



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 11 & 12, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu Government – has declared that its employees can receive up to Rs 25,000 as gifts, with prior permission from higher officials**
 - ✓ The earlier limit for the gifts was Rs 5,000
 - ✓ The Government has also clarified that the total of such gifts should not exceed Rs 10 lakhs or 6 months gross emoluments of the official
 - ✓ The Government has also announced that employees can also avail an interest-free loan of up to Rs 5 lakh from their friends or relatives for constructing or buying houses
- **14 Underground metro stations in Chennai – awarded Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) Platinum rating**



- ✓ With this, all 32 metro stations of phase-I have been awarded the IGBC platinum rating
- ✓ The stations include Washermenpet, Mannadi, High Court, Central Metro Government Estate, LIC, Thousand Lights and AG-DMS, which were thrown open to public on February 10

- ✓ Earlier 13 elevated stations and 5 underground metro stations were awarded the same certification
 - ✓ The awarded stations have several commuter-friendly, energy efficient and aesthetic features, which includes rainwater harvesting, harnessing solar energy, easy access for the disabled commuters, facilities for visually impaired and hearing impaired commuters and staff assistance.
 - ✓ The platinum rating is a certification awarded for adopting green and user-friendly measures in a public facility
- **Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami – laid the foundation stone for a new barrage across the Kollidam river on March 5**



மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர் திரு. எடப்பாடி கே. பழனிசாமி அவர்கள் இன்று (5.3.2019) தலைமைச் செயலகத்தில், பொதுப்பணித் துறையின் கீழ் செயல்படும் நீர்வள ஆதாரத் துறை சார்பில் கடலூர் மாவட்டம், ஆதலூர் கிராமம் மற்றும் நாகப்பட்டினம் மாவட்டம் குமாரமங்கலம் கிராமம் ஆகியவற்றிற்கு இடையே கொள்ளிடம் ஆற்றின் குறுக்கே 74/3 வது மைலில் தலை மதகுகளுடன் கூடிய கதவணை கட்டும் பணிக்கு காணொலிக் காட்சி (Video Conferencing) மூலமாக அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார்கள். மேலும், காஞ்சிபுரம் மாவட்டம், செய்யாற்றின் குறுக்கே கட்டப்பட்டுள்ள அணைக்கட்டினை திறந்து வைத்து, 4 தடுப்பணைகள் கட்டும் பணிகளுக்கு அடிக்கல் நாட்டினார்கள்.

- ✓ The 1,800 metre long and 8 metre-wide barrage will help store the excess water which now flows into the Bay of Bengal through the Kollidam river during monsoon
 - ✓ It will be constructed across the river connecting Kumaramangalam village in Nagapattinam district and Athanur village in Cuddalore district
 - ✓ The proposal to construct the barrage was announced by the Late chief minister J Jayalalithaa under rule 110 in the assembly on August 4, 2014
 - ✓ The Rs 428-crore barrage will be helpful to supply water to irrigate 37,000 acres of ayacuts of Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Cuddalore districts
 - ✓ It will also help to take a large quantum of water to the New Veeranam Drinking Water scheme in cuddalore, as it has the capacity to store more water
 - ✓ The construction of the barrage is expected to be completed within two years
- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari – launched the ‘Special Purpose vehicle’ (SPV) for establishing the Integrated Container transshipment terminal (ICTT) at Kanyakumari on March 4**



- ✓ The project, estimated at Rs 21,757 crore, will develop the port between Kovalam and Keela Manakudi village near Kanyakumari in three phases
- ✓ On completion, the ICTT can handle 6.25 million TEUs (twenty foot equivalent unit) annually
- ✓ The terminal, developed as part of the Sagarmala project, will be made operational by 2023-24, saving Rs 1,500 crore for the country annually
- **Engineering and construction major, Larsen and Toubro (L&T) – to execute the Athikadavu-Avinashi drinking water supply and ground water recharge scheme**
 - ✓ The water and effluent treatment wing of L&T will take up the project
 - ✓ It is scheduled to be completed within 34 months
 - ✓ The 1,652 crore scheme will be the first lift-irrigation project in the state
 - ✓ Under the DBOT (Design, build, operate and transfer) project, 1.5tmc water will be pumped annually from Kalingarayan canal, the feeder canal of Bhavani river near Perundurai in Erode district
 - ✓ After commissioning, L&T will operate and maintain it for 60 months before transferring it to the Public works department
 - ✓ The scheme will be beneficial to the farmers in drought-prone areas of Coimbatore, Tirupur and Erode districts
 - ✓ A 30MW solar plant will also be set up to generate electricity for the project
 - ✓ The scheme will benefit 9,902 hectares of farm lands, besides recharging the ground water in the region

