

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 28, 2018

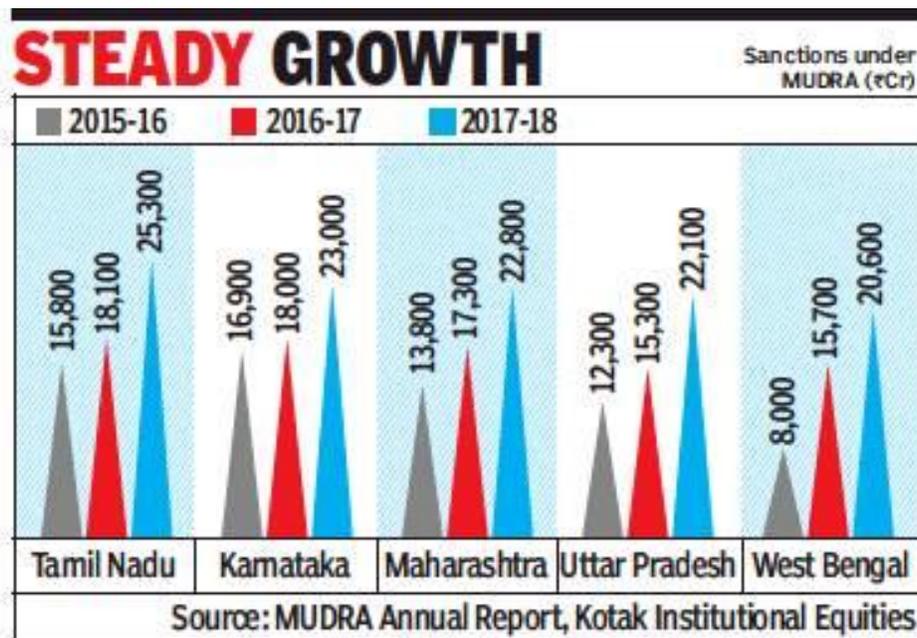
TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu - received the Union ministry of health and family welfare's 'Best performance award' for its successful organ donation programme – for the fourth year in a row
- ✓ Health minister C Vijayabaskar received the award at the 9th National Organ Day in Delhi



- ✓ Tamil Nadu has one of the country's largest transplant programmes, having retrieved organs from more than 1,000 patients
- ✓ The state brought in rules for organ donation and transplant in 2008
- ✓ Now, the Transplant Authority Government of Tamil Nadu (Transtan) functions as Regional Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (ROTTO) and State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (SOTTO)
- ✓ As many as 6,886 organs have been harvested from 1,198 donors so far in the state
- ✓ The state government sanctions up to Rs 35 lakh for transplantation, which is the highest in the country

- **Tamil Nadu – edged out Karnataka - to become the state with the highest share of MUDRA loans that are given to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)**



- ✓ TN had a 10% share in MUDRA loans with disbursements surging 40% year-on-year (y-o-y) to Rs 25,300 crore for 2017-18
 - ✓ TN was closely followed by Karnataka, which had a market share of 9%
 - ✓ Overall, South India has the highest market share of 30% in total sanctions
 - ✓ Incidentally, Karnataka had the highest share of MUDRA loans during 2015-16 while TN stood second.
 - ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) alone contributed to about 30% of total sanctions by PSBs and was followed by Canara bank and Punjab National Bank (PNB) at 8% and 7% respectively.
- **Chennai based Apollo Hospitals – to start a 250 bedded super-speciality hospital at Angamaly, a satellite town of Kochi, Kerala**
 - ✓ It had roped in the Adlux Group as the infrastructure partners
 - ✓ Located close to Cochin International Airport, the Apollo Adlux Hospital, scheduled to begin operations in four to six months.
 - **Southern Railway – to introduce weekend premier train services between Coonoor and Mettupalayam in Udhagamandalam**
 - ✓ The move is part of the world-renowned Nilgiris Mountain Railway, which has bagged the ‘Heritage Railway Status’ from the United Nations

- **N J Shirabthinath, 26 years, Resident of Palanganatham in Madurai – becomes the 1st person in the state with Monocular vision – vision in one eye – to get the Driving license**



- ✓ The licence was issued to him by the Madurai South RTO - in line with the Centre's order permitting the same for people with monocular vision
- **J Prithviraj of Coimbatore Auto Sports Club – was elected president of the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI)**



- ✓ He takes over from Ebrahim, who led FMSCI for the past couple of years
- ✓ Prithviraj had earlier served as FMSCI president from 2014 to 2015
- **Third consignment of Imported Sand – reaches Kamarajar Port in Ennore, Chennai**
- ✓ The consignment weighing 55,002 tonne will be unloaded by November 28, 2018 from the Malaysian vessel, MV Apiradee Naree
- ✓ The second consignment of about 52,068 tonne of sand from Malaysia reached the Ennore port on November 21, 2018
- ✓ The first consignment of about 56,750 tonne of sand reached the port on September 21, 2018

