

Headlines at a Glance - 23rd December 2019

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Jammu & Kashmir: 'Chilai-Kalan', the 40-day period of extreme cold, begins

In Jammu & Kashmir, the 40-day period of extreme cold, known as 'Chilai-Kalan', began yesterday while as the region is continuously reeling under intense cold wave and chill for the past over ten days now. However, with the sky turning cloudy towards last night, the temperature across the valley improved by several notches.

SBI withdraws charges levied on the issuance of Bank Realization Certificate (e-BRC) for the export of shipments

In what can be termed as a major relief to exporters, the State Bank of India (SBI) has decided to withdraw charges levied on the issuance of Bank Realization

Certificate (e-BRC) for the export of shipments. Banks charge Rs 1000 as e-BRC fee for every shipment exported from the country. SBI decision to withdraw e-BRC charges came after the intervention of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

Eight West

African countries agree to change the name of their common currency to Eco from CFA franc

Eight West African countries Saturday agreed to change the name of their common currency to Eco and severed the CFA franc's links to former colonial ruler France. The CFA franc was initially pegged to the French franc and has been linked to the euro for about two decades. Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo currently use the currency. All the countries are former French colonies with the exception of Guinea-Bissau.

National Mathematics Day celebrated on December 22; birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan (1887-1916)

Every year 22nd December is observed as National Mathematics Day to celebrate birth anniversary of great Indian Mathematician autodidact Srinivasa Ramanujan. This year, it will be the 127th birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan. Along with British Mathematician Hardy, Ramanujan had discovered the smallest number represented as sum of two cubes 1729 which is known as Hardy-Ramanujan number.

EAM S. Jaishankar meets his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif in Tehran; both countries agree to accelerate work on the strategic Chabahar port project

India and Iran on Sunday agreed to accelerate work on the strategic Chabahar project as External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held wide-ranging talks with his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif on regional and global issues of mutual interest. The Chabahar port — jointly being developed by India, Iran and Afghanistan — is considered a gateway to golden opportunities for trade with central Asian nations by the three countries. It is located on the Indian Ocean in the Sistan and Baluchestan province of Iran.