

### **867 police personnel killed on duty in India in 2011**

In 2011, 867 police personnel across the country were killed while on duty. As many as 853 of them were from 28 States. Of the seven Union Territories, only Delhi accounted for casualties 14. In 2010, 872 police personnel were killed on duty. Statistics released by the National Crime Records Bureau show 671 of the deaths recorded in 2011 were in accidents and 132 in operations against terrorists and extremists and 12 were caused by mobs. The highest number of deaths caused by operations against terrorist and extremist organisations was in Chhattisgarh 52. With 134 deaths, Uttar Pradesh accounted for the highest number of police personnel killed while on duty in 2011. As many as 112 of these deaths were caused in accidents, 15 by criminals and five by rioting mobs, followed by Punjab with 99, Maharashtra with 90 and Chhattisgarh with 85. In six States no police personnel died while on duty Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. In Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, all deaths were in accidents. Tamil Nadu came on top of the list with 83 deaths. The highest number of police personnel to be injured while on duty was in Maharashtra, 716, followed by Kerala with 515, West Bengal with 443 and Tamil Nadu with 278.

### **'India's score alarming on hunger map'**

India ranks 65th out of 79 countries on the Global Hunger Index, a new report by the International Food Policy Research Institute, Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide. The report has sharply criticized India for not moving fast enough to reduce malnourishment, and has said that its nutritional indicators are far worse than its economic indicators merit. India's ranking has not changed since 2011, when it was 67th of 81 countries. The GHI is composed using three equally weighted indices: the proportion of people undernourished, child mortality, and the proportion of underweight children. India's GHI score of 22.9 (where anything over 10 is "very serious") is back to its 1996 levels. It is second to last of 129 countries on the proportion of its children who are underweight - 43.5 per cent. Only Timor-Leste is in worse shape.

### **Operation Blue Star veteran Brig Khan's security to be restored after 11 years**

As the recent assassination attempt on Lt-Gen (retired) K S Brar in London raised safety concerns of all Operation Blue Star veterans back home, the government has decided to restore security of Brig (retired) Israr Rahim Khan, who led the first Army troops that entered the Golden Temple in Amritsar during the operation in June, 1984. Brigadier Khan has been living without any security for over 11 years. It was also decided that Lt-Gen Brar and seven other ex-Army officers, who participated in the 1984 operation to flush out militants from the Golden Temple, would continue to get security from the Army. A committee, headed by Union home secretary R K Singh, has decided that Khan, who is in his 70s, would be provided security immediately by central agencies including paramilitary forces. The government has decided that 'Z' category security would continue to be provided to Brar by Army commandos.

### **India emerges world's child marriage capital**

Four UN agencies urged India to take "incremental action" to fight the scourge of child marriages in the country when the first International Day of the Girl Child was observed across the world. The focus of the first observance of the day is on child marriage. In a letter to Union minister of women and child development Krishna Tirath, heads of four UN agencies in India UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women and UN Information Centre wrote, "Child marriage is not a solution to protecting girls from sexual crimes including rape." More than 40% of the world's child marriages happen in India. In eight states of the country, more than half of young girls are married before the age of 18." Child marriage denies a girl of her childhood, disrupts her education, limits her opportunities, increases her risk to be a victim of violence and jeopardizes her health.

### **India steps up cross-border surveillance against polio**

India has stepped up surveillance against a cross-border invisible enemy of a different kind, polio. India, which shares a porous border with some of its neighboring countries like Nepal, has been afraid of importing the crippling wild polio virus. India has identified 81 vaccination points right along the Indo-Nepal borders, all of which fall in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Oral polio vaccination is being conducted at these points on all children aged five years and below. Union health ministry's latest data shows that along the Indo-Nepal border, vaccination was administered on 1.5 million children in Bihar, and around 0.96 million in UP. A historic resolution by the World Health Organization (WHO) declared polio a global health emergency in the World Health Assembly in May 2012.

### **Literature Nobel for Chinese**

Mo Yan, a novelist who brought to life the turbulence of the 20th century China in vivid and often graphic works set against the tumult of the Japanese invasion and a struggling countryside, became the first writer in China to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. Peter Englund, Permanent Secretary of the Swedish Academy, praised Mr. Mo as an author "who with hallucinatory realism merges folk tales, history and the contemporary" in the announcement, which was hailed in China as a long-awaited landmark heralding the arrival of the country's literature on the world stage. Mr. Mo adopted the pen name of Mo Yan meaning "don't speak" in Chinese. A Chinese emigre to France, Gao Xingjian, won in 2000 for his absurdist dramas and inventive fiction, especially the novel Soul Mountain. Mr. Mo's Nobel Prize for his "hallucinatory realism" was widely welcomed by the Chinese media. The last Chinese Nobel laureate was the jailed political activist and writer Liu Xiaobo, who was awarded the Peace Prize in 2010.

### **One of Dolly's creators is dead**

Professor Keith Campbell, 58, a British biologist who was a key member of the Ian Wilmut team that created Dolly the sheep, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell, has died. Professor Campbell oversaw the scientific research that helped to create Dolly in 1996 at the University of Edinburgh's Roslin Institute. Ian Wilmut was reported as saying that Prof. Campbell deserved two-thirds of the credit for the lamb's creation.

### **Google extends free SMS service to India**

Google has extended its free SMS chat service to India, whereby users can send text messages to mobile phones via Gmail chat. The SMS chat service is available in India and 51 other countries. The feature was activated for Indian users on October 10 and is available for regular Gmail users as well as those on Google Apps.

