

The week from June 4, 2018 to June 10, 2018



Saudi Arabia began issuing its first driving licenses to women in decades just weeks before the historic lifting of the conservative kingdom's ban on female motorists. Ten Saudi women swapped their foreign licenses for Saudi ones in multiple cities as the kingdom prepares to end its ban. The move is part of a liberalisation drive launched by the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman as he seeks to modernise the petro-state.

The Supreme Court cleared the decks for reservation in promotion to SC/ST employees working in the public sector. A bench comprising of Justices Adarsh Kumar Goel and Ashok Bhushan asked the Centre to go ahead and implement its reservation policy as it is in "accordance with law". Promotions, according to the Centre, have come to a "standstill" due to the orders passed by various high courts.



Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli's figure will be unveiled at Madame Tussauds, Delhi. The iconic Kohli will join cricketers Kapil Dev and Sachin Tendulkar, and footballer Cristiano Ronaldo, who have also been featured in the popular sports zone. The team of Madame Tussauds expert artists flew in from London to meet Kohli for the sitting, where they took over 200 specific measurements and images to create an authentic figure.

A year after it broke into the top 200 club, IIT-Bombay has emerged as the India's best university in the latest edition of the QS World University Rankings released. IIT-Bombay moved up 17 places (162 rank) this year to displace IIT-Delhi as India's top ranked institution. The latter has also been overtaken by IISc-Bangalore, which gained 20 positions to 170 rank.



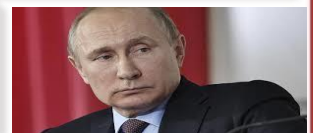
Pranjal Patil took charge as the Assistant Collector of Ernakulam on May 28 this year, becoming the country's first visually challenged woman IAS officer. Hailing from Maharashtra, she was placed 124th in UPSC 2017. Retinal detachment in both eyes at the age of eight led to Patil losing her eyesight. In 2016, she secured 773 rank in the UPSC exam in her first attempt.

A team of scientists from the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, discovered a sub-Saturn or super-Neptune size exoplanet, which is about 27 times the mass of Earth and six times the radius of Earth. The discovery was made by measuring the mass of the planet using the PARAS spectrograph integrated with 1.2m telescope in Mount Abu.



Skipper Sunil Chhetri continued his superb form, striking a brace as India thrashed Kenya 2-0 to clinch the Intercontinental Cup at the Mumbai Football Arena. Chhetri, who scored in the eighth and 29th minutes to hand India a convincing victory, also equalled Argentinian player Lionel Messi's tally of 64 international goals, making him the joint-second active international goal-scorer behind Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo (81 goals).

China awarded its first highest state honour Friendship Medal to Russian President Vladimir Putin. The award was personally bestowed on Vladimir Putin by Chinese President Xi Jinping in grand ceremony held at Great Hall of the People in capital city of Beijing. Friendship Medal is conferred by China only on foreigner who has made outstanding contributions in promoting exchange and cooperation between China and world.



Omar Razzaz, a Harvard-educated former senior World Bank official, has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Jordan by King Abdullah II. He succeeded Hani Mulki, who recently resigned as a result of widespread protests against his government's austerity program. Prior to this post, Razzaz served as education minister in the outgoing Mulki government.

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sunayana successfully evacuated 38 Indian Nationals after it entered Porbandar harbour in Gujarat. They were rescued from cyclone-hit Socotra island in Yemen under swift Humanitarian and Disaster Relief Operation (HADR) codenamed Operation NISTAR. Indian Nationals were stranded for nearly 10 days after severe cyclonic storm Mekunu devastated the area around Socotra Island.



India's first indigenous, long-range artillery gun "Dhanush" has passed its final test at Pokhran, paving the way for its induction into the Army. Between June 2-6, fifty rounds of shells each were fired from six Dhanush guns. Dhanush is a 155mm x 45mm calibre artillery gun, which has already passed tests under severe cold conditions in Sikkim and Leh and in hot and humid weather in Balasore, Odisha and Babina, UP.



Compiled by
**Seema Chari and
Kunal Savarkar**



Participate in hundreds of Online Quizzes at
www.indianknowledgeleague.com

xpress minds