

May 28th news:

International:

GDPR Comes Into Force

On 25th May, marks the entry into force of the European Union's General Data Privacy Regulation, a law that will advance citizen's rights and improve privacy protections online. Human Rights Watch has a new privacy policy

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is the new set of rules brought-in by the European Union, empowering its citizens to have control over their personal data.

The GDPR is being hailed as the biggest overhaul of data privacy laws in over 20 years. The law, which came into force on May 25, gave EU citizens new rights over how their personal data are used.

GDPR provides completely new definition of personal data. As per GDPR, personal data as anything that relates to an identified or identifiable individual.

This may include somebody's name, address, email address, location data or computer IP address. It keeps sensitive data, such as religious beliefs, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or trade union membership, as subject to extra protections.

The law entrusts Europeans with stronger control over information about them. Now, the citizens of UN will get the right to receive clear and understandable information about who is processing their data and why, access data an organization holds about them, ask for personal data to be erased, have data corrected if it is incorrect, move data from one service provider, such as an email service or social network, to another

National:

Political parties under RTI: Election Commission contradicts CIC directive

The BJP, the Congress, the BSP, the NCP, the CPI and the CPI(M) were brought under the RTI Act by a Central Information Commission ruling on June 3, 2013.

Political parties are out of the purview of the RTI Act, the Election Commission has said in an order which is contrary to the Central Information Commission's directive bringing six national parties under the transparency law.

The poll panel statement, which may prove to be controversial, came while deciding the appeal of an RTI applicant seeking to know donations collected by six national parties who were brought under the ambit of the transparency law by the CIC in June 2013.

Bilateral:

India launches 2nd IT corridor in China to gain access to big Chinese market

India 27th May launched its second IT corridor in China to cash in on the burgeoning Chinese software market which remained elusive despite the presence of top Indian technology firms.

The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has established one more Digital Collaborative Opportunities Plaza (SIDCOP) platform in China in an effort to provide market access to Indian IT firms in the huge Chinese market

Agreements worth RMB 36 million (about USD six million) were signed between Indian service providers and Chinese customers at the launch of the corridor by China's Guiyang Municipal government and the NASSCOM

The pilot projects launched on the SIDCOP platform would be executed over the next year

Last December, the NASSCOM established its first SIDCOP platform in the Chinese port city of Dalian, which is India's first IT hub in China.

India's top IT firms have a big presence in China, specially multi-nationals and IT Corridor at Dalian which are expected to provide a gateway for the Indian IT-small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Dalian IT corridor was formally launched few days ago. While Dalian corridor's focus was on IOT (Internet of Things), the Guiyang corridor will focus on Big Data, Gagan Sabharwal, Senior Director, Global Trade Development NASSCOM

The platform in Guiyang intends to create online and offline presence to promote a "co-create culture" between two large neighbours in the Big Data space

Economy:

PM Modi inaugurates India's first smart and green highway

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27th May inaugurated India's first smart and green highway, the 135 km long Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal (KGP) Expressway—also known as Eastern Peripheral Expressway.

The Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE) is also the country's first highway to be lit by solar power and at every 500 metres, as there are eight solar power plants on this Expressway, with a capacity of 4000 KW (4 megawatt) for lighting of the underpasses and running solar pumps for watering plants and also having arrangement for rainwater harvesting on both sides at every 500 meters and there is drip irrigation for plants all along the expressway.

Another special feature of the Expressway is that it has a closed tolling system in which toll will be collected only for the distance travelled and not for the entire length. Toll plazas will be equipped with Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) system for faster toll collection and Weigh-in-Motion (WIMs) equipment have been installed at all 30 entry points of the Expressway to stop entry of over-loaded vehicles.

Modi also inaugurated the Digital Art Gallery of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) at the toll plaza in Jakhauli village of Sonipat.

A sum of Rs 5,763 crore has been spent on this six-lane and 135 kilometers long highway. The 36 famous monuments depicting India's rich culture and heritage like India Gate, Gate Way of India, Ashoka's Pillar have been set up on both sides of this expressway.

Environment:

BCCI, UN Environment sign agreement to promote 'green' Cricket in India

The BCCI and UN Environment on 27th May signed an agreement to promote 'green' Cricket in India. BCCI acting secretary Amitabh Choudhary and Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UN Environment, signed a letter of intent at the BCCI headquarters in Mumbai ahead of the IPL final between Chennai Super Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad.

The BCCI in a statement that the partnership aims to spread greater awareness about key environmental challenges facing the country, and highlight alternate and more sustainable solutions. The BCCI will endeavor to reduce its environmental impact by greening operations and engaging cricketers and fans in green initiatives.

The partnership will also focus on phasing out single-use plastic across stadiums in the country. Even during the course of IPL, a film with messages from captains of various franchises was created and aired in stadiums highlighting hazards of plastic pollution.

Sports:

Chennai Super Kings beat Sunrisers Hyderabad to win the IPL 2018

Shane Watson was back to his brutal best as the opener's scintillating unbeaten 117 runs helped Chennai Super Kings lift their third Indian Premier League (IPL) title, thrashing Sunrisers Hyderabad by eight wickets in the summit clash in Mumbai on 27th May