### **Unitech to exit telecom joint venture with Telenor**

Ending months of feud, realty major Unitech, said it would exit from the telecom joint venture with Telenor by selling its entire 32.75 per cent stake to the Norwegian firm. Telenor, which held 67.25 per cent stake in the joint venture firm Unitech Wireless that runs under the Uninor brand name, said in a separate statement that it was preparing to participate in the upcoming 2G spectrum auction through a new entity.

### **Suzlon bondholders reject repayment extension**

Suzlon Energy was set to default on redemption of more than \$200 million in overseas convertible bonds due after bondholders rejected a four-month extension, sending its shares down as much as 5 per cent. The world's fifth-largest maker of wind turbines was one of the numerous Indian companies that rushed to tap the offshore convertible bonds market before the global financial crisis, often to finance overseas acquisitions.

### **Royal Enfield launches Thunderbird models**

Royal Enfield, a part of the Eicher Group, launched its Royal Enfield Thunderbird 500 and the all-new Royal Enfield Thunderbird 350. The Thunderbird 500 is priced at Rs. 1,82,571 and the Thunderbird 350 is priced at Rs. 1,43,346. Royal Enfield makes Bullet 350, Bullet Electra, Classic 350, Classic 500, Classic Chrome, Thunderbird 350 and Desert Storm bikes and exports to 40 countries.

### **Company should merge REPower: SBI**

State Bank of India, which has a Rs.3,500 crore of fund and non-fund based exposure to Suzlon Energy, said the Pune-based wind power major should look at leveraging the balance sheet of its German subsidiary RE Power, and a merger.

### **TCE partners Dassault**

Dassault Systemes and Tata Consulting Engineers Ltd (TCE) have formed a strategic partnership to leverage each other's core capabilities to deliver solutions in key sectors such as energy, process, utilities and construction where TCE is already established. Tata Consulting Engineers Ltd. is a subsidiary of Tata Sons. TCE will leverage Dassault Systemes' 3DEXPERIENCE industry solutions to bring business value to customers.

### **J&J claims Rs.160 cr from JB Chem's Russian sale deal**

Johnson & Johnson group entities are understood to have claimed a sum of Rs.160 crore lying in an escrow account related to sale of over-the-counter business in Russia and CIS countries by JB Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals to Cilag GmbH International.

### **Micro Labs launches chewable tablet for low blood sugar**

Anti-diabetes care pharma company Micro Labs Ltd has announced the launch of a drug for managing low blood sugar (hypoglycaemic) under the brand name 'Hypotab'. The Bangalore-based firm, said the dextrose drug formulation is targeted at type 2 diabetes patients who encounter hypoglycaemia and patients with type 1 diabetes on insulin more prone to develop it. Dextrose is the simple form of carbohydrate for rapid restoration of normal blood glucose levels. Micro Labs, which has 13 oral formulation plants and four overseas offices, has made use of "ABMAX technology" for the manufacture of Hypotab which, the company said, offers 20 micron particle size for faster absorption and quick results.

### **RBI sets up panel to hasten financial inclusion**

The Reserve Bank of India has constituted a Financial Inclusion Advisory Committee (FIAC) to spearhead the efforts towards greater financial inclusion in the country. Deputy Governor K. C. Chakrabarty will chair this high-level committee, the committee will comprise 11 members Y. H. Malegam, Dipankar Gupta, Ela Ramesh Bhatt, D. K. Mittal, Nachiket Mor, M. S. Sriram, R. S. Sharma, B. Sambamurthy, Rama Vedashree, P. D. K. Rao, and K. R. Kamath.

### **On the Net, HDFC Bank is most searched banking brand**

HDFC Bank was the most searched banking brand among Internet users in India during the period April 2011-March 2012, a report compiled by Google India has revealed. On the insurance front, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) was the most searched brand. And in the investment (brokerage) category, it was ICICI Direct that emerged as the most searched brand. , India has over 137 million Internet users, and a very high percentage of them are urban (99 million) with high disposable income.

### **Axis Bank partners with Tata AIG to offer general insurance policies**

Axis Bank, India's third largest private bank announced the signing of a strategic agreement with Tata AIG General Insurance as its Corporate Agent for General Insurance. Under the partnership, Tata AIG will offer a range of General Insurance solutions to Axis Bank customers through the Bank's extensive distribution network across India. This initiative by Axis Bank is aimed at enhancing insurance cover options, while offering Tata AIG's award winning Customer and Claims service to its' customers across the country.

### **Samsung can sell Galaxy Nexus in US**

Samsung Electronics, the world's largest mobilephone maker, won its bid to continue selling its newest Galaxy Nexus smartphone in the US while it battles patent infringement claims filed by Apple. The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit granted Samsung's request to lift a lower court's ban on sales. Samsung wants to continue selling the phone while it challenges a federal judge's June 29 ruling that Apple was likely to win its suit claiming the Galaxy Nexus infringed four patents and that sales were hurting Apple's business in the meantime.

### **Kumble appointed chairman**

Former Indian captain Anil Kumble was unanimously appointed chairman of ICC's Cricket Committee by the game's governing body, replacing West Indies great Clive Lloyd. Alan Isaac is President of ICC.

### **Sathiyam wins Egypt Open**

Indian paddler G. Sathiyam won the under-21 singles crown in the International Table Tennis Federation Euro-Africa Circuit Egypt Open held at Cairo recently. The 20-year-old defeated Mohamed Shouman of Egypt. He is the first Indian to win the Euro-Africa title.