



## Karnataka

<b>Capital</b>	<b>Bengaluru</b>
<b>Chief Minister</b>	<b>Kumarasamy</b>
<b>Governor</b>	<b>Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala</b>

### March

#### Arecanut gets its first GI tag for 'Sirsi Supari'

- Arecanut, also known as supari or betel nut, is the latest entrant in the list of agricultural produce with a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The 'Sirsi Supari' is grown in Sirsi, Siddpaur and Yellapur taluks of Uttara Kannada district in Karnataka. Production of arecanut in these three taluks is around 7 per cent of the production of Karnataka State
- Grown on an area of around 40,000 acres, the annual production of 'Sirsi Supari' is estimated to be around 40,000 tonnes. The Totagars' Cooperative Sale Society (TSS) Ltd, a Sirsi-based agri cooperative, is the registered proprietor of the GI 'Sirsi Supari'

#### Paralympic high jumper Girish Gowda appointed as Karnataka Lok Sabha Elections Ambassador

- Silver Medalist in Paralympic high jump, Girish Gowda has been appointed as the ambassador of Karnataka Lok Sabha Elections 2019.
- He represented India in men's high jump F-42 category during 2012 Summer Paralympics games held in London, where he clinched silver medal. With this, he became the first Indian to win medal in this category.

#### Yarn bank set up to help weavers in Karnataka

- A yarn bank has been set up at the Mysore Powerloom Silk Manufacturers Cooperative Society to benefit the state's weavers.
- The bank, with aid from the Centre, will supply pure silk yarn and zari to weavers who subscribe. Currently, the weavers have to source yarn locally through agents and wholesalers.

### May

#### Mangaluru City Police launches all-women police patrol unit

- Mangaluru City Police has launched an all-women police patrol unit in the city.
- Flagging off the 'Rani Abbakka Force' in Mangaluru
- Karnataka police is giving utmost importance to the protection of women and children.

#### Brahmakalashothsava Festival 2019 started in Karnataka

- The 6-day Brahmakalashothsava festival is celebrated in the ancient Chandkuru Sri DurgaParameshwari Temple annually in Polali, Dakshina Kannada district in Karnataka.
- The presiding deity of the temple, which has a history of nearly 1,700 years, is ShriRajarajeshwari. The highlight of this temple is its mud idols and this is probably the only idol of this size (about 9ft height) in Karnataka. Other than the presiding deity Rajarajeshwari - two other idols Bhadrakali on the left (may be bigger than the presiding deity in height) and Lord Subrahmanya and Ganesha are on the right hand side.
- It is in news recently because several Dalits and OBCs from Chandkuru and surrounding villages in Belthangadytaluk boycotted festival in a centuries-old temple due to separate seating arrangement had been made for people of the upper caste.

### June

#### B'gluru CM Kumaraswamy launches 'Pink Sarathi' vehicles

- Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy flagged off the 'Pink Sarathi' vehicles procured by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTTC) under the 'Nirbhaya' scheme.

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- The corporation had received Rs. 56.07 crore from the Union government under the scheme and had taken up various measures for the safety of women passengers, including the launch of Pink Sarathi vehicles.
- The Chief Minister also launched the student bus pass scheme for the current academic year by unveiling smart cards. In the previous academic year, the corporation had issued 3.5 lakh student passes

## August

### Karnataka launches E-Step to empower student start-ups

- The Department of IT, BT and S&T in Karnataka, through Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), has launched the E-Step, an initiative to empower student start-ups.
- E-Step focuses on boot camps, mentoring and training programmes which cover various aspects of entrepreneurship.
- E-Step, an initiative from Start-up Cell, is a specially crafted for students/start-ups/entrepreneurs to understand the basics of entrepreneurship from experienced trainers.

### Karnataka best state to set up rooftop solar project

- Karnataka ranks the best among states for setting up a rooftop solar project, according to the Attractiveness Index (SARAL) released by Minister of New and Renewable Energy and Power R K Singh.
- Telangana, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh come next in the rankings. All four states i.e. Karnataka, Telangana, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh have been graded A++.
- The state of Jammu and Kashmir has been ranked last. This rating has been designed collaboratively by MNRE, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Ernst & Young (EY).

### Karnataka Government categorised Nicotine as Class A poison

- Government of Karnataka amended the Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules 2015. He notified Nicotine as “Class A poison”.
- The main aim is to strengthen the enforcement of the ban on production and sale of electronic cigarettes. The new rules are called the Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules, 2019.
- The ban imposed after the study conducted the High Powered Committee on Tobacco Control headed additional Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Vandita Sharma.
- The Government ordered the suspension of all kinds of promotion of e-cigarettes, including online promotion.