- **Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami – launched civil registration website ‘www.crstn.org’ – to download birth/death certificates ‘free-of-cost’ online within 21 days**
- ✓ With the launch, Tamil Nadu becomes the first state to launch the facility on March 4
- ✓ Women giving birth in Government hospitals will be given birth certificates on the discharge day along with the summary
- ✓ Women giving birth in Private hospitals can download the forms from the website within 21 days
- ✓ As per the state records, nearly 99.5% births and 23% of deaths occur in hospitals
- **Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami – launched the enhancement of the ‘Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternal benefit’ scheme to boost blood haemoglobin levels in pregnant women and get rid of anaemia**



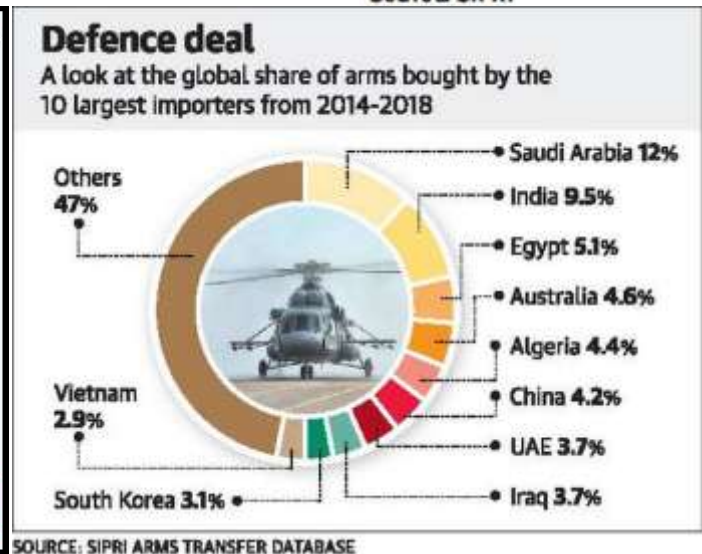
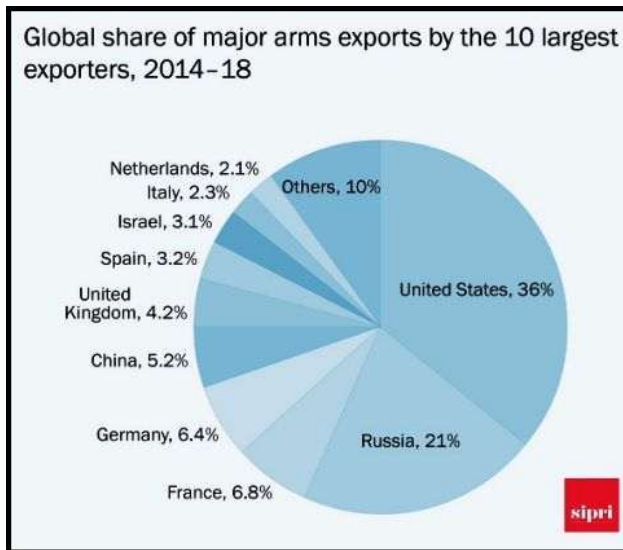
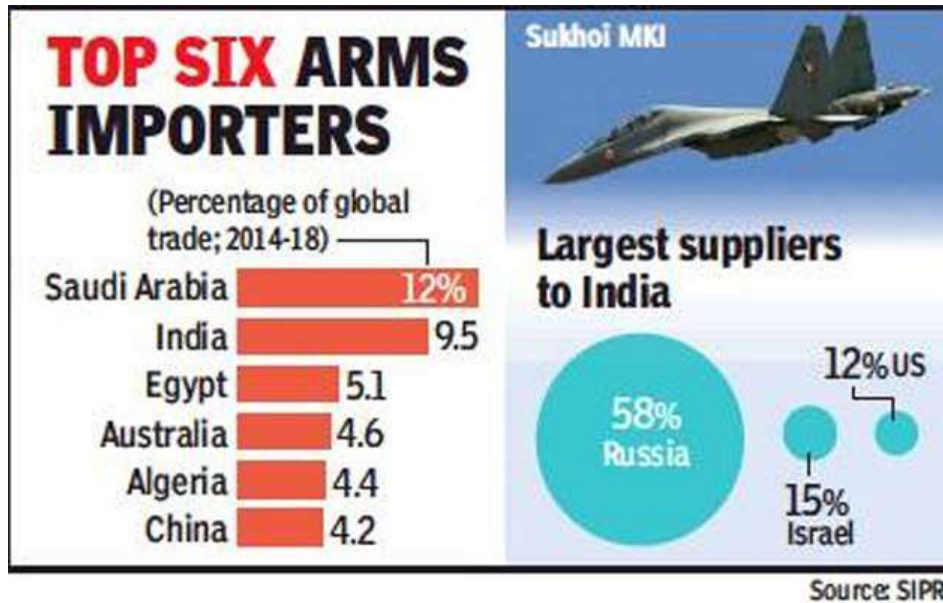
மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர் திரு.எடப்பாடி கே.பழனிசாமி அவர்கள் 4.3.2019 அன்று சென்னை, எழும்பூர், மகளிர் மகப்பேறு நோயியல் நிலையம் மற்றும் அரசு மகளிர் மற்றும் சிறார் நல மருத்துவமனையில் நடைபெற்ற நிகழ்ச்சியில், கர்ப்பினிப் பெண்களுக்கு இரும்புச் சத்து மற்றும் ஊட்டச் சத்து பொருட்கள் அடங்கிய அம்மா தாய்சேய் நலப் பெட்டகம் வழங்கும் திட்டத்தை துவக்கி வைத்தார்கள். உடன், மாண்புமிகு துணை முதலமைச்சர் திரு.ஓ. பன்னீசெல்வம், மாண்புமிகு மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வு மற்றும் குடும்ப நலத்துறை அமைச்சர் டாக்டர் சி. விஜயபாஸ்கர், மாண்புமிகு அமைச்சர் பெருமக்கள், தலைமைச் செயலாளர் முனைவர் கிரீஜா வைத்தியநாதன், இ.ஆ.ப., மக்கள் நல்வாழ்வு மற்றும் குடும்ப நலத்துறைச் செயலாளர் டாக்டர் பீலா ராஜேஸ், இ.ஆ.ப., மற்றும் அரசு உயர் அலுவலர்கள் உள்ளனர்.

- ✓ A basket containing protein shakes, iron and zinc syrups, dates and ghee will be given to pregnant women living below the poverty line at the end of the first trimester
- ✓ In February 2017, the Chief Minister had enhanced the monetary benefit under the scheme from Rs 12,000 to Rs 18,000
- **Metrowater – to set up greywater recycling plants in Perungudi and Nesappakkam within a year – to improve the water quality before releasing it back to the water bodies**
- ✓ It is also planning to set up treatment plants near Retteri, Perumbakkam and Ayanambakkam lakes
- ✓ Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami laid the foundation stone for these projects on March 10
- ✓ Greywater is relatively clean waste water, which is not contaminated by faecal matter, from residences and businesses

- ✓ Metrowater will be using advanced technology such as the sequential batch reactor to treat greywater

NATIONAL

- **India – dropped to the position of second largest importer of Arms behind Saudi Arabia** – as per the latest data on international arms transfer, released by a global think-tank, Sipri (Stockholm international peace research institute)



- ✓ The country had remained at the top for almost a decade
- ✓ The continuance of the country at the top of the rankings reinforces the persistent failure to build a strong indigenous defence industrial base, even though the Government is actively pushing the 'Make in India' policy in the defence sector

