

CIVIL SERVICE DIGEST (CSD-Daily)

Dec 24, 2018

Hand-in-Hand



- It is a joint Sino-India military exercise
- The exercise included lectures and discussions on various counter terrorism aspects like cordon and search operations, raid on terrorist hideouts, intelligence collection and joint operations.
- The troops shared best practices being followed by both nations in counter terrorism operations in urban and jungle terrain and the exercise provided an opportunity to both the armies for greater understanding and strengthening mutual trust and cooperation.

National Consumer Day

- National Consumer Day is observed on Dec 24.
- The objective is to highlight the importance of the consumer movement and the need to make every consumer more aware of their rights and responsibilities.
- The theme this year is “Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints”.
- On this day the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was enacted. The Act aims to provide consumers with effective safeguards against different types of exploitation, such as defective goods, deficiency in services and unfair trade practices.

No rise in working women despite high literacy levels: ICRIER study



Context

- According to a new research by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), the study says that the rise in literacy levels among women has failed to translate into an increase in the

number of working women due to a **combination of socio-economic factors** such as the importance of education for improving marital prospects as well as higher prestige attached to households which keep women out of labour force

Details

- It has cited the **Labour Bureau's employment figures** to show that there is a rise in the percentage of women **out of labour force** between 2011-2012 and 2015-2016 across all levels of education and age-cohorts.
- The percentage of women with graduate degrees and above who are not in the labour force has increased from 62.7% to 65.2%.
- The percentage of illiterate women out of the labour force too increased from 67.6% to 70.1%.
- This is an indicator that despite one's educational attainment there has been a decline in the incentive for women to participate in the labour force.

Laborious task

Rise in literacy has not translated into jobs for women. The tables show percentage of women out of the labour force in various education levels in the age group of 30 and above; and the gross enrolment ratio

Education	2013-14	2015-16
Not literate	67,6	70,1
Below primary	72,9	74
Primary	72,4	74,2
Middle/ Secondary/HS	77	77
Graduate and above	62,7	62,7

Gross enrolment ratio (2014-15)	Male	Female
Higher education (18-23) years	25,3	23,2
IX-XII (14-17) years	64,9	65,8
XI-XII (16-17) years	54,6	53,8
IX-X (14-15) years	78,1	78,9

Source: Working Paper 368,
The Anomaly of Women's Work and
Education in India, Indian Council for Research on
International Economic Relations



Reasons behind this drop

The paper attributes the trend to four major factors: the role education plays in marriage markets, social norms, poor condition for educated women and quality of education.

- For many the incentive behind ensuring better education for their daughters is not so much the lure of a better paying job but the promise of a better marriage prospect.
- Social norms also ensure that higher prestige or social status is associated with families which keep their women out of the workforce.
- The growth in formal sector jobs has not kept pace with the supply of educated women, which may have led to “crowding out of females” from the workforce.

Recommendation

- The study recommends that **government policies should focus on behavioral changes** that make female employment more acceptable in the society
- **Communication programmes on gender equality** in secondary education needs to be developed to help students imbibe equitable gender norms
- Programmes that acknowledge **child care as the responsibility of both parents** requires attention.

Centre of Excellence for Genetic Blood Disorders at Prathima Institute in Karimnagar inaugurated by President of India

On December 22, 2018, the President of India, **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, on his first visit to Karimnagar, inaugurated the **Centre of Excellence Genetic Blood Disorders** at the Prathima Institute of Medical Sciences in **Karimnagar, Telangana.**



- i. This centre will work on Sickle Cell Anaemia, Thalassemia and Other Genetic Blood Disorders.
- ii. It was set up by **Prathima Institute of Medical Sciences**.

Background:

India has the largest number of children with Thalassemia major in the world.

**Andhra, Himachal and Madhya Pradesh best performing states under
maternity benefit programme PMMVY: MoSWCD**

On December 21, 2018, **Minister of State for the Women and Child Development Virendra Kumar** released the performance of states and UTs under the maternity benefit programme named **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana**.

- i. **Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh** topped the charts as the best performing states.
- ii. According to the finding, **51.70 lakh** beneficiaries are covered annually under the PMMVY.
- iii. Grants-in-aid amounting to Rs 2,048.59 crores and Rs 369.31 crores have been sanctioned to the states and the Union Territories during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively.

About Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY):

- ◆ Launched: 2016.
- ◆ Under Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ◆ It is a centrally-sponsored scheme under which the cost-sharing ratio between the Centre, states and the Union Territories with the legislation is 60:40.

◆ For the eight northeastern states and the three Himalayan states, it is 90:10, and 100 per cent central assistance for the Union Territories without the legislation.
