Vice President– Sam Ramsamy

Founded– July 29, 1908

Headquarters– Lausanne, Switzerland

Dr. Harsh Vardhan launches “COVID KATHA”, a multimedia guide on COVID-19



On May 3, 2020, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Science & Technology, Health & Family Welfare and Earth Sciences, launched “COVID KATHA- A Multimedia Guide for Mass Awareness”, a multimedia guide on COVID-19 on the occasion of the 50th DST (Department of Science and

Technology) Foundation Day. The Golden Jubilee Celebrations were also launched, initiating myriad activities in different parts of the country throughout the year.

COVID KATHA: It provides **consolidated and authentic information** on the global crisis to the masses in an interesting and interactive mode, the National Council for Science & Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India in association with Dr Anamika Ray Memorial Trust (ARMT), an educational and research organization, has brought out multimedia guides carrying important information on A-to-Z of COVID 19.

World Laughter Day 2020: 03 May



The World Laughter Day is observed every year on first Sunday of May to raise awareness about laughter and its healing benefits. In 2020, the day falls on 03 May 2020. The World Laughter Day was first celebrated on May 10, 1998, in Mumbai upon the initiation of Dr Madan Kataria, founder of the

worldwide Laughter Yoga movement.

Veteran Poet, Padma shri K. S. Nissar Ahmed passed away at 84

Veteran Poet and Kannada writer Padma Shri Kokkare Hosahalli Sheikh Haider Nissar Ahmed popularly known as K S Nissar Ahmed passed away in his residence at Bangalore at the age 84 due to various old age-related problems. He

was born on 5th February 1936 in Devanahalli, Mysuru. He was the 73rd president of Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in the year 2007 held at Shivamogga

India ranked 3rd among countries in scientific publication in 2018; expenditure on R&D tripled: NSTMIS



**NATIONAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (NSTMIS)**
Department of Science & Technology, Government of India

India occupies 3rd rank in terms of number of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph. D.)'s awarded in Science and Engineering (S&E) after USA (39,710 in 2016) and China (34,440 in 2015).

The **Gross expenditure on R&D (GERD)** in the country has nearly tripled from Rs. 39,437.77 crore in 2007- 08 to Rs. 1,13,825.03 crore in 2017-18. During 2017-18 a total of **47,854 patents** were filed in India. Out of which, 15,550 (32%) patents were filed by Indian residents

