

DAILY PT POINTERS

11th March , 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB / TH / IE: IR / Economy

Ministry of Commerce & Industry



India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement

Posted On: 10 MAR 2024 3:09PM by PIB Delhi

India-European Free Trade Association signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) today i.e. on 10th March 2024.

India has been working on a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with EFTA countries comprising Switzerland, Iceland, Norway & Liechtenstein. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister has approved signing of the TEPA with EFTA States. EFTA is an inter-governmental organization set up in 1960 for the promotion of free trade and economic integration for the benefit of its four Member States.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Food and Consumer Affairs and Textiles said:

"TEPA is a modern and ambitious Trade Agreement. For the first time, India is signing FTA with four developed nations - an important economic bloc in Europe. For the first time in history of FTAs, binding commitment of \$100 bn investment and 1 million direct jobs in the next 15 years has been given. The agreement will give a boost to Make in India and provide opportunities to young & talented workforce. The FTA will provide a window to Indian exporters to access large European and global markets."

The agreement comprises of 14 chapters with main focus on market access related to goods, rules of origin, trade facilitation, trade remedies, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, investment promotion, market access on services, intellectual property rights, trade and sustainable development and other legal and



News

- India signed a trade agreement with the four-nation European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

About

- **EFTA Members:** Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- India is the EFTA's **fifth-largest** trading partner after the European Union, the United States, Britain and China, with total two-way trade touching \$25 billion in 2023.

Significance of the Agreement:

- EFTA countries will invest approximately **\$100 billion** and create **1 million jobs** in India in the next 15 years.
- India expects that the pact will boost exports of **pharmaceuticals, garments, chemicals and machinery** while attracting investments in **automobiles, food processing, railways and the financial sector**.
- It provides an opportunity to integrate into EU markets. Over **40% of Switzerland's** global services exports are to the EU. Indian companies can look to Switzerland as a base for extending its market reach to EU.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB / TH : Welfare Schemes

Prime Minister's Office



PM Modi launches Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh

Disburses the first instalment under Mahatari Vandana Yojana

Scheme in Chhattisgarh to provide financial assistance of Rs 1000 per month to eligible married women of the state as monthly DBT

Posted On: 10 MAR 2024 2:55PM by PIB Delhi

"Our government is committed to ensuring the holistic well-being of every family, and this begins with the health and dignity of the women"

In a major boost to women empowerment in Chhattisgarh, The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today launched the Mahatari Vandana Yojana and disbursed the first instalment under The Scheme. The scheme has been launched in Chhattisgarh to provide financial assistance of Rs 1000 per month to eligible married women of the state as monthly DBT. It has been envisioned to ensure economic empowerment of women, provide them financial security, promote gender equality and strengthen the decisive role of women in the family.



News

- PM Modi launched the **Mahtari Vandan Yojana** in Chhattisgarh.

About

- The scheme has been launched in **Chhattisgarh** to provide financial assistance of **Rs 1000** per month to eligible **married women** of the state as monthly Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- Widows, divorced, and deserted women will also be eligible for this scheme.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

AIR : IR

Last Updated: Mar 10, 2024, 8:28PM

Prez Murmu to embark on a state visit to Mauritius from Monday

President Droupadi Murmu will embark on a state visit to Mauritius from Monday. The President will attend the National Day celebrations of Mauritius on 12th of this month as Chief Guest. A contingent of the Indian Navy will participate in the celebration along with two Ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron - INS Tir and CGS Sarathi.

During her three-day visit, President Murmu will hold bilateral meetings with President of Mauritius Prithvirajsing Roopun and Prime Minister Pravind Kumar Jugnauth. The President will also meet the Speaker of the Mauritius National Assembly, the Chief Justice of the Mauritian Supreme Court, and several other Mauritian leaders.



News

- President Droupadi Murmu is on a three-day state visit to Mauritius.

About

- During her visit, the President will attend the **National Day celebrations** of Mauritius on the 12th of this month as Chief Guest.

India-Mauritius Relations

- Diplomatic relations between India and Mauritius were established in **1948**.
- Since **2005**, **India has been among the largest trading partners of Mauritius**.
- People of Indian origin constitute around 70 percent of this island's population.



[Locator Map >](#)



[Main Map >](#)

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Environment



India World Opinion Sports e-Paper

GIFTA

HOME / SCI-TECH / ENVIRONMENT

India's golden langur population estimated at 7,396

The comprehensive population estimation of the endangered primate was carried out in two phases.



News

- Acc. to the latest survey of the Primate Research Centre NE India (PRCNE) and Assam Forest Department, there are an estimated 7,396 golden langurs in India.

About

- Golden langur (*Trachypithecus geei*) is one of the most endangered primate species of South Asia, endemic to adjacent areas of (Assam) **India and Bhutan**.
- It is listed under **Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972** and **Endangered** in the **IUCN Red List**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

TH: Polity and Governance



News

- The government is likely to appoint new Election Commissioners by March 15.

Election Commission of India

- A Constitutional Body, comprises three members who are appointed by the President.
- Under Article 324, it is vested with the power of conducting elections to – the Parliament; State Legislatures; Office of President and Vice-President of India.

HOME / NEWS / INDIA

APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Panel, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, likely to appoint new Election Commissioners by March 15

With the announcement of 2024 Lok Sabha elections expected to be made any day after March 13, the government is keen to speed up the appointment process in the next few days

A photograph of the exterior of the Election Commission of India building. The sign on the wall reads 'NIRVACHAN SADAN ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA' in white capital letters on a dark blue background. The building has a red brick facade on the right side.

NIRVACHAN SADAN
ELECTION COMMISSION
OF INDIA

IE: Defence

All about India's indigenous fifth-gen fighter jet Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), and why it is important

 EXPRESS
explained.



News

- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) cleared a Rs 15,000 crore project to design and develop the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), India's fifth-generation fighter multirole fighter jet.

Features of AMCA

- **STEALTH:** The 25-tonne twin-engine aircraft, will have advanced stealth features to avoid detection by enemy radar.
- **ENGINE:** The AMCA Mk1 variant will have the US-built GE414 engine of the 90 kilonewton (kN) class, while the more advanced AMCA Mk2 will fly on the more powerful 110kN engine.
- **Other features** are a diverter less supersonic inlet for controlling air flow into the engines, and an air intake duct to shield the engines from radar emissions, are likely to be part of the AMCA.
- The AMCA will be India's indigenous fifth-generation fighter aircraft. The indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas is a 4.5-generation single-engine multirole aircraft.