

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 3, 2019

### TAMIL NADU

#### ◆ Avin milk – is now available in Qatar



- ✓ State Dairy development Minister, K T Rajendra Balaji had introduced the milk produced by state cooperative Avin in Doha, the capital of Qatar
- ✓ The state had earlier sent a container with a capacity of 15,000 litres of milk along with other products like ghee and flavoured milk to Doha
- ✓ Around 2.4 lakh litres had been exported to Singapore and 10,000 litres to Hong Kong by the Avin

### STATES

#### ◆ Mizoram Government - issued an order to ban the import of pigs and piglets

- ✓ The State had cited the reason that there is a possibility of outbreak of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome or Swine Flu
- ✓ It is generally transmitted from pigs and affects both pigs and human
- ✓ The state had also banned the import of pigs from other countries like Myanmar, which are also the prime suspects of the disease

◆ **Punjab Government – declares ‘Indus River Dolphin’ as the state aquatic animal**



- ✓ Indus River Dolphin, a rare mammal, is found only in Beas River

◆ **Sikkim Government – signs MoU with Microsoft – for the improvement of education system in the state**



- ✓ This agreement will also help the state to upgrade its curriculum from class VI to class X with IT course
- ✓ Microsoft will also adopt 2 schools to enhance digital literacy, develop student-teacher capacity in digital skills and improve digital citizenship

## **INTERNATIONAL**

◆ **Russia – suspends ‘Intermediate-Range nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty’ after the decision of United States to pull out of it**

- ✓ The treaty was signed by US President Ronald Reagan and the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the White House in 1987



- ✓ The treaty prevented US and Russia from possessing, producing or test-flying ground-launched nuclear missiles with a range of 500 km to 5,500 km
- ✓ United States had alleged a new Russian cruise missile, the Novator 9M729, violates the pact and gave a notice period of 6 months to withdraw from the treaty

# CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- ◆ **4<sup>th</sup> edition of International Spice Conference 2019 - was held in Hyderabad, the capital city of Telangana**



- ✓ Theme 2019 – ‘Challenges of Change, Redefining the Value Chain’
- ✓ The last edition of the conference was held in Jaipur with the theme ‘Managing disruptions through Transformation and Colloboration’

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ **Russia – started to test ‘Accident-tolerant Fuel’ (ATF) for nuclear reactors**
- ✓ The ATF is resistant to severe accidents at nuclear power plants
- ✓ Russian national atomic power corporation, Rosatom is the technical consultant for the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu
- ✓ According to Rosatom, the first phase of the reactor tests will be completed in 2019 while the next stage includes the loading in commercial power reactor in Russia

## DEFENCE

- ◆ **The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) - approved the indigenous construction of 6 submarines under ‘Project 75(India)’**



- ✓ This the 2<sup>nd</sup> project under the Strategic Partnership model approved at a budget of Rs 40000 crore
- ✓ The council, chaired by Defence Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman also approved the acquisition of around 5000 French-origin MILAN Anti-Tank Guided missiles for the Indian Army
- ✓ The first SP model project was the acquisition of 111 utility helicopters for navy at the cost of 21000 crore in August, 2018

