

**May 9<sup>th</sup> news:**

**International:**

**Google launches Android Things for IoT platform**

Alphabet Inc's Google launched Android Things (codenamed Brillo), a variant (or spinoff) of an Android Operating System for the Internet of Things (IoT) devices. Its goal is to enable IoT machines developers to be built faster, cheaper and more secure. Its goal is to enable IoT machines developers to be built faster, cheaper and more secure. Android Things It is Android-based embedded operating system Android Things as an IoT OS it is designed to work as low as 32–64 MB of RAM. It will support Bluetooth Low Energy and Wi-Fi.

**National:**

**Congress MPs withdraw petition challenging Venkaiah Naidu's decision**

A petition by two Congress MPs challenging Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu's decision to reject the impeachment notice against Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra was "dismissed as withdrawn" by the Supreme Court on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, counsel of the Congress MPs Partap Singh Bajwa and Ameer Harshad Yajnik, said he was withdrawing the petition after the Constitution bench refused to give the petitioner details of the administrative order passed in constituting the bench.

Sibal, widely seen as the driving force behind the notice, sought a copy of the order allotting the case to the five-judge bench and argued that the CJI did not have power to allocate the matter to Constitution bench by an administrative order.

He also said it was beyond the authority of the registrar concerned to list the matter directly before the five-judge bench. However, Attorney General K K Venugopal, appearing for Naidu, said the CJI had the power to do so.

The Constitution bench constituted to hear the CJI impeachment petition didn't include the four senior-most judges of the apex court who had publicly aired in January their grievances over how CJI Misra was running the court and allocating cases.

The five-judge bench, led by Justice AK Sikri, comprised Justices SA Bobde, NV Ramana, Arun Mishra and AK Goel.

The court asked Sibal to argue on merits of the petition, but the Congress leader was adamant that he would first see the order and decide if it should be challenged or not. As the bench also stood its ground, Sibal said he was withdrawing the plea.

Later in the day, advocate Prashant Bhushan filed an RTI seeking copy of the administrative order constituting a five-judge bench to hear the impeachment case against CJI

### **Rajya Sabha Committee to revise guidelines for conduct in House**

Rajya Sabha chairman and Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu appointed a committee to revise the rules and procedure of conduct of business in the upper House of Parliament. The two-member committee will be headed by former Rajya Sabha Secretary General V.K. Agnihotri, while S.R. Dhaleta, a former Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Law and Justice, would serve as a member.

Although the committee would have a holistic relook at the rules, the provisions dealing with the disruptions in the House and the provisions, which seem "inadequate" as compared to the rules in Lok Sabha, would get special attention.

The committee has been mandated to submit its report in three months, and the panel may give some of the recommendations before the monsoon session of Parliament

### **Bilateral:**

#### **India and Sri Lanka Agree On Information Exchange For Drug Control**

India and Sri Lanka agreed on cooperation on exchange of information and other aspects to tackle smuggling of drugs in both countries.

A decision to this effect was taken at the third bilateral meeting between delegations from India's Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and Sri Lanka's Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB) on narcotics, drugs and psychotropic substances and related matters in New Delhi.

#### **India and Guatemala agree to support each other for Non-permanent membership of UNSC**

Agreeing to push the 'complementary' and 'not competitive' nature of bilateral relations to a new level for mutual benefit from the emerging opportunities in both the countries, India and Guatemala agreed to support each other's candidature for Non-Permanent Membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Guatemala will support India's candidature for UNSC membership for 2021-22 while New Delhi will do so for 2031-32 for Guatemala.

Presenting the context of his first overseas visit as Vice President, Naidu told Guatemalan leaders that India is keen about enhancing its engagement with Latin America and looks at Guatemala, the most populous and biggest economy in Central America, as the gateway.

Guatemalan President Shri Jimmy Morales said his country could benefit from the "successful economic story of India and stressed on the need for improving bilateral engagement in various fields.

Leaders of both countries agreed that India and Guatemala are faced with similar challenges including governance issues, terrorism in different forms, poverty and economic disparities and democracy is the best form of governance to address them.

### **Economy:**

#### **NITI Aayog, Google Sign Sol To Help Grow AI Ecosystem In India**

Aiming to foster growth for India's nascent Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) ecosystem. NITI Aayog and Google have signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) to work on a range of initiatives to help build the AI ecosystem across the country.

The NITI Aayog has been entrusted to set up a national programme to conduct research and development in frontier technologies such as AI.

Under the aegis of this program, Google will train and incubate Indian AI startups in an accelerator program. These startups will be mentored and coached by Google and its affiliates

### **Science and Technology:**

#### **ISRO Develops Atomic Clock For Indigenous Navigation Satellites**

The Indian Space Research Organization developed an atomic clock to be used in navigation satellites. It is supposed to measure precise location data.

Once it successfully clears all tests, the desi atomic clock will be used in an experimental navigation satellite to test its accuracy and durability in space.

At present, ISRO imports atomic clocks from European aerospace manufacturer Astrium (EAMA) for its navigation satellites.

With the development of indigenous atomic clocks, the space agency sure gets a mark of technological advancement.