

## Current Affairs: 28.12.2021

### STATE HEALTH INDEX

NITI Aayog released the fourth edition of the State Health Index for 2019–20. current affairs image

#### About:

The report, titled “Healthy States, Progressive India”, ranks states and Union Territories on their year-on-year incremental performance in health outcomes as well as their overall status. Round IV of the report focuses on measuring and highlighting the overall performance and incremental improvement of states and UTs over the period 2018–19 to 2019–20. The report has been developed by NITI Aayog, with technical assistance from the World Bank, and in close consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).

#### Methodology

The State Health Index is an annual tool to assess the performance of states and UTs. It is a weighted composite index based on 24 indicators grouped under the domains of ‘Health Outcomes’, ‘Governance and Information’, and ‘Key Inputs/Processes’. Each domain has been assigned weights based on its importance with a higher score for outcome indicators. To ensure comparison among similar entities, the ranking is categorized as ‘Larger States’, ‘Smaller States’ and ‘Union Territories’.

#### Important Info :

##### The Findings

- Among the ‘Larger States’, in terms of annual incremental performance, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Telangana are the top three ranking states.
- Among ‘Smaller States’, Mizoram and Meghalaya registered the maximum annual incremental progress.
- Among UTs, Delhi, followed by Jammu and Kashmir, showed the best incremental performance.
- On overall ranking based on the composite index score in 2019–20, the top-ranking states were Kerala and Tamil Nadu among the ‘Larger States’, Mizoram and Tripura among the ‘Smaller States’, and DH&DD and Chandigarh among the UTs.

### COUNTER TERRORISM COMMITTEE OF UNSC



**India will chair the Counter-Terrorism Committee of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in January 2022 after 10 years.**

#### About:

The Counter-Terrorism Committee was established by Security Council resolution 1373 adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks in the US. The Committee was tasked with monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 which requested countries to implement a number of measures aimed at enhancing their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home and around the world. This includes taking steps to criminalize the financing of terrorism, freezing any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism, deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups, suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists and share information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts. Besides, the Committee monitors steps taken to cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in terror acts and criminalizes active and passive assistance for terrorism.

### EAR END REVIEW – 2021 – MINISTRY OF COAL

The Union government launched Single Window Clearance portal on 11.01.2021 for the coal sector to speed up the operationalization of coal mines.

**About:** A Coal Import Monitoring System has been created jointly with the help of Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The auction-based regime introduced in 2014 allowed private sector participation, however, it was limited to

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captive usage in own end use plants. The sector has been opened up for commercial coal mining by private players in 2020 and first ever successful auction of commercial mining was launched by the Prime Minister on 18.06.2020. a "Sustainable Development Cell" has been created in Ministry of Coal and also in all coal PSUs to promote adoption of better environmental management practices in coal mines. "Going Green Initiative" was rolled out by launching the Vriksharopan Abhiyan in August, 2021. Around 6.9 lakh seedlings of local species were planted covering an area of about 500 acres

spread across 38 districts of 12 States (350 places)

## YEAR END REVIEW-2021: DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Total telephone connections rose to 118.9 crore in September 2021 from 93 crore in March 2014, with a growth of 28 % in the said period.

### About:

The tele-density which was 75.23% in March 2014 has reached 86.89% in September 2021. Internet connections jumped from 25.15 crore in March 2014 to 83.37 crore in June 2021, registering a growth of 231%. Broadband connections rose from 6.1 crore in March 2014 to 79 crores in June 2021, growing by about 1200%. The number of Mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) increased from 8 lakh in 2014 to 23 lakhs in 2021 growing by 187 %. India jumped 21 rank, from 88 in 2020 to 67th position in 2021, in Network Readiness Index (NRI) which was developed by World Economic Forum in 2002 and now published by M/s Portulans Institute, Washington. India ranked 3rd among lower middle income countries and 12th among Asia & Pacific countries. India ranks among top 10 in ITU's Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020 (release on 29.06.2021). C-DOT, the R&D arm of DoT, is currently working on Quantum communication systems. Under the National Mission on Quantum technologies and Applications, the ETG (Empowered Technology Group) has identified C-DoT as the lead agency for Quantum Communications, one of the four components of the National Mission.

## YEAR END REVIEW-2021: MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The key initiatives/achievements of the Ministry of Women and Child Development during the Year 2021 are as under:

### About:

Age of Marriage of Women: The Bill on Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Act, 2021 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 21.12.2021 for raising the age of marriage of women from 18 years to 21 years. Poshan Tracker application has been built on latest technology for ensuring real-time monitoring of supplementary nutrition and providing information for prompt supervision and management of services.

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY): The Scheme envisages providing cash incentive amounting to ₹ 5,000/- in three installments directly to the Bank/Post Office Account of Pregnant Women and Lactating Mother (PW&LM) in DBT Mode during pregnancy and lactation.

