

NEWS TODAY

SAMPLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM (SRS) STATISTICAL REPORT 2019 RELEASED

• Key Highlights

Indicators	Findings
Crude Birth Rate (CBR) - annual number of live births per 1,000 population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At National level during 2019 stands at 19.7. Maximum in Bihar (25.8) and the minimum in Kerala (13.5). There has been a decline of 1.3 points in the CBR for the country from 2014 to 2019. The corresponding decline in rural CBR is 1.3 points and in urban CBR 1.0 points.
Crude Death Rate (CDR) - number of deaths per 1,000 midyear population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At national level: 6.0 in 2019. Maximum in Chhattisgarh (7.3) and minimum: Delhi (3.2). During the last five years, decline in National CDR has been to the tune of 0.7 points. The corresponding decline in female CDR is 0.6 points whereas in male CDR it is 1.2 points.
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) - number of deaths per 1,000 live births of children under one year of age.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It registered a 2-point decline to 30 in 2019 from 32 in 2018 at the National level. Maximum in Madhya Pradesh (46) and minimum in Kerala (6).
Under 5 Mortality Rate U5MR - the probability that a child born in a specific year or period will die before reaching the age of 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Showed a decline of 1 point over 2019 from 2018(36 in 2018). There has been a decline of 1 point in male U5MR and 2 points in female U5MR during the corresponding period.
Sex Ratio at Birth - number of girls born for every 1,000 boys born	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the national level it has gone up by 5 points to 904 in 2017-19 from 899 in 2016-2018. Kerala has highest (968) while Uttarakhand has the lowest (848).
Total Fertility Rate (TFR) - total number of children that would be born to each woman if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years. Replacement fertility level is the TFR at which a population can replace itself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It came down to 2.1 in 2019 after being stable at 2.2 for the last two years 2017 and 2018. Bihar has reported the highest TFR (3.1) while Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have reported the lowest TFR (1.5) The replacement level TFR, viz. 2.1, has been attained in 15 states.

About SRS

- It is released by **Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner** under Ministry of Home Affairs.
- SRS is the **only official source of demographic data** except decadal censuses in India.
- SRS is a **demographic survey** for providing reliable annual estimates of IMR, birth rate, death rate, and other fertility and mortality indicators at the national and sub-national levels.

DETAILED PROJECT REPORTS (DPRs) ON REJUVENATION OF 13 MAJOR RIVERS THROUGH FORESTRY INTERVENTIONS RELEASED

- Thirteen rivers are: **Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, Sutlej, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Luni, Narmada, Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna, and Cauvery.**
 - Collectively cover a **total basin area of 18 lakh sq. km** that represents **57.45% of the geographical area** of the country.
- Features of DPRs**
 - Rivers with their tributaries are **proposed for forestry interventions in the riverscape (landscape at or around a river) under different landscapes namely natural landscape, agricultural landscape and urban landscape.**
 - During execution, **"Ridge to Valley approach" shall be followed** and soil & moisture conservation works would precede the plantation operations.
 - Ridge-to-valley approach **seeks to detain, divert, store and use available rainwater with the intention to conserve every drop of water starting at the ridge** and reduce to a considerable extent both the surface run-off volume and the velocity of water.
 - Focus on protection, afforestation, catchment treatment, ecological restoration, moisture conservation, livelihood improvement, income generation, ecotourism** by developing river fronts, eco-parks and bringing awareness amongst the masses.
- Significance:** Help achieve **potential benefits of increasing the green cover**, contain soil erosion, recharge water table and sequester carbon dioxide in addition to benefits in the form of non-timber forest produce.

○ DPRs were funded by **National Afforestation & Eco-development Board, (MoEF&CC)** and prepared by **Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE)**, Dehradun.

LOK SABHA WAS INFORMED REGARDING STEPS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT ICAP

- India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP) was **launched in 2019, by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change**.
 - ICAP provides a **20-year perspective** and outlines actions needed to provide access to sustainable cooling.
- ICAP seeks to:**
 - Reduce cooling demand across sectors** by 20% to 25% by 2037-38.
 - Reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30%** by 2037-38.
 - Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40%** by 2037-38.
 - Recognize "cooling and related areas" as a thrust area of research** under National S&T Programme.
 - Training and certification of 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23**, synergizing with Skill India Mission.
- Steps taken to implement thematic areas of the ICAP**
 - Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)** for all large commercial (non-residential) buildings and **Eco-Niwas Samhita (ECBC-R)** for the residential buildings.
 - Department of Science and Technology funded a research project to promote **indigenous development of low global warming potential refrigerants**.
 - Study undertaken for developing **safety standards for flammable refrigerants** in the Refrigeration and Air-conditioning sector.
 - Up-skilling and certification of 43,450 Refrigeration and Air-conditioning service technicians** under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).