About NSTMIS:
Advisor and Head– Dr. Parveen Arora

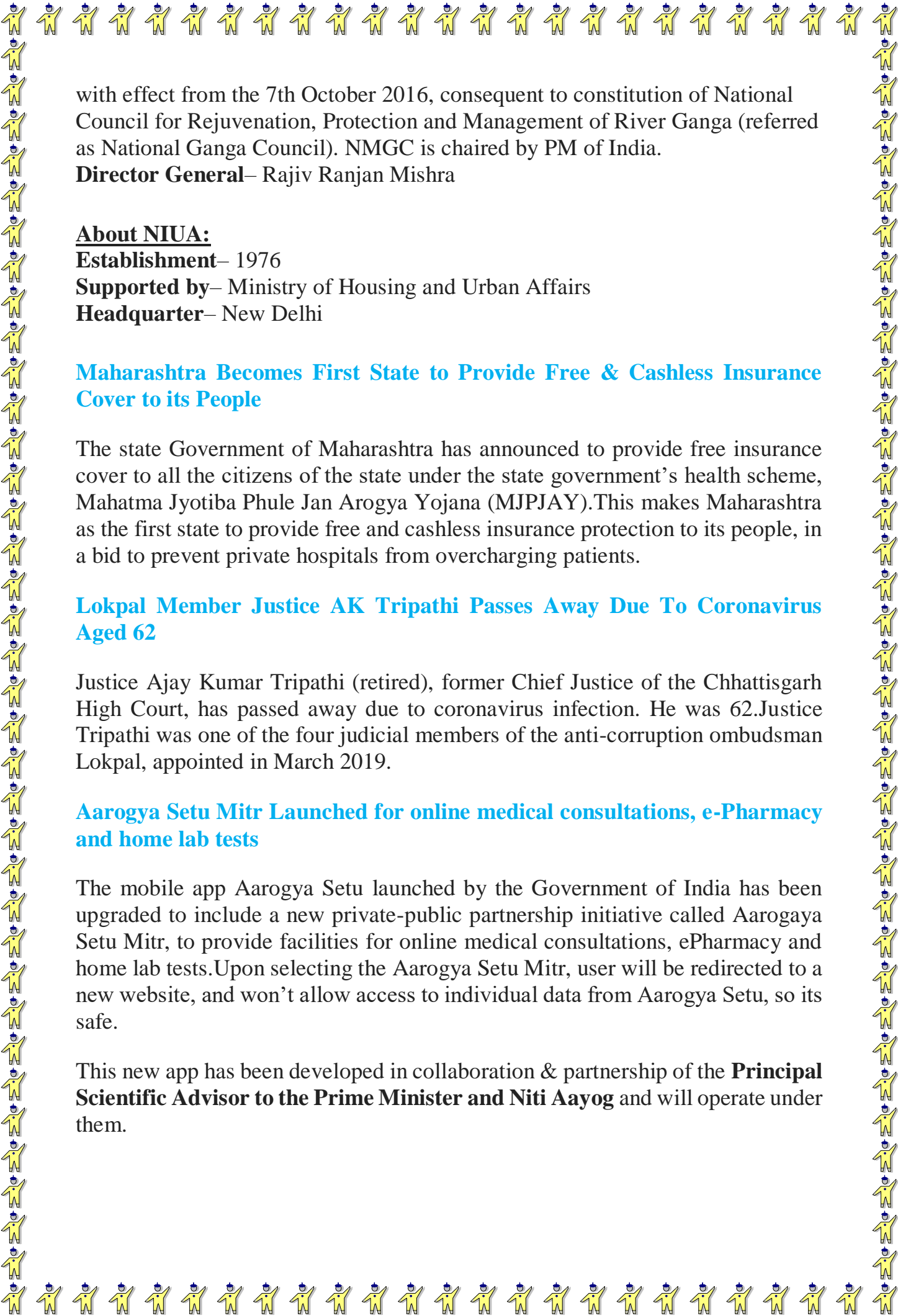
Location– New Delhi

NMCG & NIUA organized IDEathon, a webinar; collaborated on urban river management plan



The lockdown imposed to contain the spread of COVID-19 crisis has imposed severe concerns on the economy; meanwhile, it is showing some positive developments in the natural environment of India. IDEathon, a webinar organized on a theme “**The future of River Management**” to formulate River Management strategies for the future by learning lessons for river management from the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown positive impact on rivers. River Ganga during lockdown is free from the problems of solid waste dumped on its banks by visitors and also effluents from industries and other commercial establishments

About NMGC:
It was registered as a society on 12th August 2011 under the Societies Registration Act 1860. It acted as implementation arm of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) which was constituted under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986. NGRBA has since been dissolved



with effect from the 7th October 2016, consequent to constitution of National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga (referred as National Ganga Council). NMGC is chaired by PM of India.

Director General– Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

About NIUA:

Establishment– 1976

Supported by– Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Headquarter– New Delhi

Maharashtra Becomes First State to Provide Free & Cashless Insurance Cover to its People

The state Government of Maharashtra has announced to provide free insurance cover to all the citizens of the state under the state government’s health scheme, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana (MJPJAY). This makes Maharashtra as the first state to provide free and cashless insurance protection to its people, in a bid to prevent private hospitals from overcharging patients.

Lokpal Member Justice AK Tripathi Passes Away Due To Coronavirus Aged 62

Justice Ajay Kumar Tripathi (retired), former Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court, has passed away due to coronavirus infection. He was 62. Justice Tripathi was one of the four judicial members of the anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal, appointed in March 2019.

Aarogya Setu Mitr Launched for online medical consultations, e-Pharmacy and home lab tests

The mobile app Aarogya Setu launched by the Government of India has been upgraded to include a new private-public partnership initiative called Aarogya Setu Mitr, to provide facilities for online medical consultations, ePharmacy and home lab tests. Upon selecting the Aarogya Setu Mitr, user will be redirected to a new website, and won’t allow access to individual data from Aarogya Setu, so its safe.

This new app has been developed in collaboration & partnership of the **Principal Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister and Niti Aayog** and will operate under them.

