



## **EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 18, 2019**

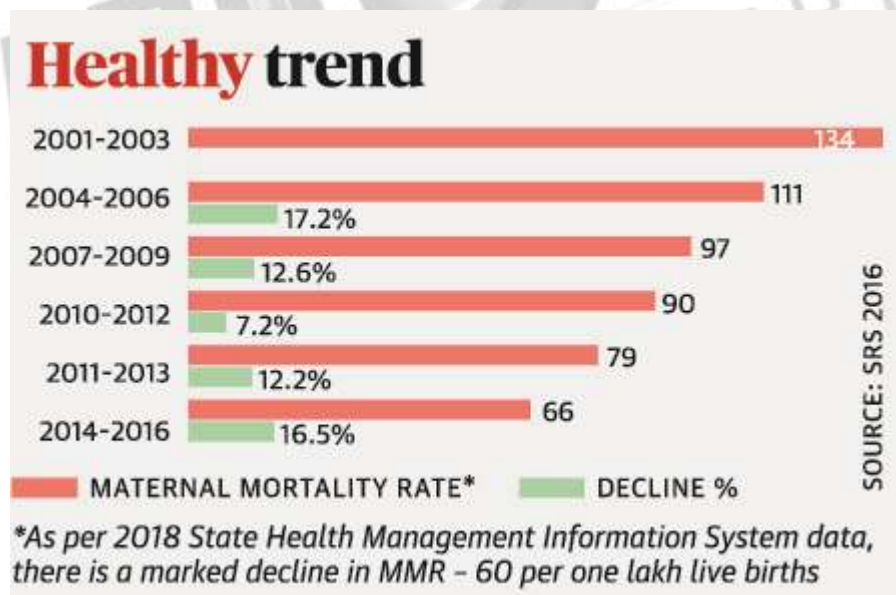
### **TAMIL NADU**

- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami - announced in the assembly that the exclusive cancer hospital — Arignar Anna Cancer Care Centre in Karapettai near Kancheepuram — will be upgraded as a centre of excellence**
- ✓ The 50-year-old state health department's hospital built in memory of former chief minister C N Annadurai will continue to function as a regional cancer centre
- ✓ It will offer state of the art cancer treatment, maintain cancer registry, spearhead research, train personnel including doctors, nurses and paramedics.
- ✓ Earlier, Adyar Cancer Institute had been designated as state apex centre for treating cancer and was upgraded as a centre of excellence at ₹120 crore
- ✓ Regional cancer centres were established at Madurai, Thanjavur, Coimbatore and Tirunelveli at a total cost of ₹58.69 crore
  
- **The city's first solid waste incinerator - is to be set up in Manali zone in August, followed by plants in Madhavaram and Thiruvottiur zones**
- ✓ Greater Chennai Corporation is planning to set up at least two incinerators in a zone and the numbers may go up based on the amount of waste generated.
- ✓ For Manali, a 10-tonne capacity plant will be set up to deal with dry waste, which would be burned to produce pure carbon ash
- ✓ The carbon ash can be used to manufacture paver blocks, in brick mixing and to make other construction material.
- ✓ The cost of Setting up a 10-tonne plant would be about ₹70 lakh, while it is ₹90 lakh for a 15-tonne plant and ₹1 crore for a 20-tonne plant, with the minimum area required just 5,000 sqft.
- ✓ MAK group of companies will set up the plant, based on their green incineration technology that does not involve burning any fossil fuel
- ✓ Using this technology, waste can be burned at 900°C, removing harmful dioxins, ensuring only water vapour and carbon remain.

