

Headlines at a Glance - 28th Feb 2020

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Myanmar

President U Win Myint meets PM Modi at Hyderabad House in New Delhi

India and Myanmar signed on Thursday 10 agreements with a focus on the socio-economic development of the Southeast Asian nation as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Myanmar President U Win Myint. The Myanmar president, who arrived in India on Wednesday, received a ceremonial welcome at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. He and First Lady Daw Cho Cho were welcomed by President Ram Nath Kovind and PM Modi. The prime minister and President Myint later held talks at Hyderabad House and 10 agreements were signed between the two countries. The focus of many agreements was on development projects under India's assistance, particularly in the conflict-torn Rakhine state. The agreements included an MoU on 'Cooperation for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons; Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking'.

SOURCE: *The Hindu*

Maharashtra

Legislature seeks 'classical language' status for Marathi

Both houses of the Maharashtra legislature on Thursday unanimously passed separate resolutions, asking the Centre to accord Marathi the status of a "classical language". The legislative assembly first passed the resolution followed by the council. The resolution in the assembly was moved by Cabinet Minister for Marathi language Subhash Desai. The one line resolution asked the Centre to take a decision to declare Marathi a "classical language". An identical resolution was passed in the upper house. Minister of State for Marathi Language Vishwajeet Kadam tabled the resolution in the council where it was passed unanimously after discussion. Members also demanded that an all-party delegation go to Delhi for follow-up action with the Centre. They lamented that despite Marathi fulfilling all criteria of a classical language; it had not been accorded the status so far.

SOURCE: *Business Standard*

'Vajra'

offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Coast Guard commissioned in Chennai

Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/C) and Chemicals & Fertilizers, was the Chief Guest for the launching ceremony of the 6th Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV-6) 'Vajra' today in Chennai. The ship will be utilized for day and night patrol & surveillance along with anti-terrorist and anti-smuggling operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) as well as for coastal security. The OPV will have two navigation radars with ultra-modern technology, and sophisticated navigational and communication systems. The launch ceremony was witnessed by Director General K Natarajan, PTM, TM, Director General Indian coast Guard, Inspector General S Paramesh, PTM, TM, Commander Coast Guard Region (East) and other senior officials.

SOURCE: *The New Indian Express*

Bihar

Legislative Assembly passes resolution to conduct a caste-based census in the state

The Bihar Legislative Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution to conduct a caste-based census in the state, officials said. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was advocating conducting a caste-based census since a long time. On Tuesday, the chief minister had proposed a caste-based census in the Assembly, which was passed unanimously on Thursday. Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Chaudhary announced the passing of the proposal in the House. Talking to journalists outside the Bihar Legislative Assembly, Road Construction Minister Nandkishore Yadav said the resolution would now be sent

to the central government.

SOURCE: *Economic Times*

IAF's C-17

Globemaster returns from coronavirus-hit Wuhan

The C-17 Globemaster aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) landed on Thursday morning from China with 112 evacuees, including 36 foreign nationals. All evacuees will be taken to the ITBP quarantine facility in Chhawla after their thermal screening. The aircraft left for China's Wuhan, the epicentre of the novel coronavirus outbreak, on Wednesday. India has evacuated hundreds of people, including its nationals from China a few weeks ago. Coronavirus has infected more than 80,000 people in 37 countries, causing more than 2,700 deaths in the past few months. The virus was first detected in Hubei province in December last year.

SOURCE: *Business Standard*