

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 10, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Greater Chennai Corporation - to launch a zero-waste policy after the model code of conduct for the LS elections ends**

CLEANING UP MESS

Types of waste and segregation

Wet: Vegetable peels, cooked and uncooked food. Should not be placed in bin liners

Dry: Like paper, plastic and glass, metal, textile, rubber, electronic and electrical

Hazardous: Includes diapers, sanitary napkins, ear buds, razors, blades. Should be wrapped in a paper and marked red

Immediate plans

➤ Full utilization of 66 resource recovery & 167 micro composting centres

➤ Setting up composting pits & biogas plants at parks, playgrounds and other areas

➤ Measures for composting waste at households and bulk waste generators

➤ Promoting roof-top garden, kitchen garden, floriculture



Corp to launch Zero Waste Policy on May 12

➤ Anna Tower Park (central region)

➤ Anna Park (north region)

➤ Kasturba Nagar Residents Association Community Hall (south zone)

- ✓ It also plans to bring in strict legislation to penalize residents who fail to implement it per the Centre's solid waste management rules.
- ✓ As a precursor, the corporation and civic action group (CAG) will on May 12 launch a door-to-door campaign at three locations to educate residents about segregation.

◆ **Metrowater – to soon add 50 million litres of water from reservoirs in Chembambakkam and Red Hills and the desalination plant in Minjur to Chennai**

- ✓ The additional water available to residents is a result of the setting up of two Tertiary Treated Reverse Osmosis (TTRO) plants by Metrowater in Koyambedu and Kodungaiyur



COUNTING DROPS: Thanks to the new plants, water from reservoirs, like the one in Red Hills, will be used for domestic purposes

THE STORY THUS FAR	TWO NEW PLANTS TO COVER INDUSTRIAL UNITS ACROSS CITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Industries in the city's west get 30 million litres of water from Chembambakkam > About 20 million litres of water from Minjur desalination plant is supplied to industrial units on Manali - Minjur corridor > 30 million litres of water from Kodungaiyur sewage treatment plant is supplied to industrial units in Ennore and Manali 	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The city, on average, generates 550 million litres of sewage every day > Two Tertiary Treated Reverse Osmosis plants have been set up in Koyambedu and Kodungaiyur > Plants set up using grants from the Centre's Amrut scheme and TN Sustainable Urban Development Project > These plants will treat 90 million litres </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > of sewage every day to be distributed for industrial use > The plant in Koyambedu will supply water to industrial units in Sriperumbudur, Irungattukottai and Oragadam and the one in Kodungaiyur to industries in Ennore, Manali and Minjur (see map) > Once the units are operational, Chennai will be the first city in the country to recycle and reuse 20% of all sewage it generates in a day </div>

- ✓ These units will supply 90 million litres of treated greywater for industrial use.
- ✓ Once the two plants become fully operational, Chennai will be the first city in the country to recycle and reuse 20% of sewage generated in a metropolitan area

◆ **Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts - have constituted rent authorities**

- ✓ The rent authorities will be headed either by revenue divisional officers (RDOs) or sub-collectors.
- ✓ The sub-collector of Kancheepuram would be the rent authority of Kancheepuram division.
- ✓ The RDOs would be the rent authorities of Chengalpet, Maduranthgam and Tambaram divisions.
- ✓ Three RDOs have been appointed rent authorities for Ponneri, Tiruvallur, Tiruthani divisions in Tiruvallur district
- ✓ The state government had notified the rules for the he Tamil Nadu Regulation of Rights and Responsibilities of Landlords and Tenants Act, 2017 on February 22, replacing the Rent Control Act.