ISRO SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTS GROUND TEST OF SOLID BOOSTER STAGE FOR SMALL SATELLITE LAUNCH VEHICLE (SSLV)

- The **testing was carried out at Satish Dhawan Space Centre Sriharikota** (Andhra Pradesh).
- The successful test of the solid booster stage has given sufficient confidence to proceed with the **first developmental flight of SSLV (SSLV-D1)**.
 - ISRO usually declares a launch vehicle **operational after two successful development flights**.

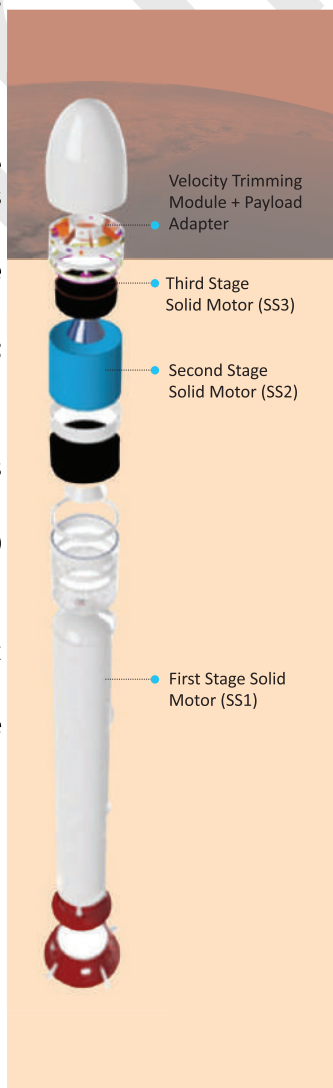
• About SSLV

- It is a **three-stage all solid vehicle** with the capability to launch up to 500 kg satellite mass into 500 km low earth orbit (LEO).
- It aims to **cater to the emerging market for the launch of small satellites** into LEOs.
- It is the **smallest vehicle at 110-ton mass at ISRO**.

• Advantages of SSLV

- Reduced turnaround time** (take only 72 hours to integrate, unlike the 70 days taken now).
- Cost-effective** (cost will be only around Rs 30 crore).
- Requires lesser infrastructure** and manpower, as it can be assembled by a team of team of six experts within seven days.
- Unlike the PSLV and GSLV, the SSLV can be **assembled both vertically and horizontally**.
- Accommodate multiple satellites** e.g., nano, micro, and small satellites.

- New Space India Limited, PSU under Department of Space will be the sole nodal agency responsible** for providing end-to-end SSLV Launch services for customer satellites from contractual, technical, programmatic, launch campaign etc.



RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI) ISSUES REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR MICROFINANCE LOANS DIRECTIONS, 2022

- The directions were issued under **Banking Regulation Act, 1949, Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934; and National Housing Bank Act, 1987**.
- Guidelines are applicable to Regulated Entities (RE)**, which include,
 - All **Commercial Banks** excluding **Payments Banks**;
 - All Primary (Urban) **Co-operative Banks/ State & District Central Co-operative Banks**;
 - All **Non-Banking Financial Companies**.
- Key highlights**
 - Microfinance institutions have **freedom to set interest rates**, but the rates should not be unreasonably high.
 - Minimum requirement of microfinance loans for NBFC-MFIs** stands revised to 75% of the total assets.
 - Each RE has to put in place a **board-approved policy regarding the pricing of microfinance loans**.
 - Interest rates and other charges/ fees on microfinance loans shall have **supervisory scrutiny by RBI**.
 - No pre-payment penalty** on microfinance loans. Penalty for delayed payment shall be applied on the overdue amount and not on entire loan amount.
- Microfinance is a form of **financial service which provides small loans and other financial services** to poor and low-income households. It is a tool to promote **financial inclusion**.
 - As per current directions of RBI, **all collateral-free loans, provided to households having annual income up to ₹3,00,000**, shall be considered as microfinance loans.

ALSO IN NEWS



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

- India acknowledged the role of Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in **Ukraine crisis**.
- **About OSCE:**
 - OSCE emerged from the **Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE)** established in 1975.
 - CSCE was created to serve as a **multilateral forum for dialogue** between **East and West**.
 - It has a **comprehensive approach to security** that encompasses politico-military, economic and environmental, and human aspects.
 - **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria
 - **Comprises 57 participating States** across three continents - **North America, Europe and Asia**.



11th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)- Quarterly Bulletin (April – June 2021)

- As per it, **Unemployment Rate (UR) for persons of age 15 years and above in urban areas dipped to 12.6% in April-June 2021** from 20.8% in the same month of the previous year.
- **National Statistical Office (NSO) launched PLFS in 2017 to ensure the availability of labour force data** at more frequent time intervals.
- **Objective of PLFS:**
 - Estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators in the short time interval of **three months for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS)**.
 - Estimate **employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' and CWS** in both rural and urban areas annually.



Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN)

- **Ministry of Rural Development released an ebook on Land Governance Reforms** announced in Budget, with contents related to ULPIN, National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) etc.
- **ULPIN:** Described as **"the Aadhaar for land"**, it is a **14-digit identification number that uniquely identifies every surveyed parcel of land** to prevent land fraud, especially in rural India, where land records are outdated and disputed.
- **NGDRS:** It is a **state specific software citizen designed to assist states for online property registration**, uploading of relevant documents etc.



Bal Bhavans

- **National Education Policy 2020** recommends that every **State will be encouraged** to strengthen existing or establish "Bal Bhavans".
- **About National Bal Bhawan:**
 - It is an autonomous body under, Ministry of Education, which aims at **enhancing the creative potential of children** by providing them various activities, opportunities and common platform to interact, experiment, create and perform.
 - Since 1956, it has brought in children across **gender, class, caste divides** to nurture their **curiosity and imagination**.
 - Works as a **nodal agency** for all affiliated Bal Bhavans.






Net zero emissions

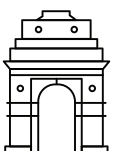
- **Mumbai has** announced detailed plans to achieve **net zero carbon emissions by 2050**, making it the **first city in South Asia** to set such a **timeline**.
- Plan lists changes across **domains like** Investments in housing, Electrifying public transport, Flood-resistant drainage, rooftop solar capacities etc.
- **About Net zero:**
 - It refers to a state in which the **greenhouse gases going into the atmosphere are balanced by removal** out of the atmosphere.
 - India has announced to reach **net zero emissions by 2070**.



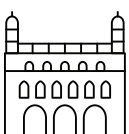
Mouling National Park

- Mouling National Park is located in the **Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh**, in Adi hills of the eastern Himalayas adjoining Siang River valley.
- It forms **the eastern part of the Dihang-Dibang Biosphere Reserve**.
- It was created in 1986.
- The name 'Mouling' has been derived from **peak Mouling**.
- **Vegetation:** **Tropical wet evergreen and semi-evergreen** forests, tending towards wet sub-tropical broad-leaved and temperate forest at the upper reaches.
- **Fauna:** **Red Pandas**, Deers, **Hoolock Gibbons**, and Tigers, wild buffalo, panther, elephant, hog deer, barking deer, chestnut-breasted Hill Partridge, Greater spotted Eagle.
- **Climate:** Extremely humid, with high rainfall and no well-defined dry season.

 <p>Sawfish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extremely rare and critically endangered sawfish was caught in fishing nets in Karnataka. • Sawfish have a long-flattened head and body and an elongated snout, much like that of the saw shark, that forms a long flat blade edged with strong teeth. • Habitat: shallow water in subtropical and tropical regions of the world. They are bottom dwellers. • Sawfishes are ovoviviparous fishes (that is, fertilized eggs grow within the body of female sawfishes, and the young are born alive). • Conservation Status (as per IUCN): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Large tooth sawfish: Critically Endangered ➤ Dwarf Saw Fish: Endangered ➤ Green Sawfish: Critically Endangered ➤ Smalltooth Sawfish: Critically Endangered ➤ Narrow Sawfish: Endangered
 <p>Phool Dei</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The festival of Phool Dei is celebrated in the Garhwal and Kumaon regions of Uttarakhand every year in the flowering season (March-April) to mark the onset of spring. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It takes place on the first day of the Chaitra season as per the Hindu calendar. ➤ Children, particularly young girls, go into farms, forests and gardens to collect fresh flowers to offer to the local deities. • The celebration is indirectly rooted in a sense of affection and protection towards nature, especially local flowers and trees.
 <p>Personality in news</p>	<p>Mina Swaminathan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mina Swaminathan, an educationist, died due to old age. • She was the wife of agricultural scientist M. S. Swaminathan. • She was emeritus trustee of M S Swaminathan Research Foundation. • Contributions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chaired the committee that recommended the Integrated Child Care Development Scheme (ICDS) in Tamil Nadu. ➤ One of the founders of the mobile creches. ➤ Founding member of Centre for Women's Development Studies. ➤ An international consultant with UNESCO and UNICEF on early childhood care and education. • Values: Social welfare, gender equality etc.



DELHI



LUCKNOW



JAIPUR



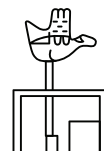
HYDERABAD



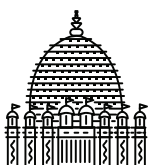
PUNE



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