

September - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Limited has entered top 40 of the world's most valuable firms' league.
 - It also becomes the first Indian company to top USD 210 billion in market capitalisation intra-day.

NATIONAL

Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE - Atal New India Challenges

- ❖ The programme will spur applied research and innovation in Indian MSMEs and startups.
- ❖ The initiative will help identify and promote innovations necessary for boosting the MSME sector.
- ❖ The programme will be driven by ISRO and other four ministries including
 - Ministry of Defence,
 - Ministry of Food Processing Industries,
 - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and
 - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.


Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0

- ❖ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched the Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0 and 'Streets for People Challenge'.
- ❖ It aims to provide a clear roadmap for cities towards combating Climate Change while planning and implementing their actions along with investments.
- ❖ The CSCAF initiative intends to inculcate a climate-sensitive approach to urban planning and development in India.
- ❖ The framework has 28 indicators across five categories namely:
 - Energy and Green Buildings
 - Urban Planning, Green Cover & Biodiversity
 - Mobility and Air Quality
 - Water Management
 - Waste Management

- ❖ The Streets for People Challenge is the response to the need for making our cities more walkable and pedestrian friendly.
- ❖ It aims to inspire cities to create walking-friendly and vibrant streets through quick, innovative, and low-cost measures.






South India's 1st Kisan Rail

- ❖ India's 2nd and South India's 1st Kisan Rail was flagged off between Anantapur and New Delhi.
- ❖ This train transport agriculture products from Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh to Adarsh Nagar Railway Station in New Delhi.
- ❖ The first Kisan Rail was flagged off on 7 August between Devlali in Maharashtra and Danapur in Bihar as a weekly service and later it was made bi-weekly.



Flagging off Ceremony of
India's Second and
South India's First
KISAN RAIL
Between
Anantapur - New Delhi

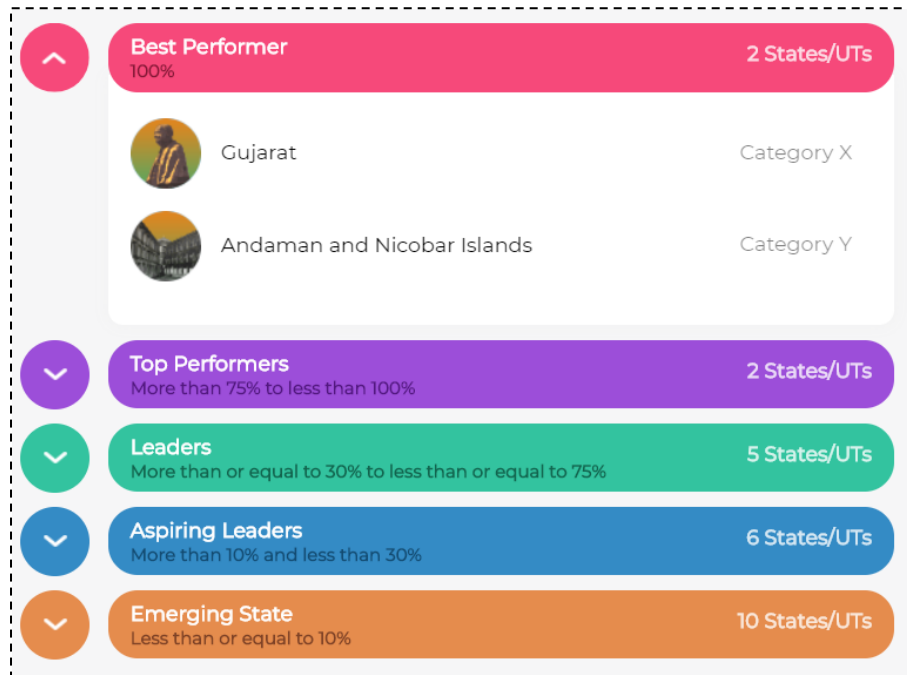
Benefits of Kisan Rail

	It will take less time and cost in comparison of road transport.
	It will help the small farmers in better price realisation for their produce.
	It will ensure less damage to the farm produce while transportation
	Small farmers and traders related to fruits and vegetables like Sweet Lime, Pomegranate, Water Melons, Papaya, Guava, Tomato etc., will be benefitted.
	Balances the Fruits and Vegetables supply across the country.

State Startup Rankings 2019

- ❖ State of Gujarat and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been named the best performers in the State Start-up Rankings 2019.
- ❖ Karnataka and Kerala are the top performing states in fostering innovative entrepreneurship to attract business and finance.