◆ **The Election Commission - has directed the Chief Electoral Officer to count only the VVPAT vote slips in 44 polling booths, spread across 13 districts in Tamil Nadu**

- ✓ In all these booths, EVM votes will not be counted.
- ✓ This is because, in all these booths, the presiding officers failed to clear the mock poll data from the control units but had removed the VVPAT vote slips
- ✓ The counting of VVPAT vote slips was in addition to the random counting of VVPAT vote slips as prescribed by the Commission through its instruction issued in April
- ✓ Under the random counting of the VVPATs, five units in each of the Assembly constituencies are to be taken up.
- ✓ The EC decision follows a report from the CEO last month stating that mistakes were observed in 46 polling booths across the State.

STATES

◆ **Chhattisgarh Police - have deployed anti Naxal women commandos for the first time in the country**



- ✓ This team is inducted in District Reserve Guard (DRG), which is frontline of anti-Naxal force
- ✓ This is the first time in the country when an exclusive team of women commandos have been made to combat and counter insurgency operations.

- ✓ The specially-raised squad is known as 'Danteshwari Ladake' or 'fighters of Goddess Danteshwari'
- ✓ It was inducted in the state's Naxal-hit Dantewada district
- ✓ Of the 30 recruits, 10 are surrendered women Naxals, while 10 others are assistant constables who were part of the erstwhile Salwa Judum movement
- ✓ All of them are local residents and well acquainted with the forested terrain and the local language
- ✓ They are given three-month advanced trainings for motorcycle patrolling in the dense forests, map reading, understanding Naxal profiles and counter ambush strategy
- ✓ The DRG started its operations in Dantewada in 2015.
- ✓ It was first set up in Kanker (north Bastar) and Narayanpur (comprising Abhujmad) districts of the state in 2008 to fight the menace of Left Wing Extremism
- ✓ Peace March or locally called as Salwa Judum was started in year 2005
- ✓ It was a local people led operation against Naxalism, which didn't yield the anticipated results

NATIONAL

◆ **M. Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India – commences a four-day official visit to Vietnam on May 9, 2019**



- ✓ The Vice President will participate in 16th United Nations Day of Vesak (UNDV) at Tam Chuc pagoda in northern Ha Nam province of Vietnam.
- ✓ He will meet Indian community and Vietnamese beneficiaries of 'Jaipur Foot Artificial Limb Fitment Camp' organized in 2018 by India under 'India for Humanity' initiative.
- ✓ It was launched to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi
- ✓ The Vice President will also undertake high level talks to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields
- ✓ Vesak (also known as Buddha Jayanti or Buddha Purnima) is celebrated to commemorate birth of Lord Buddha, his attainment of enlightenment (nirvana) and his passing away
- ✓ The day is considered sacred to Buddhists

◆ **Women and physically challenged passengers - could collectively have an extra reserved coach soon on prestigious outstation trains like the Rajdhani, Duronto and Shatabdi**

- ✓ These trains will have an upgraded power car, which have coaches manufactured by Link Hofmann Bosch or LHB
- ✓ The upgraded power car will require only one coach instead of two
- ✓ Currently, LHB trains have two coaches which power the air-conditioning unit and electric supply of the entire train.

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Singapore - recently reported the first ever case of the Monkeypox Virus, a rare virus similar to the human smallpox.**

- ✓ The affected man might have been infected by bush meat, the probable source of the virus transmission, on his travel to Nigeria
- ✓ Bush meat can be of chimpanzee, gorilla, antelope, birds or rodents.
- ✓ Monkeypox virus was first reported in 1970s and later eradicated in 1980
- ✓ The rare virus disease occurs in West and Central Africa
- ✓ It does not spread easily from person to person, but in rare cases, it can be fatal.
- ✓ It spreads by wild animals or through the consumption of bush meat of monkeys, bats, rodents, etc
- ✓ Bush meat is a popular source of protein in some African countries.
- ✓ Monkeypox typically lasts for two to four weeks.
- ✓ As of now, there is no specific treatment or vaccine available for monkeypox infection

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) – organizes a meeting of World Customs Organisation’s (WCO) Regional Heads of Customs administration in Asia Pacific region – in Kochi, Kerala from 8th to 10th May, 2019**



