

## International Affairs

**The Salzburg Festival began in the Austrian town of Salzburg, which was the birthplace of late composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.**

Established in 1920, the festival will run through August and feature numerous concerts as well as opera and theatre performances.

Over 2.5 lakh people attend the festival annually.

**The United Nations Department of Field Support has announced that India has become the first country to contribute to a trust fund set up in support of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers.**

The \$100,000 contribution comes after the UN Secretariat requested voluntary contributions to the trust fund while establishing it in March.

## National Affairs

**Today (23rd July) is National Broadcasting Day.**

On this day in 1927, India got its first radio station.

**Note :** The first station of the Indian Broadcasting Company (IBC) was inaugurated at Bombay by the British Viceroy of India Lord Irwin on 23rd July 1927.

Minister for Information & Broadcasting - Venkaiah Naidu

Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting - Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore

**Nation remembered freedom fighters Chandra Shekhar Azad and Lokmanya Tilak, on their birth anniversaries today.**

Indian nationalist leader Bal Gangadhar Tilak's 160th birth anniversary.

Popularly called 'Lokmanya', meaning 'accepted by the people', Tilak was born on July 23, 1856 in Maharashtra.

The pioneer of the Swadeshi Movement, he is also widely known for his quote 'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it'.

**Indian revolutionary Chandra Shekhar Azad, popularly known as 'Azad', was born on this day (23rd July) in the year 1906.**

He fought for the Indian independence struggle till the age of 24 years, before shooting himself to keep his pledge of never being caught alive.

**Andhra Pradesh government today announced that it is going to open 'MeeSeva' centres in all Panchayats to provide public services to citizens in a transparent manner.**

The initiative incorporates the vision of the National eGov Plan – "Public Services Closer to Home".

The objective is to provide smart, citizen-centric, ethical, efficient and effective technology facilitated governance.

## Awards & Honors

**The International airport in Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo's hometown, Madeira, is set to be renamed after the footballer.**

The announcement, made in recognition of Ronaldo's achievements and contributions to football, was made today by Miguel Albuquerque, President of the regional government.

**Note :** Ronaldo led the national team to its maiden European Championship title in July.

**All the five Indian students who participated in the International Physics Olympiad 2016, held in Switzerland's Zurich city last week, have won medals — three golds and two silvers.**

The students have been felicitated at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

**Note :** A total of 398 students from 84 countries had taken part in the Olympiad.

**Apple has regained the status as the world's favourite company on Future Brand's annual 'Global Top 100 Companies' list after losing it to Google last year.**

Microsoft and Samsung were ranked second and third respectively.

The list also includes Facebook, Amazon, Nike and Intel.

**The Indian team is the most followed cricket team in the world on social media, with a following of 30 million across all platforms.**

The team has over 26 million likes on Facebook, 2.67 million followers on Twitter, and 1.4 million followers on Instagram.

Team India is followed by the Bangladesh cricket team, which has a following of 10 million.

**Kerala Tourism has won two Gold Gongs at the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Awards in the categories of Travel Advertisement Broadcast Media and E-Newsletter.**

### **New Appointments**

**BJP Lok Sabha member Ganesh Singh was appointed the new Chairperson of the Joint Committee of Parliament examining the Land Acquisition Bill.**

Singh replaced S SAhluwalia, who became Minister of the State for Parliamentary Affairs in reshuffle of the council of ministers on 5th July 2016.

### **Business & Economy**

**The Corporation Bank today launched a new facility called "Green PIN," an online module for generation of PIN for credit card holders.**

The facility enables credit card users to generate the Personal Identification Number (PIN) online.

**SBI launched an updated version of mobile wallet State Bank Buddy today allowing direct payments for Railway tickets, and for shopping at Madura Fashion and Lifestyle.**

The bank also has tie-ups with 2,500 educational institutions and government agencies.

**Japan-based Funai Electric, the last-known videocassette recorders (VCR) manufacturer, recently announced that it will cease VCR production in July.**

The company once peaked at 15 million units annually, but sold only 750,000 last year.

**Note :** VCRs were first introduced in 1950s and became widely popular in 1970s when tech giants like Sony and Philips entered the domain.

### **Deaths**

**Modern Indian artist Syed Haider Raza (94) passed away.**

An internationally acclaimed painter, he was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1981 and was elected a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Academy in 1983.

He had also been conferred with France's highest civilian honour, the Commandeur de la Legion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour), in 2015.

### **Sports**

**The Lodha Committee has confirmed that office-bearers of the BCCI and state cricket associations who have completed nine years in office, stand disqualified.**

The committee recommended a maximum of three three-year terms, with a cooling-off period in between.

**Note :** The Supreme Court on July 18 ordered for a reformation of BCCI and state associations as per the Lodha Committee recommendations.

**Renuka Yadav, a former milk seller from Rajnandgaon, Chattisgarh, has become the state's first female Olympian, after being selected in the women's hockey team.**

**Note :** The Indian women's hockey team will be competing at the Olympics after 36 years.