## FAST FACTS

- Plant capacity | **10 MT**
- Technology | **Thermal heat, combustion without using any fossil fuels**
- By-products | **Water vapour, carbon, ash**
- Used for | **Construction material such as paver blocks**

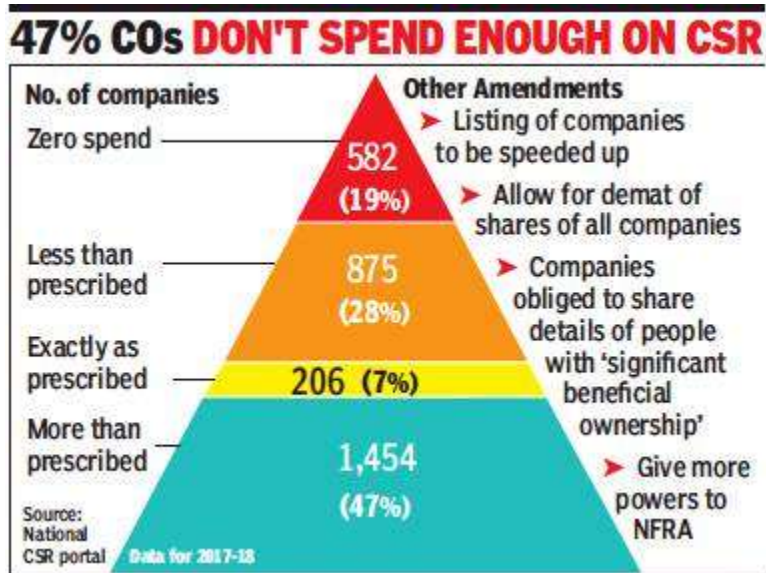
- ✓ The plant can burn 1.25 tonnes of waste in one hour.
- ✓ Their pilot project of a 10-tonne plant in Erode last year was expanded to 50 tonnes now
- **Tamil Nadu's Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) - is down six points, according to the 2018 State Health Management Information System data.**
- ✓ It has reduced from 66 to 60 per one lakh live births



- ✓ The state's MMR was 66 per one lakh live births as per the 2014-2016 Sample Registration System data.
- ✓ With this, Tamil Nadu achieved the Sustainable Development Goal of bringing MMR down to under 70 per one lakh live births by 2030 back in 2014-2016
- ✓ It was 90 per one lakh live births in 2010-2012, according to the Health and Family Welfare Department.

# NATIONAL

- **The union cabinet – approves a bill seeking 43 amendments to the Companies Act, 2013**



- ✓ It includes penalty on companies that do not meet the mandated 2% spending requirement towards corporate social responsibility (CSR) and “fit and proper” criteria for debaring directors from holding board positions.
  - ✓ Another key change pertains to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) norms, wherein companies would be allowed to keep unspent money in another account, which has to be used within the next three financial years
  - ✓ It also seeks the removal of persons concerned with the management of a company and suspected of “fraud, misfeasance, persistent negligence or default in carrying out his obligations under the law or breach of trust” and also barred them from being appointed board members for five years from the date of removal.
  - ✓ It also proposes the shifting of powers for conversion from public to private companies from NCLT to the central government
  - ✓ Companies with a net worth of Rs 500 crore or more, or turnover of over Rs 1000 crore, or net profit of over Rs 5 crore have to spend at least 2% of the average net profit made during the three immediately preceding financial years on CSR activity
  - ✓ A total of 12 additional amendments in 11 sections of the Act are proposed to be made, in addition to amendments in 29 sections and insertion of 2 new sections carried out through the ordinance
- **The Union Cabinet - has approved extending the term of Fifteenth Finance Commission to November 30, 2019**

- ✓ It has also proposed expanding the terms of reference of the Fifteenth Finance Commission to address the funding requirements for defence and internal security for the period 2020-2025

## COMMITTEES

- **The Bimal Jalan Committee on Economic Capital Framework - has suggested that surplus reserves of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to be transferred to the government in phases over the next three-to-five years.**