INTERNATIONAL

- **Two Nobel Prizes for “Literature” – will be awarded this year, as per the Nobel Foundation statement**
- ✓ The Nobel Foundation blocked the Swedish academy from awarding the prize last year after sexual misconduct allegations
- **Luxury electric vehicles brand, Automobili Pininfarina, a part of the Mahindra group – unveils the fastest ever ‘e-super’ car ‘Battista’ in Geneva**



- ✓ Battista is considered faster than the current Formula 1 race car, reaching the 0-100 kmph within two seconds
- ✓ To be launched in 2020, the Battista will be the most powerful car ever designed and built in Italy with a potential zero emission range of over 300 miles
- ✓ Only 150 Battistas will be hand-crafted in Italy and allocated equally between the regions of North America, Europe and Middle East/Asia
- ✓ The Mahindra Group had acquired Pininfarina in late 2015 for an overall outgo of over 50 million euros

DEFENCE

- Indian Air Force – to set up the first ‘East coast Air surveillance base’ at the ‘unused’ World War-II airstrip at Sholavaram, around 26 kms from the Chennai city



- ✓ It is planning to station a few attack helicopters at the airstrip, which has been lying idle since 1950s
- ✓ The move will help the forces to secure the 2,500 kilometre coastline covering Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha
- ✓ It would also support INS Rajali, the Indian Naval Station at Arakkonam, which carries out surveillance through Boeing P81, a long range maritime patrol aircraft
- ✓ The current air surveillance coverage ranges from 100km to 350km

SPORTS

- Virat Kohli – became the 6th batsman to score 9000 or more runs in International cricket as Captain

The infographic is titled "QUICKEST TO 9000 RUNS AS CAPTAIN IN INTERNATIONAL CRICKET". It features a table with the following data:

PLAYER	COUNTRY	MATCHES	INNINGS
VIRAT KOHLI	INDIA	133	159
RICKY PONTING	AUSTRALIA	181	204
GRAEME SMITH	SOUTH AFRICA	178	220
MS DHONI	INDIA	248	253
ALLAN BORDER	AUSTRALIA	219	257
STEPHEN FLEMING	NEW ZEALAND	234	273



- ✓ He achieved the feat in 159 innings, the fastest among all captains in the list, during his 40th century knock in the second One day international between India and Australia in Nagpur
- ✓ Only Sachin Tendulkar has scored more hundreds in ODIs than Kohli, with 49 centuries against his name
- **Erode-based Chess player P. Iniyan – became the country's 61st Grand master in the ongoing Noisiel Open in France**

