

1)The National Institute of Educational Research and Planning (**NIEPA**) is in the process of rolling out the National Resource centre, an initiative that is part of the Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Training (PMMMNTT).

Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMMNTT) is a Scheme launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

2)Pakistan is hosting its first ever Shanghai Cooperation Organisation-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (**SCO-RATS**) meeting in Islamabad. The participants of the meeting include the executive committee of the SCO and of RATS along with legal advisors from eight member states.

The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS), headquartered in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, is a permanent organ of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation(SCO) which serves to promote cooperation of member states against the three evils.

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3)**BrahMos**, supersonic cruise missile was recently successfully test fired from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Balasore, Odisha.

BrahMos is a joint venture between **DRDO of India and NPOM of Russia.**

The highly versatile BrahMos has been operationalised in the Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force.

4)Every year **May 22** is observed as The International Day for **Biological Diversity (IDB)** to increase awareness on various biodiversity issues such as habitat destruction, marine pollution and climate change.

The theme for 2018 is "Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity."

5) Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu recently laid the foundation-stone for the southern campus of the National Institute of **Disaster Management (NIDM) at Kondapavuluru village** of Gannavaram mandal in Andhra Pradesh.

NIDM is a premier institute of the Government of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

6) **Nidaan**: It is a new software launched in **Rajasthan** for presumptive diagnosis and monitoring of seasonal and non-communicable diseases as well as the trends of ailments found in specific areas. It is expected to help in formulation of specific action plans for control of diseases.

7) **Black Panther**: is a new specialised anti-Naxal combat for Chhattisgarh.

It is on the lines of the Greyhounds unit. The **Greyhounds** is a special force in **Telangana and Andhra Pradesh** that specialises in anti-insurgency operations against Naxals and Maoists.

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