- **Alandur and Parangimalai Metro Railway stations – to have 1,120 KW capacity solar panel set up**
- ✓ The koyambedu metro railway station already has 1 MW capacity in its office complex
- T S Sridhar committee for Government employees pension reforms – has submitted its recommendations and report to the Hon'ble CM of the State
- ✓ The committee was constituted in August 2017
- ✓ Earlier, the committee under Shantha Sheila Nayar was constituted for the purpose, but she quit the committee in due course
- **3rd edition of World Thirukural Conference – to be held in Chanakyapuri, Delhi during September 23-24, 2019**
- ✓ The inaugural edition of the conference took place in Nagarkoil in 2017 and in Hope university, England in 2018

SCHEMES

- **Mission 'Raksha Gyan Shakti' (Power of Defence Knowledge) – launched by Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Defence in New Delhi**



- ✓ It is an initiative that encourages scientists and technicians in Defence Public sector undertakings and Ordnance factories to register their intellectual property and create more patents
- ✓ Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) - will coordinate and implement the programme
- ✓ Defence Ministry has established 'IP Facilitation Cell' in April 2018 to achieve ambitious targets of training 10,000 personnel to file atleast 1,000 new patent applications

NATIONAL

- **India – signs \$75 million loan agreement with Asian Development bank (ADB) – for ‘Karnataka Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program’**
 - ✓ The program aims to provide uninterrupted water supply to the coastal towns of Kundapura, Mangalore, Puttur and Udupi in Karnataka
 - ✓ It also seeks to improve sanitation infrastructure for Mangalore town
 - ✓ Earlier, the first installment of the \$75 million loan was utilized to strengthen the urban water supply and sanitation services in the coastal towns of Byadagi, Davangere, and Harihar

- **3rd edition of International Gita Festival 2018 – to be held in Kurukshetra, Haryana from December 7 to 23, 2018**
 - ✓ Partner country – Mauritius
 - ✓ Partner state – Gujarat
 - ✓ Objective – to spread the message of Gita to the world
 - ✓ Organisers - Kurukshetra Development Board, Haryana Tourism, District Administration and Information and Public Relations Department, Haryana
 - ✓ 4th edition to be held in – Mauritius during February 2019

- **Government – launches ‘PAiSA’ portal – under ‘Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission’ (DAY-NULM)**



- ✓ PAiSA - Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access
- ✓ The portal is a centralized electronic platform for quicker processing of loans under the DAY-NULM scheme
- ✓ It has been designed and developed by Allahabad Bank, the nodal bank under the scheme

✓ **DAY-NULM**

- ✓ Implemented by - Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- ✓ Launch of NULM – June 2011 by the then PM, Manmohan Singh
- ✓ Launch of DAY – September 25, 2014
- ✓ Budget – Rs 500 Crore
- ✓ Objectives –
- ✓ The scheme identifies urban poor (slum dwellers, vendors, rag pickers etc), unemployed, differently abled and provide Skill Training and Placement through City Livelihood Centers
- ✓ It promotes the formation of Self-Help Groups (SHG) for training others by providing Rs 10,000 as an initial support
- ✓ It provides an interest subsidy of 5% to 7% for setting up individual micro-enterprises with loan of up to 2 lakhs and for group enterprises with loan limit of up to Rs.10 lakhs
- ✓ It fully funds cost of construction of shelters for urban homeless

➤ **Government – launches first-of-its-kind ‘Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme’ (IDSP) segment of Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) in seven states**



- ✓ The programme aims to monitor public health in case of any disease outbreak for early prevention
- ✓ It is real time, village wise, Electronic health information system with GIS tagging for the disease identification and control
- ✓ For effective implementation of the platform, 32,000 people at block level, 13,000 at district level and 900 at state level have been trained

COMMITTEES

- **A 3-member committee constituted by National Green Tribunal – ruled that the closure of the Sterlite copper plant in Tamil Nadu is not Justifiable**



- ✓ It directed the parent company, Vedanta to carry out waste management and to ensure its compliance with pollution norms
- ✓ The committee, headed by former Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court Tarun Agarwal and comprising scientists Satish C. Garkoti and H.D. Varalaxmi, was constituted in August 2018
- ✓ It was created to carry out an “independent probe” into the closure of the Sterlite copper plant in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government ordered the permanent closure of the Sterlite Copper factory in Tuticorin on May 28, 2018
- ✓ The Sterlite Plant operates a 400000-tonne per annum capacity Copper Smelter and seeks to double its capacity
- ✓ The factory had first made headlines in March 2013 when a gas leak killed one person, besides injuring several others

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **1st edition of Sustainable Blue Economy Conference – held in Nairobi, Kenya**
- ✓ Organised by – Government of Kenya



- ✓ Co-hosted by – Japan and Canada
- ✓ Theme - ‘The Blue Economy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’

- ✓ Indian representation – Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 - ✓ Agenda - The conference seeks to improvise UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Climate Change Conference in Paris, 2015 and the UN Ocean Conference 2017 'Call to Action'
 - ✓ Participation – Over 18,000 delegates from 170 countries (3 days)
 - ✓ Highlight – Kenyan President, Uhuru Kenyatta received a special award from the African Union Commission (AUC) along with the presidents of Togo and Seychelles and the Prime Minister of Mauritius.
 - ✓ Sustainable Blue Economy – refers to the marine-based economy that provides social and economic benefits for current and future generations
 - ✓ Related Indian Projects – Sagarmala Programme – to improve Maritime logistics and port based development
 - ✓ SAGAR - Security and Growth for All in IOR – name coined by PM, Narendra Modi
- **Government – launches the logo and brochure of Logix India 2019**