- ✓ India is hosting this meeting in the capacity of Vice Chairperson of Asia Pacific region, assumed on 1 July 2018 for a two-year period
- ✓ Pranab Kumar Das, Chairman of CBIC will chair the meeting
- ✓ The meeting is expected to discuss about various initiatives of WCO in promoting the cross border e-trade in the region
- ✓ WCO was established in 1952 as Customs Co-operation Council (CCC)

- ✓ It was renamed as World Customs Organisation (WCO) in 1994
- ✓ It has its headquarters in Brussels, Belgium
- ✓ It is the only intergovernmental organisation which exclusively focuses on Customs issues

DEFENCE

- ◆ **Two Indian Navy ships INS Kolkata and INS Shakti - carried out a six day long 'Group Sail' (starting from 3 May and ending on 9 May) with naval ships of USA, Japan and Philippines in South China Sea (SCS)**



- ✓ Earlier, these ships took part in International Fleet Review (IFR) as part of 70th anniversary celebrations of China's People's Liberation Army, PLA (Navy)
- ✓ They later took part in the Phase I of the maritime security field training exercise under the aegis of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) from May 1 to 3 off South Korea.

SPORTS

- ◆ **Gagan Narang partnered Shriyanka Sadangi - for the mixed air rifle gold in the international shooting competition at Hannover**



- ✓ In the mixed air pistol team competition a day earlier, Annu Raj Singh and the young Anmol Jain combined well to clinch the gold.

- ◆ **Former Croatia manager Igor Stimac - is set to be appointed as Indian football coach**



- ✓ Stimac, 51, was a member of Croatia's famous Golden Generation that won the bronze medal at the 1998 World Cup in France
- ✓ He replaces Stephen Constantine who left his job during the Asian Cup 2019 early this year
- ✓ Stimac coached Croatia for 468 days and took them to the World Cup in 2014
- ✓ During his tenure, Croatia climbed to fourth in the Fifa world rankings

INTERNATIONAL DAY

◆ National Technology Day – May 11



- ✓ The day is being observed across India to mark India's technological advancements and to promote the development of technology in various fields
- ✓ On 11 May, 1998 India successfully tested Shakti-I nuclear missile at the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range in Rajasthan
- ✓ The operation is led by aerospace engineer and late President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and was called Operation Shakti or Pokhran-II
- ✓ Two Days later, India successfully test fired two more nuclear weapons as part of Operation Shakti
- ✓ After the Pokhran-II, India became the sixth nuclear country after the United States, Russia, China, The United Kingdom and France.
- ✓ It was also the first nuclear country who had not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons
- ✓ India conducted its first nuclear test codenamed 'Smiling Buddha' on May 18, 1974, in the deserts of Pokhran
- ✓ Apart from conducting the nuclear test on May 11, 1998, the Hansa-3, India's first indigenous aircraft was flown in Bengaluru



