



PIB Summary

August 2019

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PIB SUMMARY-AUGUST 2019

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE

- Registration for **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana** has been started under which a monthly pension of Rs.3000 will be provided to the farmers after attaining the age of 60 years.
- Around **4500 villages in Punjab and Haryana** has been declared as **Zero stubble burning villages** as a result of 41% reduction in stubble burning incident in 2018 as compared to 2016.
- **4th Advance estimates of major crop production during 2018-19** has been released according to which the **estimated yield of major food crops are as follows-**
 1. Food grains-284.95MT
 - a.) Rice-116.42MT
 - b.) Wheat-102.19MT
 2. Oilseeds-32.26MT
 3. Cotton-28.71MT
 4. Sugarcane-400.16MT
- **Ministry has released the third advance estimate (2018-19) of area and production of Horticultural crops. The major findings are:**
 - 1.) Total area under horticulture crops-25.49 million hectare
 - 2.) Total production-313.80Metric tonnes
 - 3.) The production of Fruits, vegetables, spices and honey has increased while that of plantation, aromatic and medicinal plants has decreased as compared to 2017-18.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES

- The **8th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial meeting** was held in **Beijing, China** to review the development of the RCEP negotiations.
- The **9th session of India-Kenya Joint Trade committee** took place in New Delhi.
- **Two sub-shows –Indus-food tech and Indus-food chem** was launched by Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) to establish Indus-food as an integrated Food processing lifecycle event.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

- **Indian army emerged as winners at 5th International scout masters competition** held at Jaisalmer Military station.
- As a part of India's warm ties with Spain, **INS Tarkash made a port call at Cadiz, Spain** on 19th August, 2019.
- **An agreement has been made between the coastguards of India and Srilanka** for strengthening cooperation in addressing maritime issues.
- **Dr. Ajay Kumar** has been appointed as the **Defence secretary**.
- **A historic MoU has been signed between Indian Military and Tata realty** and housing which will enable the personnel of Indian Army to take over dwelling units in various ready to move projects in Tata realty.

- A MoU has been signed between Indian Navy and India Meteorological department (IMD) at Kochi which will enable the Indian Navy to utilize the Cyclone detector radar (CDR) building at Kochi for meteorological purposes.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- An integrated teachers training programme called NISHTHA (National Initiative for school heads and teachers' holistic advance has been launched by the ministry.
- The Indian Air force Facilitation cum publicity Pavilion (FCP) was inaugurated at National Bal Bhavan to motivate students to join Air Force.
- An integrated online junction for school education called 'Shagun' was launched which is one of the world's largest system of its kind for improving school education.

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

- World Biofuel Day was observed on 10th August 2019. The theme for 2019-Production of Biodiesel from used cooking oil (UCO).

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

- Ministry has exempted the armoured and other specialized vehicles of Indian armed forces and Parliamentary forces from stringent vehicular emission norms which will come into effect from 1st April, 2020.
- The ministry has initiated steps to implement Motor Vehicles Act 2019 in order to curb road accidents and bring down fatalities.

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- World Breastfeeding week was celebrated from 1st to 7th August with the theme-Empower parents, Enable breastfeeding.
- Ministry has facilitated states and districts under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme in New Delhi for successful implementation of the scheme.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

- In order to provide an exclusive platform for creative women, Sahitya Akadami conducted Nari Chetana programme on 2nd August 2019 in New Delhi.
- Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Union Minister of State for culture and tourism launched the book-The Diary of Manu Gandhi which has been brought out by National Archives of India on 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in collaboration with Oxford University press.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

- The Code of Wages bill 2019 was passed by the Rajya Sabha.
- Central Board of Trustee (CBT) has approved the amendment of Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) for the restoration of commended value of pension to the pensioners.

MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Ratification of the amended framework agreement of the **International Solar Agreement (ISA)** has been approved by the Cabinet for opening of the ISA membership to all the member countries of the United Nations.
- In order to initiate a skill development programme for different levels of beneficiaries in the solar thermal energy sector, **an agreement has been signed between National Institute of Solar Energy and the United Nation Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).**
- 3rd edition of Renewable energy Industrial meet and Expo (**RE-INVEST**) 2019 will be held from 30th October to 2nd November, 2019 in India.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

- **137 mountain peaks in four states-Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and J&K has been opened for foreigners** for mountaineering and Trekking which is an historic step towards promoting adventure tourism in India.

MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

- **3rd International Electric vehicle conclave was held in Gurugram** to create a knowledge sharing platform to ensure the flow of information at all levels in the automotive sector.

MINISTRY OF SPACE

- **Chandrayaan-2** successfully entered lunar transfer trajectory on 14th August 2019.

MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

- **A Mobile app-Janaushadhi Sugam**, has been launched in order to locate outlets and search generic medicines.
- It has been announced that **Janaushadhi Suvidha oxo-biodegradable sanitary napkins** will now be available at only one rupee per pad.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

- **PV Sindhu won Gold at BWF World championship 2019** in Basel by defeating Japan's Nozomi Okuhara.
- **Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2018 was announced in four fields-**
 1. Land Adventure-Ms. Aparna Kumar, Lt. Shri Dipankar Ghosh and Shri Manikandan K.
 2. Water Adventure-Shri Prabhat Raju Koli
 3. Air adventure-Shri Rameshwar Jhangra
 4. Life time achievement award-Shri Wangchuk Sherpe
- **Winners of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award-2019**
 1. Shri Bajrang Punia-Wrestler
 2. Deepa Malik-Para Athlete
- Prime Minister launched **Nation -wide Fit India Movement** on the Occasion of National Sports Day.

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- India is going to host the **14th Conference of Parties (COP14)** to the **United Nations convention in order to combat desertification** from 2nd to 13th September 2019 at India Expo center, Greater Noida. India aims to restore 50 lakh hectare of land by 2030.
- **Center has released Rs.47436crores for afforestation activities** and to increase forest and tree cover.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

- Government has announced that all the villages will be linked with Wi-Fi through **Gram-Net** with connectivity between 10mbps to 100mbps speed.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

- **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has signed a MoU with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** for enhanced outreach on HIV AIDS prevention.
- **State of the art-National Food Laboratory** of FSSAI was inaugurated at New Delhi.
- Foundation stone of **Sports Injury Expansion Project** was laid by Dr. Harshvardhan at **Safdarjung hospital**.

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS

- The prestigious **SKOCH Governance gold award** has been given to **DAY-NRLM** for its portal for affordable credit and interest subvention access (**PAISA**).
- Ministry has launched **Angikaar-a campaign for social behavior change** to focus on issues like water and energy conservation, waste management etc.

MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

- Ministry has inaugurated **Hunar Haat at Jaipur** in order to provide employment opportunities to lakhs of artisans and craftsmen.

CABINET COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (CCEA)

- Cabinet has approved the establishment of **75 new medical colleges by 2021-22**.
- **CCEA has approved to provide a lump-sum subsidy of Rs.10448 per metric tonnes** to sugar mills for 2019-20 for which a total estimated expenditure of Rs.6268crores will be incurred.

CABINET

- **Cabinet has approved the establishment of an International coalition for Disaster resilient infrastructure (CDRI)** at the **UN Climate action summit in New York** held on 23rd September 2019.
- **A MoU has been signed between Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of health, Republic of Peru** for cooperation in the field of **medicinal plants**.
- **Shri Rajiv Gauba** has been appointed as the new **Cabinet Secretary** in the Government of India.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

- **Government has brought resolution to repeal article 370** of the Constitution which granted a special status to the state of Jammu & Kashmir.
- **12th Annual Security Summit** was held in New Delhi with the **theme-Towards New National Cyber security strategy**.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

- **Finance Minister announced the merger of ten Public sector banks into four.** As a part of this amalgamation, Indian bank will be merged with Allahabad bank, Punjab National Bank, Oriental bank and United bank will be merged, Union bank, Andhra bank and Corporation bank will be merged and Syndicate bank will be merged with Canara bank. **Hence, now in place of 27 Public sector banks, there will be only 12 Public sector banks.**

