

Tripura, Mizoram launch ambitious afforestation plan

The Tripura and Mizoram governments have undertaken an ambitious plan for afforestation in the two Northeastern states.

Tripura Forest and Tribal Welfare Minister Mevar Kumar Jamatia told reporters here that the state government has decided to plant at least 10 lakh trees across the state this year.

Bihar launches pension scheme for poor

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar launched the Mukhyamantri Vriddha Pension Yojna for poor people above 60 years of age in the state.

Poor people above 60 years of age will get Rs 400 per month and those above 80 years will get Rs 500 per month. The scheme, which is effective from April 1, 2019, will not cover retired government employees.

India to launch first solar mission in 2020

India is to launch Aditya-L1, its first mission to study the sun, in 2020, Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman K. Sivan informed.

The aim of the mission is to keep a permanent eye on the sun without any disturbance. Aditya-L1 is meant to observe the solar corona.

Aditya-L1 mission is expected to be inserted in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) – which is 1.5 million km from the earth – so that there is a major advantage of continuously viewing the sun without any occultation/eclipses, Sivan added.

New mango variety named after Amit Shah

Celebrated mango grower, Haji Kalimullah, popularly known as ‘Mango Man’, has named a new variety of mango after Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Kalimullah said that he has been impressed by the personality of Shah “who possess the ability to weave the social fabric and bring people on to one platform”.

The new mango variety that is being named after Shah is both “good in weight and taste” and will be called “Shah” mango. The Shah mango is ready and is likely to ripen in the coming days when it will enter the market.

World's highest operating weather stations installed on Everest

The National Geographic Society has announced the successful installation of the world's highest operating weather stations on Mount Everest to provide researchers, climbers, and the public with near real-time information about mountain conditions.

Global FDI flow fell 13% in 2018: UN Report

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) flows declined by 13 per cent in 2018 to \$1.3 trillion from \$1.5 trillion in 2017, the UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2019 said.

Dell has emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019: TRA

According to a report released by brand analytics firm TRA Research, "Dell" has emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019. With 31% Brand Trust Index (BTI) difference from Dell, auto brand Jeep makes a dramatic entry in the second spot. LIC and Amazon are ranked on the third and fourth spots and Apple iPhone emerged as India's fifth most trusted brand.

Kohli is the sole Indian in the list of top-paid athletes

Virat Kohli, ranked 100th, remains the sole Indian in the Forbes list of world's highest-paid athletes with estimated annual earnings of \$25 million. The list is headed by Barcelona and Argentina football superstar Lionel Messi.

FDI in India grew by 6% to \$42bn in 2019: UNCTAD

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India grew by 6 per cent to \$42 billion last year, according to the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

"Investment was strong in manufacturing, communication and financial services — the top three industry recipients," said the UNCTAD World Investment Report 2019 released recently.