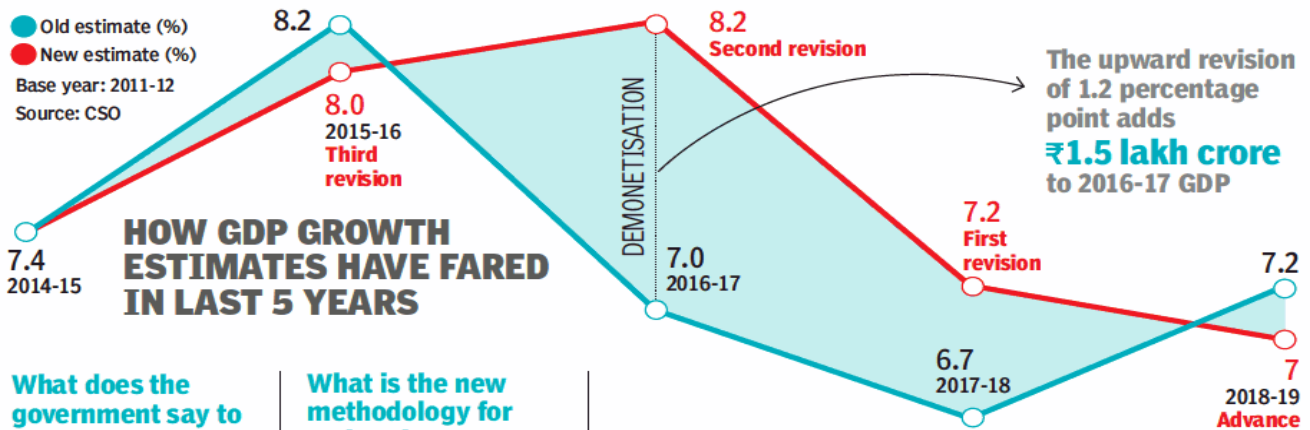
- ✓ Hansa-3 was a light two-seater general aviation plane used in flying institutes for pilot training.
- ✓ The aircraft was also used for surveillance, sports, and environment-related projects.
- ✓ On this day, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) completed the final test-fire of the Trishul missile
- ✓ It was later inducted into service by the Indian Army and Indian Air Force.
- ✓ The Trishul Missile was A short-range, quick-reaction, surface-to-air (SAM) missile and was a part of India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme.
- ✓ Based on these technological advancements, the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared May 11 as the National Technology Day

The day is being commemorated to celebrate the anniversary of first of the five tests of Operation Shakti (Pokhran-II) nuclear test, held on 11 May 1998 in Pokhran, Rajasthan.
Apart from Pokhran nuclear test, on this day first indigenous aircraft Hansa-3 was test flown at Bangalore.
India also conducted successful test firing of the Trishul missile on the same day.

✓ The Technology Development Board (TDB) was set up and since 1999, the day is celebrated all over the country

CONTROVERSY OVER GDP DATA - EXPLAINED

A report by the National Sample Service Office (NSSO) on the services sector revealed that at least 38% of the firms in the MCA-21 database used for calculating GDP numbers were either out of coverage or untraceable. According to some economists, this could lead to overestimation of GDP data and could have an impact on the final numbers



What does the government say to defend its data system?

The results of this NSSO report will be examined by the advisory committee, before finalising the approach and methodology for the proposed new 2017-18 series.

The ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MOSPI) said that there is no impact on the existing GDP/GVA (gross value added) estimates for the corporate sector as care is taken to appropriately adjust the corporate filings at the aggregate level, based on the paid-up capital

What is the new methodology for estimating GDP?

In June 2015, MOSPI unveiled the new series of national accounts with the 2011-12 base year and also inducted a new methodology and data sources. The major components influencing the present revision include:

- A** Revision of base year to a more recent year,
- B** Complete review of existing data base and methodology employed in the estimation of various macro-economic aggregates, including choice of the alternative databases on individual subjects

What are the new sources for calculating GDP data?

In 2004-05 series, the private corporate sector was being covered by using RBI study on company finances. Estimates were compiled on the basis of financial results of around 2,500 companies.

In 2011-12 series, comprehensive coverage of corporate sector has been ensured in mining, manufacturing and services by incorporating annual accounts of companies as filed with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) under their e-governance initiative MCA-21.

Accounts of about five lakh companies have been analysed and incorporated for 2011-12 and 2012-13, while the number of common companies (for which accounts are available for 2012-13) is around three lakh for 2013-14.

In the new series, the coverage of financial sector has been expanded by including stock brokers, stock exchanges, asset management companies, mutual funds and pension funds, as well as the regulatory bodies – Sebi, PFRDA and IRDA. The new series also has an improved coverage of local bodies and institutions.

Efforts have been made to make use of as much current data as possible and results of latest available surveys on employment-unemployment, consumer expenditure, livestock census, housing and population census, construction sector, among others have been included.

Text: Surojit Gupta