- ✓ During Raghuram Rajan and Urjit Patel's tenures, the RBI had opposed the plan on the grounds that this was needed in case of emergency and the money should not be used to bridge the government's fiscal deficit
- ✓ The final report on Committee on Economic Capital Framework will be presented before RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das in 15 days
- ✓ Based on the report of the panel, which was set up by the RBI board, the central bank will decide what share of its reserves will be transferred to the government
- ✓ However, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had budgeted to receive dividends worth over Rs 1.6-lakh crore from the central bank this year.
- ✓ Finance secretary Subhash Garg is seen to have been a key dissenter.
- ✓ Apart from Jalan and Garg, other members of the panel include former deputy governor Rakesh Mohan (vice-chairman of the panel), RBI deputy governor NS Vishwanathan, and RBI central board members Bharat Doshi and Sudhir Mankad.
- ✓ The central bank had the total surplus cash reserves of Rs 9.43 lakh crore on June 30, 2018
- ✓ The finance ministry was of the view that the buffer of 28% of gross assets maintained by the RBI is well above the global norm of around 14%

- ✓ In the past, the issue of the ideal size of RBI's reserves was examined by three committees -- V Subrahmanyam (1997), Usha Thorat (2004) and Y H Malegam (2013)
- ✓ While the Subrahmanyam committee recommended that contingency reserve should be built up to 12%, the Thorat committee said the reserve adequacy should be maintained at 18% of the total assets
- ✓ The RBI board did not accept the recommendation of the Thorat committee and decided to continue with the recommendation of the Subrahmanyam panel.

## SPORTS

- **Star Indian runner Hima Das - clinched her fourth gold of the fortnight as she won the 200m race in the Tabor Grand Prix in Czech Republic with a timing of 23.25 seconds**
- ✓ Hima's compatriot V K Vismaya was second with a season best 23.43 seconds
- ✓ This was 19-year-old Hima's fourth gold since July 2 when she ran her first competitive race of the year in Europe
- ✓ On July 2, she won the gold at the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix in Poland
- ✓ After that, she won her second 200m gold at the Kutno Athletics Meet, also in Poland, on July 7
- ✓ On July 13, she won her third 200m gold at the Kladno Athletics Meet in Czech Republic



- ✓ In men's 400m, India's Muhammad Anas won gold with a timing of 45.40 seconds
- **India's Anish Bhanwala - claimed the gold medal in 25m rapid fire pistol competition to continue India's dominance in the ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany**



- ✓ Esha Singh clinched a silver in women's 10m air pistol event.
- **National record holder Amiya Kumar Mallick - won the men's 100m bronze clocking a season-best 10.55s in the Lapinlahti Grand Prix held in Finland**



- ✓ It was the first time Mallick, whose national record 10.26s came in 2016, was going below 11s this year.

## **RANKINGS**

- **Amazon Founder and CEO Jeff Bezos - is the world's richest person with a total net worth of \$125 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index**
- ✓ The second place is occupied by the Chairman and Chief Executive of the French luxury goods maker, LVMH Moët Hennessy - Bernard Arnault with a net worth of \$108 billion



- ✓ The next three places were occupied by Microsoft founder Bill Gates \$107 billion, Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett \$83.9 billion and Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg \$79.5 billion
- ✓ Bill Gates has never ranked lower than No. 2 in the seven-year history of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index
- ✓ However, Gates has donated more than \$35 billion to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which was one of the biggest reasons for his slip in ranking
- ✓ The richest woman, Francoise Bettencourt Meyers, daughter and heiress of L'Oreal's Liliane Bettencourt, is at the Number 10 spot
- ✓ The list of Bloomberg Billionaire index includes 18 Indians, and is topped by Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani (Rank 13) with a net worth of \$51.8 billion.
- ✓ The list is followed by chairman of Wipro Limited Azim Premji (Rank 48) with a net worth of \$20.5 billion
- ✓ Founder and chairman of HCL Shiv Nadar (Rank 92) with a net worth of \$14.5 billion and executive vice chairman and managing director of Kotak Mahindra Bank Uday Kotak (Rank 96) with a net worth of \$13.8 billion also figures in the list
- ✓ Bloomberg Billionaires Index provides the ranking of the world's wealthiest 500 individuals.

