

### **Vishweshwar Hegde all set to become new Speaker**

After the resignation of Speaker Ramesh Kumar, the six-time MLA from Sirsi Assembly constituency and senior BJP leader Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri is all set to become the new Speaker of the state Assembly.

### **Ethiopia plants more than 200 million trees in 1 day**

Ethiopians planted more than 200 million trees on July 29, which officials stated will be a world record. Ethiopia is in the midst of a tree planting campaign in which it aims to plant 4 billion trees between May and October. It is the ambitious initiative of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

### **China bets big on 5G, to spend \$150 billion in next 6 years**

China is planning to spend \$150 billion on 5G wireless technology in the next six years a move to jump-start automated manufacturing and enable Beijing to emerge as a world leader in Artificial Intelligence (AI).

### **480 million dollar aid to Sri Lanka**

The United States (US) has asserted that the Millennium Challenge Corporation's 480 million US dollar aid to Sri Lanka was a gift from the people of the US and not a loan.

### **Tropical storm Erick grows into hurricane**

In the US, the National Hurricane Center has said that tropical storm Erick has grown in strength to a hurricane in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

### **RBI relaxes External Commercial Borrowing norms for corporates, non-banking lenders**

Reserve Bank has liberalised the end-use stipulations for the External Commercial Borrowings both for corporates as well as liquidity starved non-banking lenders. This will be applicable to External Commercial Borrowing (ECBs) taken for working capital, general corporate purpose loans or repayment of rupee loans.

### **Sai Praneeth enters top 20 in World Badminton Rankings**

Indian shuttler B.Sai Praneeth has jumped four places to enter in the top 20 players in the latest World Badminton Rankings. Praneeth is now World No.19 in Men's Singles badminton ranking. Kidambi Srikanth has maintained his tenth position while Sameer Verma retains his 13th position.

## **22nd National Conference on e-Governance 2019 to be held at Shillong**

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG), in association with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and the State Government of Meghalaya will organize the 22nd National Conference on e-Governance 2019 on 8-9th August, 2019 at Shillong, Meghalaya. This is the first time the event is being organized in North-Eastern region of the country. The theme of this Conference is “Digital India: Success to Excellence”.

## **Senior IAS officer Rajiv Kumar to be new Finance Secretary**

Senior IAS officer Rajiv Kumar will be the new Finance Secretary. The approval was given by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Presently he is serving as Secretary in the Department of Financial Services.

## **BCCI suspends Prithvi Shaw for doping violation**

Indian Test opener Prithvi Shaw has been suspended by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) till November 15, 2019, for a doping violation. His Urine sample was subsequently tested and found to contain Terbutaline. Terbutaline, a specified substance, is prohibited both In & Out of Competition in the WADA Prohibited List of Substances.