

CIVIL SERVICE DIGEST (CSD-Daily)

November 26, 2018

26th November || Constitution Day



PM Narendra Modi spoke about the “Constitution Day” which falls on the 26th November every year on his monthly radio talk ‘Mann ki Baat’.

ABOUT:

- **Constitution Day (National Law Day)**, also known as **Samvidhan Divas**, is celebrated in India on 26 November every year to commemorate the adoption of Constitution of India. On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.

- As 2015 was the 125th birth anniversary year of B. R. Ambedkar the government of India decided in May 2015 to celebrate this year in a big way, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi announced that 26 November will be celebrated as “Constitution Day”

Historical background:

- Total membership of the Constituent Assembly of India had 299 representatives which included 229 members from provinces and 70 from princely states.
- The Constituent Assembly took 2 years 11 months and 17 days to accomplish this stupendous task of drafting the Constitution.
- The Assembly was not elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage, Members of Constituent Assembly were indirectly elected by method of single transferable vote system of proportional representation. Muslims and Sikhs received special representation as minorities.

NCC Celebrating 70th Anniversary

National Cadet Corps (NCC), the largest uniformed youth organization in the world, celebrating its 70th Raising Day.

ABOUT:

- The National Cadet Corps is an Indian military cadet corps with its Headquarters at New Delhi, India.
- National Cadet Corps came into being by an Act of the Parliament designated The National Cadet Corps Act 1948.
- **Motto of NCC-**“Unity and Discipline” as the motto for the NCC.

- **AIM of NCC**-The NCC aims at developing character, comradeship, discipline, a secular outlook, the spirit of adventure and ideals of selfless service amongst young citizens. Further, it aims at creating a pool of organized, trained and motivated youth with leadership qualities in all walks of life, who will serve the Nation regardless of which career they choose. Needless to say, the NCC also provides an environment conducive to motivating young Indians to join the armed forces.

Union Agriculture & Farmers Welfare || Embryo Transfer Technology

Speaking on the occasion of “National Milk Day” Union Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Minister ShriRadha Mohan Singh has said that agriculture and dairy business complement each other for the social and economic upliftment of cattle farmers and emphasized on the importance of Embryo transfer technology.

About:

- Embryo transfer technology is one of the most important reproductive biotechnologies where male and female genetic material can be utilized for faster improvement of livestock.
- Embryos of higher genetic merit indigenous bovines such as Sahiwal, Gir, Red Sindhi, Ongole, Deoni and Vechur are being transferred into surrogate cows.

Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)

- Aims to benefit 95 lakh milk producers in 50,000 villages and provide both direct and indirect employment to many skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

- There is a provision to provide financial assistance for providing self employment opportunities in various activities from milk production to marketing.

Platform to monitor public health surveillance || Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)

Health Ministry launches a new state-of-the art Information Platform to monitor public health surveillance.

About:

- Union Health ministry launched Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) segment of Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) in seven states today.
- Initiative will provide near-real-time data to policy makers for detecting outbreaks, reducing the morbidity and mortality and lessening disease burden in the populations and better health systems.

Paisa – Portal for Affordable Credit & Interest Subvention Access

A centralized electronic platform for processing interest subvention on bank loans to beneficiaries under DeendayalAntyodayaYojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) named “PAiSA – Portal for Affordable Credit & Interest Subvention Access.

About:

- The web platform has been designed and developed by Allahabad Bank which is the Nodal bank.
- PAiSA is yet another effort by the government to connect directly with the beneficiaries, ensuring that there is greater transparency and efficiency in delivery of services.
- DBT of subvention on monthly basis under DAY-NULM will give the necessary financial support to small entrepreneurs in a timely manner.
- The portal was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs .The portal will provide a platform to identify key areas of concern regarding municipal finance and urban planning, and will explore the options available to resolve them by inviting senior officials / experts to shed light on best practices.

MWCD || HAUSLA-2018

The National Festival for Children of Child Care Institutions (CCIs)- “Hausla 2018” of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) was inaugurated by the Secretary, ShriRakeshSrivastava, today in New Delhi.

Details

- There will be a participation of more than 600 Children drawn from CCIs from 18 states in the various events like painting competition, athletics meet, football, chess competition and speech writing as part of the Festival.

Objective

- The idea behind the entire event is to provide a national platform for the children from CCIs across India to showcase their talent, to make them realise the hidden talent they possess and to help take it forward in their life.

Jangalmahal Festival began in West Bengal

- On November 23, 2018, a three-day-long annual ‘**Jangalmahal**’ festival began in the adjoining forested areas of **West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia** districts of **West Bengal**.
- Initiated and organized by the ‘**JangalmahalUdyog**’, the festival aims to revive and popularise the culture and heritage of Jangalmahal.

