

### **1. Historian R.S. Sharma passes away**

Eminent Marxist historian and Indologist Ram Sharan Sharma, known for his trenchant observations on institutions in ancient Indian society and his report on the Bihar-Bengal boundary dispute, passed away . He was 92. Dr. Sharma was the founding Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research in 1972 and he served as President of the Indian History Congress in 1975.

### **2. 'One Lakh March' on Mumbai streets**

In a staggering show of support for anti-corruption crusader Anna Hazare and the Jan Lokpal , a multitude of people marched on the streets of Mumbai, taking the suburbs by storm. It was called the 'One Lakh March' on the lines of the million-man march staged at Tahrir Square in Cairo.

### **3. Technology to improve bio-safety of GM crops**

A research group in the Madurai Kamaraj University has successfully developed a technology to improve the bio-safety of Genetically Modified (GM) crops. The novel technology was first developed in rice plants and it can be readily applied for all other crops also so that it would have 'enormous impact' in improving the bio-safety value. The university's research group has, through its research initiatives, now developed 'Selectable Marker Elimination' technology and it was successful in coming out with marker-free GM rice with sheath blight disease resistance.

### **4. After Delhi, Bhopal, Slutwalk makes its Lucknow debut**

Inspired by the Slutwalk in New Delhi and Bhopal, a number of organisations took out a similar march demanding women's right in lucknow. The objective behind the same was to fight against sexual violence and molestation all over the world.

### **5. No opinion yet on Dam Safety Bill**

Kerala is yet to form an opinion on the Central Dam Safety Bill that is before the Lok Sabha, while Tamil Nadu has opposed certain provisions in the Bill. Kerala has reasons for being concerned about the Bill because of its implications for the Mullaperiyar dam that it considers unsafe. Moreover, three other dams operated by Tamil Nadu — Parambikulam, Thunakadavu, and Peruvuripallam — are within the State. Tamil Nadu is opposing jurisdiction of Kerala's dam safety set-up over dams owned and operated by it. (The Bill proposes a State-level committee for overseeing safety at the local level.)

### **6. Double gold for Harveen**

Harveen Sr Rao shot an impressive score of 388 out of 400 on way to winning the individual and team gold medals in the 10-metre air pistol event in the World University Games in Shenzhen, China. she belongs to Punjab.

### **7. Syed Habib passes away**

Syed Habib, former India cue sports player, passed away after a brief illness. The 71-year-old was India No.2 in snooker for three years from 1980. Syed reached the semifinals of the National billiards championships twice in 1987 and '88.

### **8. Govt plans to spend R20,000 cr on building roads in Red Corridor**

The government plans to spend close to Rs 20,000 crore from its budgetary resources for development of roads in the left wing extremist (LWE) affected areas in the 12th plan period in order to provide backward and forward linkages to these areas.

### **9. Eucalyptus gall disease spreads in Punjab**

Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun, is for the past one year, trying to find a way to control the gall disease that has affected almost 50 per cent of the eucalyptus trees being grown in the North's forest region as well as those grown by private persons. More than three lakh trees in Kandi area of Punjab alone are under the attack of Leptocybe Invasa, a gall insect, which causes swelling in the veins of the leaves of young trees and hampers their growth.