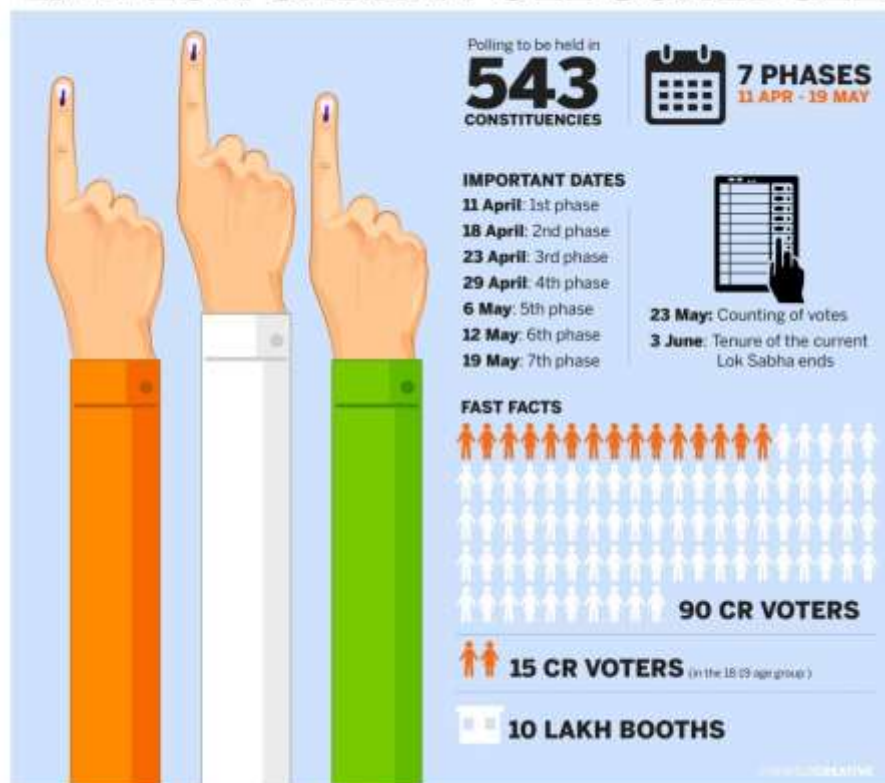


- ✓ The 16-year old player crossed the 2500-point in ELO ratings to reach the title
- ✓ Iniyan had bagged his third and final GM norm at the 41st International Barbera del valles chess tournament at Barcelona in July 2018
- ✓ In spite of having 5 GM norms, he could not become one as his ELO ratings were less than 2500
- ✓ Iniyan got his maiden GM norm in the Montcada open at Spain in July 2017

2019 LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

- **Election Commission of India – announces the Lok Sabha election 2019 schedule on March 10, 2019**
- ✓ Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora announced the dates of the national elections and also the assembly elections in four states
- ✓ With the announcement of date, Model Code of Conduct also came into force across the country
- ✓ 7 Phases of Polling

17th LOK SABHA POLL SCHEDULE



- ✓ States and Constituencies in every Phase

Phase	Date of poll	States with number of seats in bracket	Total seats
1st phase	11th April	Andhra Pradesh (25), Arunachal Pradesh (2), Assam (5), Bihar (4), Chhattisgarh (1), Jammu and Kashmir (2), Maharashtra (7), Manipur (1), Meghalaya (2), Mizoram (1), Nagaland (1), Odisha (4), Sikkim (1), Telangana (17), Tripura (1), Uttar Pradesh (8), Uttarakhand (5), West Bengal (2), Andaman Nicobar (1), Lakshadweep (1)	91
2nd Phase	18th April	Assam (5), Bihar (5), Chhattisgarh (3), Jammu and Kashmir (2), Karnataka (14), Maharashtra (10), Manipur (1), Odisha (5), Tamil Nadu (39), Tripura (1), Uttar Pradesh (8), West Bengal (3), Puducherry (1)	97
3rd Phase	23rd April	Assam (4), Bihar (5), Chhattisgarh (7), Gujarat (26), Goa (2), Jammu and Kashmir (1), Karnataka (14), Kerala (20), Maharashtra (14), Odisha (6), Uttar Pradesh (8)	115
4th Phase	29th April	Bihar (5), Jammu and Kashmir (1), Jharkhand (3), Madhya Pradesh (6), Maharashtra (17), Odisha (6), Rajasthan (13), Uttar Pradesh (13), West Bengal (8)	71
5th Phase	6th May	Bihar (5), Jammu and Kashmir (2), Jharkhand (4), Madhya Pradesh (7), Rajasthan (12), Uttar Pradesh (14), West Bengal (7)	51
6th Phase	12th May	Bihar (8), Haryana (10), Jharkhand (4), Madhya Pradesh (8), Uttar Pradesh (14), West Bengal (8), Delhi (7)	59
7th Phase	19th May	Bihar (8), Jharkhand (3), Madhya Pradesh (8), Punjab (13), West Bengal (9), Chandigarh (1), Uttar Pradesh (13), Himachal Pradesh (4)	59

✓ Electorate statistics (2014 and 2019)

Dates & Phases			
Item	2014	2019	Increase/Decrease
Expiry of Lok Sabha	31-May	3-Jun	NA
Date of Announcement of Polls	5-Mar	10-Mar	NA
Number of Phases	9	7	NA
First Date of Poll	7-Apr	11-Apr	NA
Last Date of Poll	12-May	19-May	NA
Date of Counting	16-May	23-May	NA
Numbers			
Total Electorate	814.5 million	900 million	10.5%
Electorate in 18-19 age group	23 million	15 million	-34.8%
Other Gender electors	28314	38325	35.4%
Overseas Electors	11844	71735	505.7%
Service Electors	1328621	1677386	26.3%
Polling Stations	928000	1035918	11.6%