Odisha’sBaliyatra festival inaugurated

- On 23rd November 2018 the historic Bali Yatra festival was inaugurated in Cuttack, Odisha on the occasion of KartikPurnima by State Finance Minister ShashiBhusanBehera.
- The 10 days long festival is the largest trade fair in Orissa and is likely to witness a footfall of millions of people and more than 1500 makeshift stalls to showcase a wide range of products, including ethnic items brought by artisans from across the country.
- It is held on the banks of Mahanadi river in Cuttack, to mark the day when ancient Sadhabas (ancient meriners) would set sail to distant lands of Bali, for trade and cultural expansion.

NBFC Mudra loans grew faster than banks in FY18: report by MUDRA

On November 23, 2018, According to the **2017-18 annual report of PradhanMantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)**, Non Banking Financial Company(NBFC) sanctioned Mudra loans under PMMY, grew faster than banks **in FY 2018.**

i. This is **the first time** that the bad loan data has been released by **Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency (Mudra).**

Highlights of the report:

i. NBFCs sanctioned approximately **Rs 27,000 crore** of Mudra loans during the fiscal 2018 as against **Rs 92,492.68 crore** sanctioned by public sector banks.

ii. Thus NBFCs not only met their Mudra target of **Rs.9,050crore** for FY18, but their sanctions for the year were a five-fold jump from the previous year.

iii. NBFC Mudra loans sanctions rose **396%** from last fiscal compared with just **29%** increase of Mudra loans by state-run banks.

iv. Among this, **AU Small Finance Bank** was the top lender among Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and the **State Bank of India (SBI)** was the top lender among state-run banks followed by **Canara Bank** and **Punjab National Bank.**

v. According to the report, a total of **577 crore** small businesses and micro units are there in the country which are majority owned by scheduled caste, scheduled tribe or other backward classes.

vi. In the financial year 2017-18, overall loans worth **Rs 2.54 lakh crore** were classified as Mudra loans.

vii. This was an increase of **41%** from **Rs 1.80 lakh crore** of loans sanctioned in the last financial year.

viii. For 2018-19, a target of **Rs 3 lakh crore** has been set.

About PradhanMantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):

- ◆ Launched: 2015.
- ◆ It is a scheme to provide loans up to Rs. 10 lakh based on 3 categories, to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro-enterprises. The categories are:
 - Shishu (up to Rs.50,000).
 - Kishore (from Rs.50,001 to Rs.5 lakh).
 - Tarun (from Rs.500,001 to Rs.10,00,000)
- ◆ These are provided by commercial banks, regional rural banks, small finance banks (SFBs), cooperative banks and microfinance institutions and NBFCs.

106 judicial appointments to the High Courts and the Supreme Court

- The Ministry of Law and Justice website shows that 106 judicial appointments to the High Courts and the Supreme Court were issued by the government from October to November 2018.
- The government also approved 16 transfers of judges to the various High Courts.

Related Concept – Appointment of Judges

- The Constituent Assembly adopted a consultative process of appointing judges to ensure that judges remain insulated from political influence.
- It avoided legislative interference and also the undemocratic provision of a veto to the Chief Justice.
- Instead, it vested in the President the power to both make appointments and transfer judges between high courts.

- The President (to act on the advice of the council of ministers) was however required to consult certain authorities such as the CJI or chief justice of the high court appropriately.
- ‘Consultation’ – The Supreme Court earlier ruled that the word “consultation” could not be interpreted to mean “concurrence”.
- Accordingly, the CJI’s opinion was not binding on the executive.
- Nevertheless, the executive could depart from the opinion only in exceptional circumstances and any such decision could be subject to judicial review.
- The system was thus fairly balanced and in the First Judges Case, 1981 the court once again endorsed this interpretation.
- Second Judges Case – In the famous Second Judges Case, 1993 the court, however, overruled its earlier decisions.
- It now held that “consultation” meant “concurrence”, and that the CJI’s view enjoys primacy.
- This is with the rationale that CJI could be best equipped to know and assess the “worth” of candidates.
- But, the CJI was to formulate the opinion only through a body of senior judges that the court described as the ‘collegium’.
- In the Third Judges Case, 1998 the court clarified that the collegium would comprise CJI and four senior-most colleagues, in appointments to the Supreme Court.
- And, the CJI and two senior-most colleagues in the case of appointments to the high courts.
- Additionally, for HCs, the collegium would consult other senior judges in the SC who had previously served in the HC concerned.
- On whether these views of the consultee-judges are binding on the collegium or not, the judgments are silent.

- NJAC – The government, through 99th constitutional amendment, sought to replace the collegium with the National Judicial Appointments Commission. The Supreme Court, however, struck NJAC down.
- The court's rationale was that the NJAC law gave politicians an equal say in judicial appointments to constitutional courts.
- In what might now be called the Fourth Judges Case (2015), the court upheld the primacy of the collegium.
- More importantly, it declared collegium as part of the Constitution's basic structure.
- And so its power could not be removed even through a constitutional amendment.
- But given the criticisms against the system, the judgment promised to consider appropriate measures to improve the collegium system.