- ✓ Logix India 2019 will take place in New Delhi from January 31 to February 2, 2019
- ✓ It is organized by Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)
- ✓ The 3-day event seeks to improve cost effectiveness and operational efficiency of the Logistics sector
- ✓ Over 20 countries are expected to participate in this event
- ✓ India was ranked 44 in World Bank Logistics Performance Index 2018
- ✓ As per Economic Survey 2017-18, India's logistics industry, currently worth around \$160 billion, is likely to grow at 10.5% over the next 5 years

APPOINTMENTS

- **Nageshwara Rao Guntur, eminent Scientist – appointed as Chairperson of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)**



- ✓ He will be in charge for a period of three years
 - ✓ Currently, he is working as Chairman, Project Design Safety Committee, Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor in Kalpakkam
 - ✓ He was a former distinguished scientist in Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL)
 - ✓ He bagged Nuclear Excellence Award from World Association of Nuclear Operators in 2011
 - ✓ While working in Rajasthan unit-5, he operated the unit 765 days without a break, which was a National record and third longest in the world
 - ✓ Atomic Energy Regulatory Board
 - ✓ Established – November 1983 under Section 27 of Atomic Energy Act, 1962 & Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986
 - ✓ Objective – to carry out safety and regulatory functions in nuclear field
 - ✓ Headquarters – Mumbai
- **Alka Mittal – becomes the first woman director on the board of ONGC**



- ✓ She has a vast experience as the head of skill development in ONGC and other HR functions
- ✓ Mittal has been on the board of ONGC's refining subsidiary MRPL since 2015

- ✓ She is an executive committee member of National Institute of Personnel Management
- ✓ She was the president of the Forum for Women in Public Sector Northern Region till recently and heads the Women's Development Forum of ONGC
- ✓ With the appointment, she joins the illustrious ranks of her predecessors, Roopshikha Saikia Bora, director (finance) at Oil India Ltd and Nishi Vasudeva of Hindustan Petroleum, the first woman to head an Indian oil company

AWARDS

- **Azim Premji, Chairman of WIPRO - was bestowed with the highest French civilian honour, 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour) in Bengaluru on November 28, 2018**



- ✓ The award recognizes his outstanding contribution to IT industry in India, his economic outreach in France and his role as a philanthropist through the Azim Premji Foundation and Azim Premji University
- ✓ The Legion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour) award was instituted in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte
- ✓ The past luminaries conferred with the recognition includes Renowned scientist and Bharat Ratna awardee C N R Rao, late Tamil actor Sivaji Ganesan, actor Kamal Haasan, Bengali actor Soumitra Chatterjee and Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan
- ✓ France is a key market for Wipro in the last 15 years with 65% of locals were employed by Wipro there
- ✓ Premji was informally known as the Czar of the Indian IT Industry after guiding Wipro as one of the global IT leader
- ✓ He has twice been listed among the 100 most influential people by TIME Magazine in 2004 and in 2011
- ✓ Premji was voted among the 20 most powerful men in the world by Asiaweek in 2010
- ✓ He is currently the second richest person in India with an estimated net worth of \$15.6 billion as of October 2018
- ✓ He also received an honorary doctorate from the University of Mysore in 2015

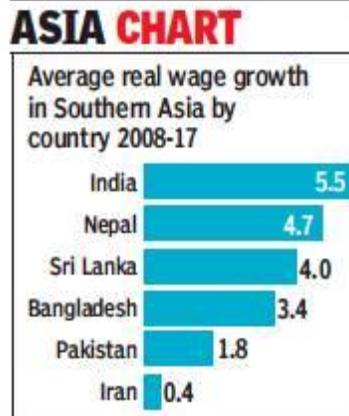
- ✓ He founded The Azim Premji Foundation, a non-profit organization in 2001 to achieve quality universal education
- ✓ He received Padma Bhushan in 2005 and Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award by the Government of India in 2011

SPORTS

- **Dubai based 'International Cricket Council' – submits its bid for the inclusion of T20 women's cricket in the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham**
- ✓ Cricket has made just one appearance at the Games previously, with the Men's team playing in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur
- ✓ The bid proposes an eight-team T20 event played in two pools of four teams, totaling 16 matches in eight days held at two venues in England

REPORT

- **Global wage report 2018 – released by International Labour Organization (ILO)**
- ✓ Globally, the rate of growth in wages in 2017 fell to its lowest level, since 2008
- ✓ It had declined from 2.4% in 2016 to just 1.8% last year
- ✓ India had the highest average real wage growth in Southern Asia of 5.5% over the period 2008-17.



- ✓ Globally, women continue to be paid about 20% less than men
- ✓ The mean gender pay gap of 34.5% for India and 34% for Pakistan on the basis of hourly wages were the worst among 73 countries for which data was available