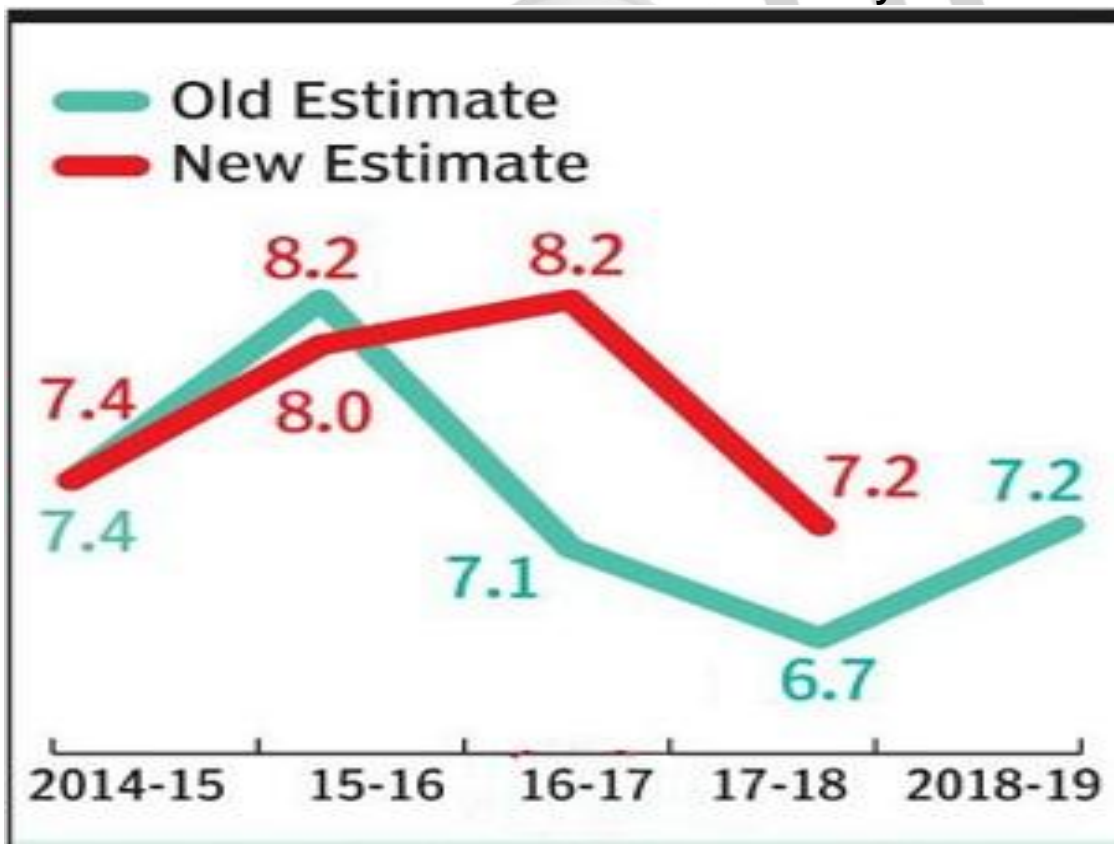
- ◆ **Defence Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman – had approved the procurement of around 73000 Sig Sauer rifles from United States within a year – to modernize the infantry**



- ✓ The Sig Sauer rifles are used by US forces as well as several other European forces
- ✓ They will replace INSAS rifles and will be used by the troops deployed along the 3600 km border with China

## ECONOMY

- **The Government - has revised the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) Growth forecast to 7.2% from earlier estimate of 6.7% for the year 2017-18**



- ✓ The revised GDP growth rate shows that the effect of demonetization was not as severe as predicted earlier
- ✓ The new estimate was released by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) along with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation
- ✓ The actual growth rate for 2016-17 has also been revised to 8.2% from the earlier estimate of 7.1% by the CSO.



## APPOINTMENTS

- **Rishi Kumar Shukla – was appointed as the new CBI Chief for a tenure of 2 years**



- ✓ Shukla, a 1983-batch Madhya Pradesh-cadre IPS Officer, was the former DGP of Madhya Pradesh
- ✓ He is currently serving as the Chairman of Madhya Pradesh Police Housing Corporation in Bhopal
- ✓ He was selected by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi-led selection panel comprising of CJI, Ranjan Gogoi by a 2-1 vote, with Congress leader in Lok Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge giving a note of dissent
- ✓ Shukla was removed as the MP police chief by the newly elected government in the state last week
- ✓ Kharge cited the lack of experience of Shukla in anti-graft investigations but the Government cited the criteria of CJI to have 100 months of experience in investigation to overrule his concern as Shukla has 117 months of experience
- ✓ He has been appointed in the place of former CBI Director Alok Kumar Verma, who was removed from the post on January 10, 2019

## SPORTS

- **India – loses to Italy by 3-1 in the Davis Cup Qualifiers at Kolkata**
- ✓ Italy had won all the three singles matches, while India won the doubles encounter
- ✓ The Indian team was represented by Prajnesh Gunneswaran and Ramkumar Ramanathan in the singles while Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan represented the country in doubles matches



- ✓ With the win, Italy have qualified for the Davis cup final berth along with Serbia, Australia, Germany, Japan and Kazakhstan
- ✓ Other countries which have qualified automatically for the finals include US, Spain, Argentina, Britain, Croatia and France