

Headlines At a Glance - 15th Jan 2020

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Lt General

Girish Kumar reappointed as the Surveyor General of India for one year

Lt. General Girish Kumar was on Tuesday reappointed as the Surveyor General of India for one year, a personnel ministry order said. He has been appointed on contract basis for one year with effect from 1st January 2020. Kumar was earlier in September 2017 appointed as the Surveyor General of India, the national survey and mapping organization of the country.

SOURCE: *Times of India*

14th Annual

Status of Education Report (ASER) Released

The number of girls getting enrolled in government schools is higher than boys in the age group of 4-8 years, according to the 14th Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) launched on Tuesday. The ASER for 2019 is based on a survey conducted in 26 districts across 24 states in India, covering over 36,000 children in the age group of 4-8 years. According to the report, among 4-5-year-old children, 56.8 percent of girls and 50.4 percent boys are enrolled in government schools or pre-schools while 43.2 percent of girls and

49.6 percent boys are enrolled in private pre-schools or schools.

SOURCE: *India Today*

Draft

National Policy for Rare Diseases released

The government will provide a financial support of up to Rs 15 lakh under its Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi scheme for one-time treatment of rare diseases, according to the much awaited draft Rare Diseases Policy. Under the draft National Policy for Rare Diseases released on Monday, beneficiaries would not be limited to Below Poverty Line families, but will also cover 40 per cent of the population eligible as per norms of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana for their treatment in government tertiary hospitals only. The Union Health Ministry intends to notify certain medical institutes as Centers of Excellence for Rare Diseases.

SOURCE: *Business Standard*

Michael

Debabrata Patra appointed Deputy Governor of RBI

Michael Debabrata Patra has been appointed deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, according to a Personnel Ministry order. He has been appointed to the post for a period of three years, it said. Patra, who is looking after the monetary policy department as the executive director, will be the fourth deputy governor of the RBI. The post was lying vacant after Viral V Acharya had resigned from the post in June last year. Patra is likely to retain the monetary policy department which was handled by Acharya as the Deputy Governor. The RBI, headed by Governor Shaktikanta Das can have a maximum of four deputy governors.

SOURCE: *Economic Times*

Wholesale

inflation surges to an 8-month high of 2.59% in December

Wholesale prices based inflation surged to 2.59% in December, as against 0.58% in November due to increase in prices of food articles like onion and potato. The annual inflation, based on monthly wholesale price index (WPI), was at 3.46% during the same month a year ago (December 2018). The rate of price rise for food articles rose to 13.12% during December as against 11% a month earlier, while for non-food articles it rose nearly four-fold to 7.72% from 1.93% in November, showed the data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Tuesday.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*

India's

'Statue of Unity' included in '8 Wonders of SCO' list

India's Statue of Unity has been included in the list of eight wonders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). The SCO is an eight-member alliance from Eurasia, which includes India, China, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar, on Tuesday, appreciated the SCO's efforts towards promoting tourism among member nations and asserted that the statue's inclusion in the list will "surely serve as an inspiration".

SOURCE: *The Hindu*