



DAILY PT POINTERS

1st December, 2023



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Welfare Schemes

Prime Minister inaugurates the 10,000th Jan Aushadhi Kendra

Prime Minister Modi urge public to make optimal use of Jan Aushadhi Kendras

There are around 182 Jan Aushadhi Kendras in Assam

Posted On: 30 NOV 2023 4:48PM by PIB Guwahati

In a significant milestone for public healthcare, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today dedicated the 10,000th Jan Aushadhi Kendra at **AIIMS, Deoghar**, affirming the government's commitment to providing quality and affordable medicines to the masses through the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

Highlighting the objectives of the initiative the Prime Minister stated that Janaushadhi Kendras have been opened across the country, where high-quality medicines are being sold at 50%-90% cheaper rates compared to market rates which has greatly benefitted not only the poor but also the middle class.

In Assam alone, there are around 182 Jan Aushadhi Kendras, contributing significantly to the state's healthcare landscape. The government's commitment to expanding this initiative reflects its dedication to enhancing healthcare accessibility and affordability nationwide.



News

- Prime Minister inaugurates the 10,000th Jan Aushadhi Kendra at AIIMS, Deoghar.

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)

- It was launched by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers.**
- This scheme ensures easy reach of affordable medicine to the people in every nook and corner of the country.
- Medicines available under PMBJP are priced 50 per cent - 90 per cent less than that of branded prices.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB: Economy

INDEX OF EIGHT CORE INDUSTRIES (BASE: 2011-12=100) FOR OCTOBER, 2023

Posted On: 30 NOV 2023 5:00PM by PIB Delhi

The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by 12.1 per cent (provisional) in October 2023 as compared to the Index of October 2022. The production of all eight core industries (namely; Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products and Steel) recorded positive growth in October 2023 over the corresponding month of last year. Details of annual and monthly indices and growth rates are provided at Annex I & II respectively.

2. The ICI measures combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products and Steel. The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

3. The final growth rate of Index of Eight Core Industries for July 2023 is revised to 8.5 per cent. The cumulative growth rate of ICI during April to October, 2023-24 is 8.6 per cent (provisional) as compared to the corresponding period of last year.



News

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Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI)

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- The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Indian Express: Defence (Page 6)



News

- Defence Acquisition Council approves capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 2.23 lakh crore to enhance the operational capabilities of the Armed Forces.

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)

- It is the highest decision-making body in the defence ministry for deciding on new policies and capital acquisitions for the three services and the Indian Coast Guard.
- The Defence Minister is the chairman of DAC.

News / India / DAC nod to buy 97 Tejas jets, 156 combat helicopters

DAC nod to buy 97 Tejas jets, 156 combat helicopters

The DAC is among the top bodies for clearing major capital acquisitions for defence. The AoN is only the first step in the long defence procurement process; it does not necessarily lead to a final order.

The Hindu: Defence (Page 14)

Navy gets ready for its biggest naval exercise amid ocean engagements

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

As the Indian Navy looks to mark Navy Day on December 4, it is also gearing up to host its largest multilateral exercise early next year. The next edition of “Exercise Milan” is scheduled for February 2024, and is expected to see the participation of over 50



Combat ready: Naval aircraft firing flares during rehearsals for Navy Day off the coast of Visakhapatnam on Thursday. K. R. DEEPAK

is observed as Navy Day to commemorate the Navy’s daring attack on the Karachi harbour during the 1971 India-Pakistan War under ‘Operation Trident’.

Maritime outreach

India has also significantly expanded assistance in capacity building to countries in the region. This includes giving platforms,

News

- The next edition of Exercise MILAN is scheduled to be held in February 2024, and is expected to see the participation of over 50 countries.

Exercise Milan

- Exercise Milan is a biennial multilateral naval exercise which began in 1995, and has since significantly expanded in scope and scale to become the largest exercise held by India.

The Hindu: Economy (Page 18)

Fiscal deficit touches 45% of full-year target

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The government's fiscal deficit at the end of October stood at ₹8.03 lakh crore, or 45% of the full-year budget estimate, according to data released by the Controller General of Accounts on Thursday.

In actual terms, the fiscal deficit - the difference between expenditure and revenue - was at ₹8.03 lakh crore during the April-October period of 2023-24.

In the corresponding period last year, the deficit was at 45.6% of the budget estimates of 2022-23.

For 2023-24, the fiscal deficit of the government is estimated to be at ₹17.86 lakh crore, or 5.9% of the GDP. The Government of India received ₹15.9 lakh crore (58.6% of corresponding BE 2023-24 of total receipts) up to October 2023 comprising ₹13.01 lakh crore tax revenue (net), ₹2.65 lakh crore of non-tax revenue and ₹22,990 crore of non-debt capital receipts.

Non-debt capital receipts consists of recovery of loans (₹14,990 crore) and miscellaneous capital receipts (₹8,000 crore).

News

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Fiscal deficit

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- For 2023-24, the fiscal deficit of the government is estimated to be at ₹17.86 lakh crore, or 5.9% of the GDP.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY



The Hindu: Space (Page 16)

India set to launch its first X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite: ISRO

XPoSat will be launched by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota

November 30, 2023 10:29 am | Updated December 01, 2023 02:18 am IST - Bengaluru

THE HINDU BUREAU

News

- The Indian Space Research Organisation has announced a plan to launch its first X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) to investigate the polarisation of intense X-ray sources.

XPoSat

- The XPoSat is designed for observation from a low earth orbit (non-sun synchronous orbit of **~650-km altitude**, low inclination of approximately six degrees) and will carry two scientific payloads. With these two payloads, the mission is capable of simultaneous studies of temporal, spectral, and polarisation features of the bright X-ray sources.
- The mission objectives include the measurement of X-ray polarisation in the energy band of **8-30 keV** emanating from X-ray sources and long-term spectral and temporal studies of cosmic X-ray sources in the energy band of **0.8-15 keV**.

The Hindu : Environment (Page 15)

Loss and Damage Fund cleared on Day One of COP-28 summit

Fund, meant to compensate countries dealing with effects of climate change, gets commitments of at least \$450 million; all developing countries are eligible to apply for the Fund and every country has been 'invited' to contribute to it

News

- On the first day of COP 28, member countries agreed to make operational a Loss and Damage (L&D) fund that is meant to compensate countries already dealing with climate change.

Loss and Damage Fund

- The loss and damage fund is a global financial package to ensure the rescue and rehabilitation of countries facing the cascading effects of climate change.
- The term refers to the compensation that rich nations, whose industrial growth has resulted in global warming and driven the planet into a climate crisis, must pay to poor nations, whose carbon footprint is low but are facing the brunt of rising sea levels, floods, crippling droughts, and intense cyclones, among others.

Decisions taken

- The initial funding is estimated to be \$475 million — host UAE pledged \$100 million, the European Union promised \$275 million, \$17.5 million from the US, and \$10 million from Japan.
- The World Bank will be the “interim host” of the fund for a period of four years.