



THE HINDU

National News

India, Pak. to fight it out in The Hague for Jadhav today

The Peace Palace, home of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, will on Monday hold public hearings on the case of Kulbhushan Jadhav, the former Indian Naval officer, who was arrested and sentenced to death by Pakistan in April over allegations of espionage and abetting terror. The one-day hearing will involve two sessions of an hour and a half, according to India and Pakistan, giving each an opportunity to make their case, starting with India in the morning. Pakistan's session will follow in the afternoon. The court's judgment, which could follow as early as in a few days or take several months, is binding with no appeal. On Friday, ICJ President Ronny Abraham directed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to "act in such a way as to enable the court to enforce any decision it takes on the India plea," effectively staying Jadhav's execution until the court was able to hear and deliberate on the matter.

Dispel

Force to go away.

Eavesdrop

Listen without speaker's knowledge.

Business News

GST: What still needs to be done

The Goods and Services Tax Council will meet on May 18-19 to finalise various rules involved with implementing the new tax regime in the country, including on issues like input tax credit, valuation norms, composition and transition provisions, among others. What remains to be done between now and the final rollout? Here's a lowdown. The GST Council has met 13 times to finalise the minutiae of the five laws that will help bring the new tax regime to reality. Four of these laws have been cleared by the Union Cabinet and passed by Parliament. The fifth, the State GST law, needs to be passed by the legislative assemblies of each state and union territory with legislature. The Council still has to finalise the rules and rates of individual products and services. According to experts, the draft rules that will be finalised during the upcoming Council meeting do not as yet address key operational issues that directly affect vendors, distributors, and service providers.

Egregious

Conspicuously and outrageously bad or reprehensible.

Ember

A hot, smoldering fragment of wood left from a fire.

State News

NABARD gives a boost to tribal farmers

With a view to ensuring sustained income to tribal farmers of Pachamalai the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) will implement a special programme to promote value-addition in agricultural produce, said S. Nagoor Ali Jinnah, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Chennai. Addressing farmers of Pachamalai at Top Sengattupatti, about 90 km from here on Friday, he said that the value-addition was the need of the hour and the innovation would be taken up as part of the Integrated Tribal Development - WADI Project, being implemented by the NABARD at an estimate of Rs. 6.99 crore.

Preliminary steps like planting of saplings had been completed three years ago and the produce from the trees would be harvested by next year or so. The project would benefit 1,390 families in course of time.

Engross

Consume all of one's attention or time.

Exasperation

A feeling of annoyance.