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NATIONAL:

❖ India seeks solution on taxing digital firms



✚ Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman called upon the G20 members to urgently fix the issue of taxing profits made by digital economy companies in countries

✚ This is the first foreign engagement after taking charge of the ministry for Nirmala Sitharaman

✚ PM Modi Gets Samadhi Buddha Statue As Gift From Lankan President Sirisena

✚ Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a special gift, a replica of the Samadhi Buddha Statue, from Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena

✚ About meeting:

✚ Modi is the first foreign leader to visit Sri Lanka after the deadly Easter terror attacks in April.

✚ His visit is considered as a sign of India's affirmation of solidarity with Sri Lanka in the aftermath of the attacks.

✚ Prime Minister Modi arrived in Sri Lanka for a day-long visit, during which he met with President Sirisena and discussed bilateral issues of mutual interest.

❖ The Ministry of External Affairs will bear all expenses of the training programme.

✚ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the capacity building of 1,000 Maldives civil servants was signed between the National Center for Good Governance (NCGG) and Maldives Civil Services Commission during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Male

✚ "The areas of training programme will include public administration, e-governance and service delivery, public policy and governance, information technology, best practices in fisheries in coastal areas, agro-based practices, self-help group initiatives, urban development and planning, ethics in administration and challenges in implementation of SDGs .



Director General of NCGG Gyanendra Bandgaiyan

❖ India, Portugal to join hands in setting up maritime museum



India and Portugal will cooperate in the setting up of a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal in Gujarat.

The Indian Navy is keen to be a stakeholder in the project and the Portuguese Navy has agreed to assist with their experience of administering the maritime museum in Lisbon

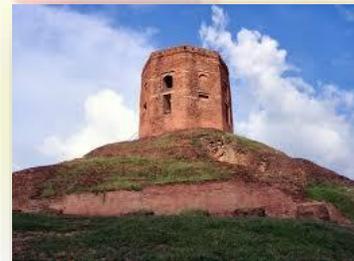
Initial discussions were held during the visit of Portuguese Defence Minister João Gomes Cravinho to

India in April.

- The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme, with the involvement of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the State government and other stakeholders.

❖ Chaukhandi Stupa declared as a Monument

- Chaukhandi Stupa, an ancient Buddhist site located in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, has been declared as a Monument and protected area of national importance by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).



- Chaukhandi Stupa is a Buddhist stupa in Sarnath
- The Chaukhandi Stupa is thought originally to have been built as a terraced temple during the Gupta period between the 4th and 6th centuries to mark the site where Lord Buddha

- Today the stupa is a high earthen mound covered with a brickwork edifice topped by an octagonal tower.

It is maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India

INTERNATIONAL:**❖ Maldives to confer country's highest honour on PM Modi**

✚ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be conferred with Maldives' highest honour "Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen" during visit to the country,

✚ "The Most Honourable Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen" is Maldives' highest honour accorded to foreign dignitaries

- ✚ The relations between India and the Maldives deteriorated after the then President Abdulla Yameen imposed emergency on February 5 last year

❖ UAE Cabinet adopts "National Strategy for Wellbeing 2031"

✚ The UAE Cabinet on Sunday adopted the National Strategy for Wellbeing 2031 during its meeting at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi.



- ✚ One of the most important initiatives is the development of the first 'National Wellbeing Observatory' to support the policymaking process.
- ✚ It will monitor
 - ✚ 1. submit regular reports to the UAE Cabinet,
 - ✚ 2. propose training programmes for government employees,
 - ✚ 3. launch of the Academy of Wellbeing future generations, in addition to the formation of a National Wellbeing Council to manage and coordinate the national strategy.
- ✚ The Strategy is based on a national framework of three main levels
 - ✚ individuals,
 - ✚ society
 - ✚ country.
- ✚ It includes 14 components and nine strategic objectives, which include enhancing people's wellbeing by promoting healthy and active lifestyles, promoting good mental health and adopting positive thinking.
- ✚ The Strategy includes 90 supporting initiatives targeting more than 40 priority areas.

SPORTS:**❖ China grab four gold medals at Hong Kong Open**

✚ China claimed four gold medals at 2019 ITTF World Tour Hong Kong

✚ Women's singles- Wang Yidi

✚ Women's doubles -Chen Ke and Mu Zi

✚ Men's singles-Lin Gaoyuan

✚ Men's doubles Liang Jingkun and Lin Gaoyuan

✚ India to train 1,000 Maldives civil servants

for next 5 years

- ✚ India's leading civil services training institution NCGG will train 1,000 Maldives civil servants over the next five years