

1) In a major step towards realising the centre's **smart city mission (SCM)**, the **Madhya Pradesh** government on Tuesday launched the **country's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC)** for all seven smart cities of the state in Bhopal.

ICCC is a cloud-based Universal Internet of Things (UIoT) platform developed by Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE). It can run multiple city command centre operations through its multi-efficiency capabilities. Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Satna, and Sagar are the seven smart cities under Smart City Mission in Madhya Pradesh.

Under the scheme that was launched in 2014, around 100 cities in the country will be developed.

2) The **Fifteenth Finance Commission** has constituted an Advisory Council to advise and assist the Commission. It is a body set up under Article 280 of the Constitution. Its primary job is to recommend measures and methods on how revenues need to be distributed between the Centre and states.

The Constitution provides that **Finance Commission shall consist of a Chairman and four other members** to be appointed by President.

3) The Government of India has carried out an Amendment to the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 substituting "**Directorate General of Trade Remedies**" in place of "Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties" in Department of Commerce.

The DGTR will function as an attached office of Department of Commerce. The recommendation of DGTR for imposition of Anti-dumping, countervailing & Safeguard duties would be considered by the Department of Revenue.

4)The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has drafted the Maintenance and **Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen Draft Bill, 2018**, that will amend the 2007 version of the legislation to expand its scope and provide for more stringent penalties.

The Bill enhances the jail term for those found abandoning or abusing their parents, 60 years or older, to six months from the existing three months.

The Bill expands the definition of children, which currently refers to only biological children and grandchildren, to include daughter-in-law and son-in-law and also adopted/step-children.

5)US President Donald Trump has announced he is pulling out of the **Iran nuclear deal**. He described the agreement as "decaying and rotting".

The agreement, formally known as the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**, has been on the rocks since Trump's election, and the resulting climate of uncertainty spooked many large firms from doing business in Iran, thus diminishing the economic incentives that drew Iran to the agreement in the first place.

Iran agreed to rein in its nuclear programme in a 2015 deal struck with the US, UK, Russia, China, France and Germany.

6) **Atal Tinkering Marathon**

It is a six month long nationwide challenge across six different thematic areas, namely, clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agri-tech. It is being organized by Atal Tinkering Labs of the **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog**. With a vision to 'Cultivate one Million children in India as Neoteric Innovators', Atal Innovation Mission is establishing Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATLs) in schools across India.

7)The government has approved distinctive green licence plates for electric vehicles to encourage people to use electric vehicles. Such vehicles will be fitted with green licence plates bearing numbers in white fonts for private cars and yellow font for taxis.

The Government started **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric vehicles (FAME)** scheme which provides incentives for purchasing electric vehicle.

8)India has sent Bangladesh its second relief consignment under **Operation Insaniyat** to help tens of thousands of displaced Rohingya Muslims who fled Myanmar into Bangladesh following military crackdown in the country.

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