

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 20, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **The Tamil Nadu government – has set up a high-power committee for investment facilitation and single window clearances for the investments committed during the recent three-nation trip undertaken by the Chief Minister.**
 - ✓ The committee will be led by chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami
 - ✓ The members of the committee includes Deputy chief minister O Panneerselvam, ministers for electricity, prohibition and excise (P Thangamani), municipal administration and rural development, implementation of special programmes (S P Velumani), industries (M C Sampath), environment (K C Karupannan), revenue, disaster management and information technology (R B Udayakumar), chief secretary K Shanmugam and the respective secretaries of the departments
 - ✓ Industries secretary will be member-secretary of the committee.
 - ✓ An investment facilitation cell has also been constituted in the chief minister's office with an IAS officer as officer-on-special duty to deal with the issues relating to major investors and in facilitating investments
 - ✓ The committee will meet in the first week of every month to monitor the progress of investment facilitation activities and all pending clearances
 - ✓ The CM-led delegation visited the UK, US and Emirates for 13 days, in which memoranda of understanding was signed with 41 companies, attracting investment proposals of ₹8,835 crore with potential employment to 35,520 people.
- ◆ **Tamil Nadu - recorded an economic growth rate of 8.17% during 2018-19**
 - ✓ The growth rate was well ahead of the national figure of growth rate of 6.81% in the last fiscal year

Holding course

Performance of key economic parameters in T.N.

Item	2016-17 (R.E.)	2017-18 (Q.E.)	2018-19 (A.E.)
GSDP (₹ in crore)	10,36,762.12	11,16,333.85	12,07,525.54
Per capita GSDP (in ₹)	1,36,474	1,45,597	1,56,041

GSDP: Gross State Domestic Product; R.E.: Revised Estimates;
Q.E.: Quick Estimates; A.E.: Advance Estimates

How sectors fared

Sector	2016-17 (R.E.)	2017-18 (Q.E.)	2018-19 (A.E.)
Primary	-1.01	12.64	9.9
Agriculture	-29.99	28.11	11.31
Secondary	10.13	5.97	6.59
Manufacturing	12.42	6.16	6.36
Construction	6.29	5.26	7.17
Industry	10.19	5.98	6.53
Services	6.45	7	8.24
Trade & Hotels	6.69	10.24	8.34
Communication	-1.93	-2.31	-2.56
Financial Services	2.62	5.81	9.63
Real Estate	8.43	5.66	7.68
Overall Growth Rate	7.15	7.68	8.17

All figures in %; At constant prices (2011-12)

Note: The figures of industry have been determined after adding the values of all the components of the secondary sector with that of the component of mining and quarrying, which comes under the primary sector

- ✓ The rate was achieved despite a deficit northeast monsoon and cyclone Gaja that devastated parts of the State
- ✓ During the northeast monsoon (October-December), the State received about 33 cm rainfall against the normal of 44 cm, a deviation of - 24%
- ✓ For the second year in succession, the primary sector did far better than the secondary and services sectors.
- ✓ The primary sector had registered a growth of 9.9%, while secondary and services sectors registered growth rates of 6.59% and 8.24% respectively.
- ◆ **Tamil Nadu government – signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on September 19 over faecal sludge treatment plants in urban local bodies across the State**
- ✓ The MoU was signed in the presence of Municipal Administration Minister S.P. Velumani
- ✓ As per the agreement, the foundation would support the faecal sludge treatment plants in corporations, municipalities and town panchayats with a financial assistance of \$3.61 million during the next two years
- ✓ In a similar MoU signed in 2015, the foundation had provided a financial assistance of \$2.5 million to the state

NATIONAL

◆ **Rajnath Singh - became the country's first Defence Minister to fly the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas when he co-piloted a trainer version in Bengaluru**



- ✓ The sortie, lasting about 30 minutes, took off from the LCA hangar at the defence airport run by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)
- ✓ The pilot of the sortie was Air Vice Marshal N Tiwari of the National Test Flight Centre
- ✓ Mr. Singh, 68, co-piloted the twin-seater aircraft as it flew up to a height of 13,000 feet at a high speed of nearly 1 mach
- ✓ Tejas combat aircraft has been designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) of the state-run Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- ✓ It was built by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL).
- ✓ Recently, Tejas became the first Indian aircraft to successfully carry out “arrested landing” on September 13, thus demonstrating its ability to land onboard an aircraft carrier

DEFENCE

◆ **The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Air Force (IAF) - have successfully carried out the third firing of 'Astra', Beyond Visual Air-to-Air Missile on September 18**



- ✓ The missile hit the live aerial target near Odisha at maximum range of approximately 90 km
- ✓ It was successfully test-fired from a Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter aircraft of Indian Air Force
- ✓ The Astra is an indigenous Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air missile with a range of over 70 km
- ✓ It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), along with 50 other public and private organisations.
- ✓ The missile has a 15 kg high explosive pre-fragmented warhead, which can fly over a target speed of 5,555 kilometers per hour.

◆ **SITMEX-19, a naval maritime exercise between India- Singapore- Thailand – has started with its sea phase in the Andaman Sea**



- ✓ The five day exercise will enhance the capability and cooperation between the three countries
- ✓ Indian Navy's Ships Ranvir, a Missile Corvette, Sumedha, a Guided Missile Destroyer, Kora, and an offshore Patrol Vessel are participating in the exercise.
- ✓ Apart from that a Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft P8I is also participating in the exercise

APPOINTMENTS

◆ **Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria – to take over as the country's 26th Chief of Air Staff**



- ✓ Bhadauria will succeed Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa, who is retiring on September 30
- ✓ With the superannuation of Dhanoa, Chief of the Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat will take over as the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee
- ✓ The Cost Negotiation Committee (CNC) for the purchase of 36 Rafale jets from France was headed by Bhadauria

- ✓ In an acknowledgment of Mr. Bhadauria's role in the negotiations, the first Rafale, which made its maiden flight in France, is designated RB-008 after his name.
- ✓ Bhadauria took over as the Vice-Chief of Indian Air Force in May this year.
- ✓ He will have a tenure of two years as the Chief of IAF
- ✓ During his nearly four decades career, Bhadauria commanded a Jaguar squadron and a premier Air Force Station.
- ✓ Bhadauria has over 4,250 hours of flying experience on 26 types of fighters and transport aircraft
- ✓ He has the unique distinction of being an experimental test pilot, a Cat 'A'-qualified flying instructor and a pilot attack instructor.
- ✓ In July, during Exercise Garuda between the Air Forces of India and France, Bhadauria had flown the Rafale aircraft
- ✓ Bhadauria flew indigenous Tejas fighter prototypes as a young test pilot
- ✓ Bhadauria was commissioned into the fighter pilot stream of Indian Air Force in June 1980 and won the coveted 'Sword of Honour' for standing first in the overall order of merit.
- ✓ Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria has been awarded Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Air Force Medal

SPORTS

◆ **Dhanush Srikanth - becomes the first shooter with hearing impairment to get selected in the Indian national squad**



- ✓ Dhanush, 16, has been selected in the junior (U-21) men's 10m air rifle team for the Asian Championships to be held in November
- ✓ Earlier this month at the national trials, Dhanush had shot scores better than the current senior final world record (251.2) by scoring 252.5 in the juniors final
- ✓ He trains at Gagan Narang's Gun For Glory academy in Pune and Telangana.