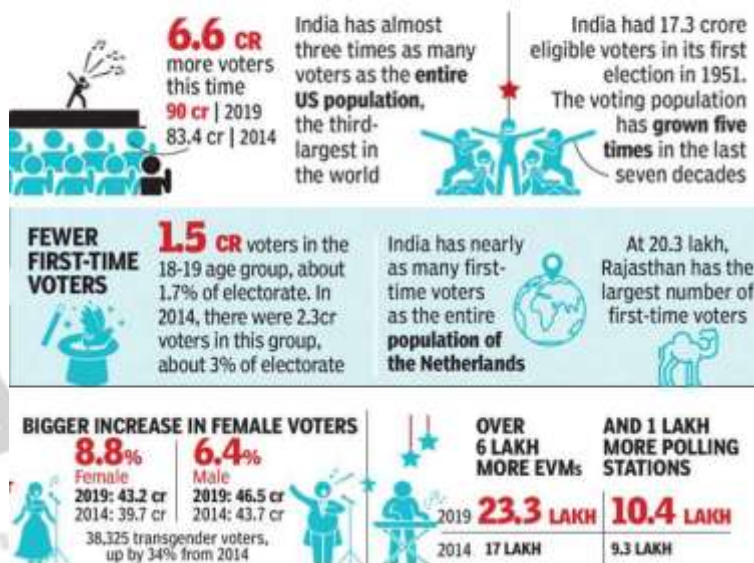
✓ States and Phases details

- ✓ Single Phase - Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim,

Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Andaman, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman & Diu

- ✓ Two phases - Karnataka, Manipur, Rajasthan, Tripura
 - ✓ Three phases - Assam, Chhattisgarh
 - ✓ Four phases - Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Odisha
 - ✓ Five phases - Jammu & Kashmir
 - ✓ Seven phases - Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal
- ✓ Lok Sabha Polls – Stats

2019 LS POLLS: THE GREATEST ELECTORAL FESTIVAL



✓ 10 Firsts in 2019 Lok Sabha Polls

- ✓ 100% paper trail of votes cast - VVPATs to print out details of the vote cast, allowing voter to check if the vote has indeed been recorded in favour of her chosen candidate, before it falls into the printer drop- box
- ✓ Candidates are required to file income details for past five years in their poll affidavit, apart from declaring their offshore assets.
- ✓ Electronic Transmitted Postal Ballot facility to be available for service voter.
- ✓ Parties required to advertise criminal antecedents of candidates in media.
- ✓ One polling station in every assembly segment manned exclusively by women
- ✓ Citizens can report violations of model code via C-Vigil mobile app. All one has to do is click a picture or a video, describe the activity and upload it via app. Flying squads will reach the spot in minutes.

- ✓ Photo voter slip not to be accepted as sole document for identification of voter at polling station
 - ✓ All EVMs to sport photo ballot labels, apart from symbol and candidate name in Braille
 - ✓ Social media firms to cooperate with EC to track political campaigns on their platform. Social media firms asked by EC to appoint grievance officer to handle complaints.
 - ✓ GPS tracking of each EVM along with flying squads.
- ✓ Miscellaneous facts
- ✓ The ceiling on election expenditure by a candidate has been fixed at Rs 70 lakh, except for three states, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa and Sikkim, where it is Rs 54 lakh
 - ✓ For the first time, the poll panel will introduce candidates' photos on the voting machines, in addition to the party name and symbol
 - ✓ The poll panel has issued a list of 11 documents that would be considered for verification of a voter's identity — passport, driving licence, service identity cards issued by government, passbook with photograph, PAN card, smart card issued by Registrar General of India, MNREGA job card, health insurance smart card, pension document, identity cards issued to elected representatives and Aadhaar card.
 - ✓ While VVPATs have been used in Assembly elections and bypolls, this will be the first time they are used in the general elections
 - ✓ Election commission has set up a 3-member committee to avoid inconvenience to the public during seizures made by flying squads and surveillance teams.

