

08 February 2019 Current Affairs

Macedonia signs accord to join NATO

Macedonia signed an accord to join NATO to become the 30th member of the US-led alliance. At a formal signing of the NATO accession protocol, Macedonia's Foreign Minister Nikola Dimitrov hailed the moment as showing that the country will never walk alone once in the alliance.

India becomes World's Second Largest Consumer and importer of LPG

As per Oil Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, India has become the second largest importer of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) after China, due to rising demands of cleaner alternatives to the traditional cooking fuels like firewood and cow dung. India surpassed Japan as the imports of LPG grew 12.5% over the last 5 years to 12 million metric tons.

India Jumps 8 Place to 36th on International IP Index 2019

US Chambers of Commerce released the annual International IP Index of top 50 economies in the world, in the index, India climbed 8 positions up to the 36th rank and USA, as the lead. In 2018, India's rank was 44th of 50 countries, the increase in the rank is dedicated to the various reforms made to the better alignment of India's IP environment and one of the reforms, was the agreement with Japan to initiate a Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH).

India to Host 13th Conference of Parties of Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species

The 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS), an environmental treaty under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme, is going to be hosted by India during 15th to 22nd February 2020 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

Francois Laborde Conferred France's Highest Civilian Honour

Father Francois Laborde, a 92-year-old priest, was conferred the Légion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France, in recognition of his work for specially-abled children. He is the third person from the state to have been awarded the Legion of Honor after film maestro Satyajit Ray and actor Soumitra Chatterjee.

RBI announces bi-monthly monetary policy

The Monetary Policy Committee headed by Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das, announced a reduction in policy repo rate. The repo rate will be reduced from 6.5 per cent to 6.25 per cent with immediate effect. Consequently, the reverse repo rate stands adjusted to 6.0 per cent, and the marginal standing facility rate and the Bank Rate to 6.5 per cent.

Mirabai Chanu Notched up Gold at EGAT Cup in Thailand

World champion Indian weightlifter Saikhom Mirabai Chanu notched up a gold medal at the EGAT Cup in Thailand. Chanu won the 48kg category gold with an effort of 192 kg in the silver level Olympic qualifying event.

Longest-Serving US Congressman John Dingell Passes Away

John Dingell, the longest-serving congressman in US history, has passed away aged 92. He was first elected in 1955, serving in the House of Representatives for the next 59 years. He retired in 2015. Mr. Dingell served through the terms of 11 US presidents.