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NITI Aayog Released Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020: Gujarat Tops the Overall Rankings

NITI Aayog in partnership with Institute of Competitiveness released the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020, this is the first report to examine export preparedness and performance of the states of India.

Top 5 in Overall rankings:

Rank	State	Export Preparedness	State Category
1	Gujarat	75.19	Coastal
2	Maharashtra	75.14	Coastal
3	Tamil Nadu	64.93	Coastal
4	Rajasthan	62.59	Landlocked
5	Odisha	58.23	Coastal

Category wise top 3 ranking:

Rank	State	Export Preparedness
Coastal States		
1	Gujarat	75.19
2	Maharashtra	75.14
3	Tamil Nadu	64.93
Himalayan States		
1	Uttarakhand	48.11

2	Tripura	40.79
3	Himachal Pradesh	38.85
Landlocked States		
1	Rajasthan	62.59
2	Telangana	57.43
3	Haryana	56.03
Union Territories / City states		
1	Delhi	45.80
2	Goa	40.94
3	Chandigarh	26.07

Tamil Nadu Women Topped the List of MUDRA Loan Scheme Beneficiaries

i. In accordance with the data provided by the Ministry of Finance to the Rajya Sabha, as of March 31, 2020, women in Tamil Nadu topped the list of loan benefit under **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)** by availing Rs 58,227 crore



loan. They are followed by women in West Bengal (Rs 55,232 crore), Karnataka (Rs 47,714 crore), Bihar (Rs 44,879 crore) and Maharashtra (Rs 42,000 crore).

ii. Together women from these five States have got 52% of the total MUDRA loan.

17th Meeting of India-Vietnam Joint Commission Held via Video Conference; Two MoUs Inked



i. On August 25, 2020, the 17th meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was held virtually which was co-chaired by India's External Affairs Minister **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** and his Vietnamese counterpart **Pham Binh Minh**.



ii. The focus of the meet was to review the recent developments in India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and to put forth measures and orientations for cooperation in the new period, towards the 50th anniversary of the bilateral diplomatic ties (January 26, 1972-2022).

iii. India-Vietnam signed the following Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs):

- Cooperation between **Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS)**, New Delhi and Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV), Hanoi.
- MoU between National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi and Scientific Research Institute of Sea and Islands, Hanoi.

World Health Organization (WHO) declares Africa free of Wild Poliovirus



On August 25, 2020 the African Continent was declared free of wild polio by the independent body, the **Africa Regional Certification Commission (ARCC)**, which is responsible for certifying the eradication of wild poliovirus in the World Health Organization (WHO) African Region.

i. The commission led by Professor **Rose Gana Fomban Leke**, chairperson of ARCC, certified that no cases had occurred on the continent for the past four years, which was one of the criteria for eradication of Wild Poliovirus.

ii. The Poliovirus is now found only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

About WHO

Director General – Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia)

Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

Highlights of RBI Annual Report 2019-20; India's Growth Projected at -4.5%



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released its Annual Report for 2019-20. It is Report of the Central Board of Directors on the working of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the year ended June 30, 2020 submitted to the Central Government in terms of Section 53(2) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934

- In the report, RBI projected that India's growth at minus 4.5% for 2020-21. It will be (-) 3.7% in the single hit scenario and (-) 7.3% in the double hit scenario in FY2020-21.
- On the global front, the growth is projected at (-) 6.0% in the single hit scenario and (-) 7.6% in the double hit scenario in FY20-21.

Balance Sheet of RBI:

- The RBI's balance sheet increased by 30%, or Rs 12,31,888 crore, from Rs 41,02,905 crore to Rs 53,34,793 crore.
- The gross total income for the year 2019-20 declined by 29% to Rs 149,672 crore as compared to Rs 193,036 crore in 2018-19.
- Its expenditure for the year 2019-20 is Rs 92,540 crore compared to an expenditure of Rs 17,045 crore in 2018-19.
- The year ended with an **overall surplus of Rs 57,128 billion** which was transferred to the government.
- On the liability side, the rise was due to an increase in notes issued, other liabilities and provisions and deposits.
- Domestic assets constituted 28.75% while foreign currency assets and gold (including gold deposit and gold held in India) constituted 71.25% of total assets as of June 2020 as against 28.03% and 71.97% respectively, as of June 2019.

-Bank frauds more than double in FY20 to Rs 1.85 trillion

As per the RBI annual report FY19-20, bank frauds of Rs 100,000 and above have more than doubled in value to Rs 1.85 trillion in FY20, with the number of such cases increasing 28% in the same period.

- The top 50 credit-related frauds constituted 76% of the total amount reported as frauds.

- Public sector banks (PSBs) accounted for 80% of the Rs 1.85 trillion reported as frauds in FY20, followed by private sector banks at 18%.
- Frauds in loans constituted 98% of the total frauds or at Rs 1.82 trillion.



World Water Week 2020: August 24 – 28, 2020

.The World Water Week of the year 2020 is observed as the World Water Week at Home (**WWWeek at Home**) from **24rd August 2020 to 28th August 2020**.The World



Water Week, organised by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) has been annually celebrated as the most influential, innovative and dynamic movement for transforming the global water issues.

ii.The World Water Week has been celebrated and organised since **1991**.

iii.The theme of WWWeek at Home 2020 is ‘**Water and Climate change: Accelerating Action**’.

iv.The sessions will be conducted virtually to engage the participants in productive discussions amid the global pandemic.

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