The Juvenile Justice Act 2015 has been amended through Govt notification on 9.8.2021 and one of the most important features of the amendments is that it includes authorizing District Magistrate including Additional District Magistrate to issue adoption orders under Section 61 of the JJ Act, in order to ensure speedy disposal of cases and enhance accountability.

Expansion of Childline: Childline 1098, a 24-hour a day, 365 days a year, free, emergency phone service, is a nation-wide initiative for rescuing and assisting children in need of aid. This year, Childline has also started Childline Services at Bus Stands and presently is available at 9 Bus Stands, in addition to its presence in railway stations.

## YEAR END REVIEW 2021 – MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

Recent key initiatives of the Ministry during the year are as under.

### About:

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PM MITRA PARKS: Government has approved Setting up of 7 Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (MITRA) Parks with a total outlay of Rs. 4445



Crores in a period of 5 years.

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles is specially focused at high value and expanding MMF and Technical Textiles segments of Textiles Value Chain. Incentives worth Rs. 10,683 crore will be provided over five years for manufacturing notified products of MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and segments/products of Technical Textiles in India.

Government has approved continuation of RoSCTL scheme up to March 2024 to boost export competitiveness of Indian apparel and made-ups.

The Technical Textiles segment is a new age textile, whose application in several sector of economy, including infrastructure, water, health and hygiene, defense, security, automobiles, aviation will improve the efficiencies in those sectors of economy. Government has also launched a National Technical Textiles Mission for promoting R&D efforts in that sector.

SAMARTH (SKILL DEVELOPMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING) is a placement oriented programme targeting skill development of unemployed youth in the value chain of textiles for gainful employment in organized sector and skill upgradation of weavers & artisans in traditional sector.

## YEAR END REVIEW 2021 – MINISTRY OF POWER

The Ministry of Power in the current year has undertaken an array of reforms.

Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020-

The Ministry of Power has notified Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 on 31.12.2020 under section 176 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

These Rules shall empower the consumers of electricity and emanate from the conviction that the power systems exist to serve the consumers and the consumers have rights to get the reliable services and quality electricity.

Late Payment Surcharge Rules 2021-

Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge) Rules, 2021 have been notified by the Central Government on 22nd February, 2021. Late Payment Surcharge means the charges payable by a distribution company to a generating company or electricity trader for power procured from it, or by a user of a transmission system to a transmission licensee on account of delay in payment of monthly charges beyond the due date. Introduction of Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM). Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM) is a marketplace for trading of renewable power on a day-ahead basis.

This would facilitate accomplishment of green targets as well as support integration of green energy in a most efficient, competitive and transparent manner.

GDAM was launched on 25.10.2021. The Green day Ahead Market will be available through the Power Exchanges.

## FLEX FUEL VEHICLES (FFV)

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways advised the Automobile Manufacturers in India to start manufacturing Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFV) and Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV) complying with BS-6 Norms in a time bound manner within a period of six months.

### About:

In line with government's policy on promoting ethanol as a transport fuel, Flex Fuel Vehicles are capable to run on a combination of 100% Petrol or 100% bio-ethanol and their blends, along with strong Hybrid Electric technology in case of FFV-SHEVs.

This move will drastically reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions from vehicles on a Well-to-Wheel basis, helping India to comply with its commitment made at COP26 to reduce the total projected carbon emissions by One Billion Tonnes by 2030.

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In order to accelerate the introduction of Flex Fuel vehicles, the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has included automobile & auto components and auto components of flex fuel engines.

NITI Aayog, after acknowledging the strong foundation for the Ethanol blending programme (EBP), has formulated the road map for Ethanol blending for the period, 2020-2025.

## HYDROPOWER PROJECTS IN HIMACHAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi presided over the second ground breaking ceremony of the Himachal Pradesh Global Investors' Meet in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. The meet is expected to give a boost to investment in the region through projects worth around Rs 28,000 crore.

### About:

He also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of hydropower projects worth over Rs 11,000 crore.

Some of the hydropower projects are the Renukaji Dam project, Luhri Stage 1 Hydro Power Project and Dhaulasidh Hydro Power Project. He also inaugurated the Sawra-Kuddu Hydro Power Project.

### 5G

**The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) said that Gurugram, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chandigarh, Delhi, Jamnagar, Ahmadabad, Chennai, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Pune, and Gandhi Nagar would be among the first cities to get 5G services in 2022.**

5G or fifth generation is the latest upgrade in long-term evolution (LTE) mobile broadband networks. It mainly works in three bands — low-, mid- and high-frequency — all of which have their uses as well as limitations.

While the low-band spectrum has shown great promise in terms of coverage, the maximum Internet speed is limited to 100 Mbps (megabits per second). The mid-band spectrum offers higher speeds than low-band, but has limitations in terms of coverage area and penetration of signals. High-band offers the highest speed among the three, but has extremely limited coverage and signal penetration strength.