

May 26th and 27th news:

International:

Ireland Votes to End Abortion

Ireland voted to repeal one of the world's more restrictive abortion bans, sweeping aside generations of conservative patriarchy

The surprising landslide, reflected in the results announced on 26th May, cemented the nation's liberal shift at a time when right-wing populism is on the rise in Europe and the Trump administration is imposing curbs on abortion rights in the United States. In the past three years alone, Ireland has installed a gay man as prime minister and has voted in another referendum to allow same-sex marriage.

China, Burkina Faso sign deal

China and Burkina Faso signed an agreement to establish diplomatic relations on 26th May, days after the west African nation cut ties with Taiwan in yet another victory for Beijing in its campaign to isolate the island.

A communique on establishing relations was signed in Beijing by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his counterpart Alpha Barry.

Burkina Faso broke off ties with Taiwan, becoming the second country to do so within a month and leaving the democratically ruled island with only 18 diplomatic allies around the world.

National:

Kumaraswamy wins confidence vote

The three-day-old Kumaraswamy government in Karnataka won the vote of confidence in the Legislative Assembly amid a walkout by the BJP MLAs. The motion expressing confidence in the Kumaraswamy government was adopted by voice vote in the presence of the JD (S)-Congress coalition MLAs and other lawmakers supporting the government.

Six- day ASEAN- India Film Festival opens in New Delhi

Information and Broadcasting Minister Col Rajyavardhan Rathore on 25th May inaugurated the ASEAN India Film Festival at Siri Fort Auditorium in New Delhi. Around 32 films from 11 countries will be screened during the six-day film festival. The ASEAN film festival is a platform for people of the film industry of member countries to explore areas of cooperation in the domain of cinema and cultural cooperation

Home Ministry creates separate division for women safety

The Home Ministry has created a new wing to address issues related to security of women. The Ministry has appointed a senior IAS officer, Punya Salila Srivastava, to head the division as joint secretary.

The new division will deal with subjects like crimes against women, SCs & STs, crimes against children, elderly persons, anti-trafficking cell, matters relating to prison legislation and prison reforms, all schemes under NIRBHAYA fund, Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network System (CCTNS) and the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

In order to address offences against women, particularly rape, in a time-bound manner, the division would focus to enhance capacity of the existing administrative, investigative, prosecution and judicial machinery, along with appropriate measures for rehabilitation of victims and bringing attitudinal changes in society

It was considered to create a national mission for the safety of women, with participation of stakeholder ministries and departments, who would undertake specified actions in a time bound manner.

These included setting up of Special Fast Track Courts (FTCs), strengthening of forensic set up and building up of national registry of sexual offenders, appointing additional public prosecutors, and providing appropriate medical and rehabilitation facilities to victims.

Issues like sensitisation of children through appropriate changes in school curriculum, a media campaign for raising awareness, checking proliferation of pornography materials and online contents etc. will also be addressed.

The national mission for safety of women would result in giving a credible response to emerging situation of crimes against women, especially minor girls, focus on time bound implementation of measures with tangible impact on women safety

Bilateral:

India-Nepal Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN To Be Held In Uttarakhand

Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN-XIII between India and Nepal will be conducted at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand. The exercise will comprise of nearly 300 soldiers from both Indian and Nepal Army who would be sharing their experiences gained during the conduct of various counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in the past. Exercise SURYA KIRAN is a biannual event which is conducted alternatively in Nepal and India.

The aim of this exercise is to conduct battalion level joint training with emphasis on counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain

Prime Minister Of Netherlands Inaugurates Indo-Dutch Ganga Forum

In New Delhi, Prime Minister of Netherlands Mark Rutte inaugurated the Indo-Dutch Ganga Forum to take forward a MoU signed between the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, and the Ministry of Infrastructure & Environment of the Netherlands in June 2017.

Economy:

TCS becomes first Indian company to cross Rs 7 lakh crore market cap mark

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), created history by becoming the first Indian company to reach Rs. 7 lakh crore market capitalisation (m-cap) milestone. M-cap is value of company that is traded on stock market, calculated by multiplying total number of shares by present share price]

Persons in news:

Mia Mottley: The Caribbean island of Barbados elected Mia Mottley as its first female Prime Minister since gaining independence from the UK in 1966. Mottley's Barbados Labour Party won all 30 seats in the country's Parliament, coming to power for the first time in a decade.