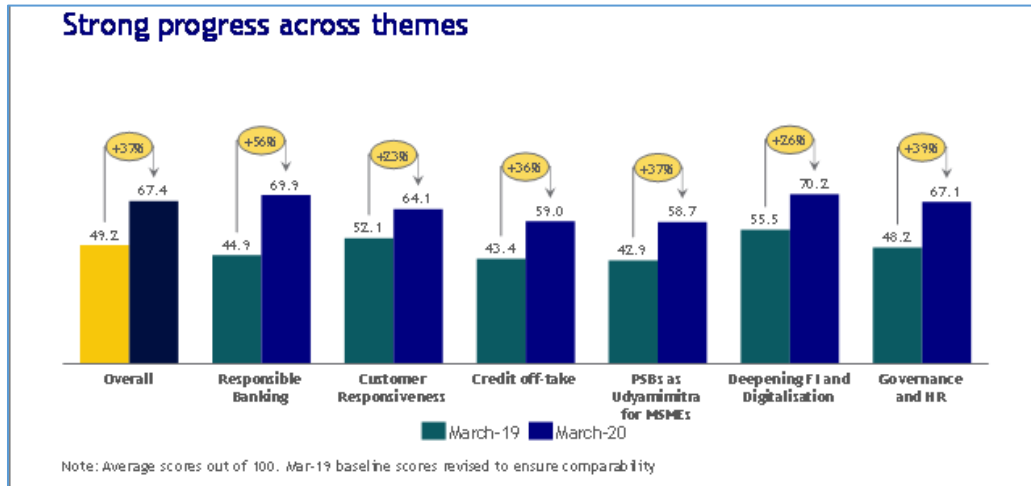
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh are the emerging start-up ecosystems in the country.
- ❖ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade is conducted the “State Start-up Ranking 2019”.



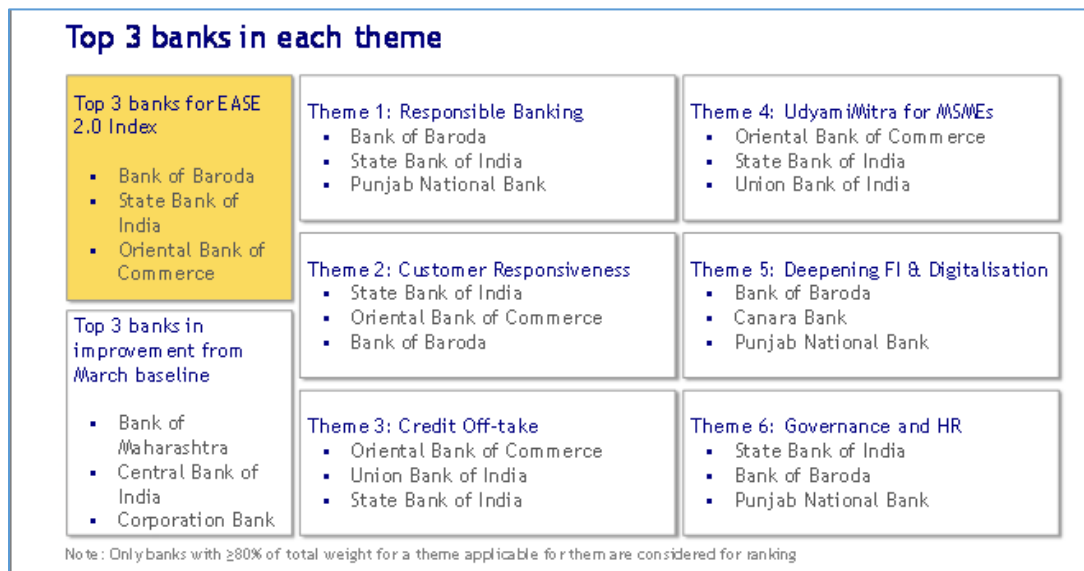
ECONOMY

EASE 2.0 Banking Reforms Index

- ❖ The EASE (Enhanced Access and Service Excellence) 2.0 Banking Reforms Index on performance of Public Sector Banks (PSB) from March 2018-2020 was released recently.
- ❖ The Union Minister of Finance also inaugurated Doorstep Banking Services by PSBs on the occasion.
- ❖ The EASE 1.0 report showed significant improvement in PSB’s performance in resolution of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) transparently.
- ❖ EASE 2.0 builds on the foundation of EASE 1.0 and introduces new reform Action Points across six themes to make reforms journey irreversible, strengthen processes and systems, and drive outcomes.



Top performers

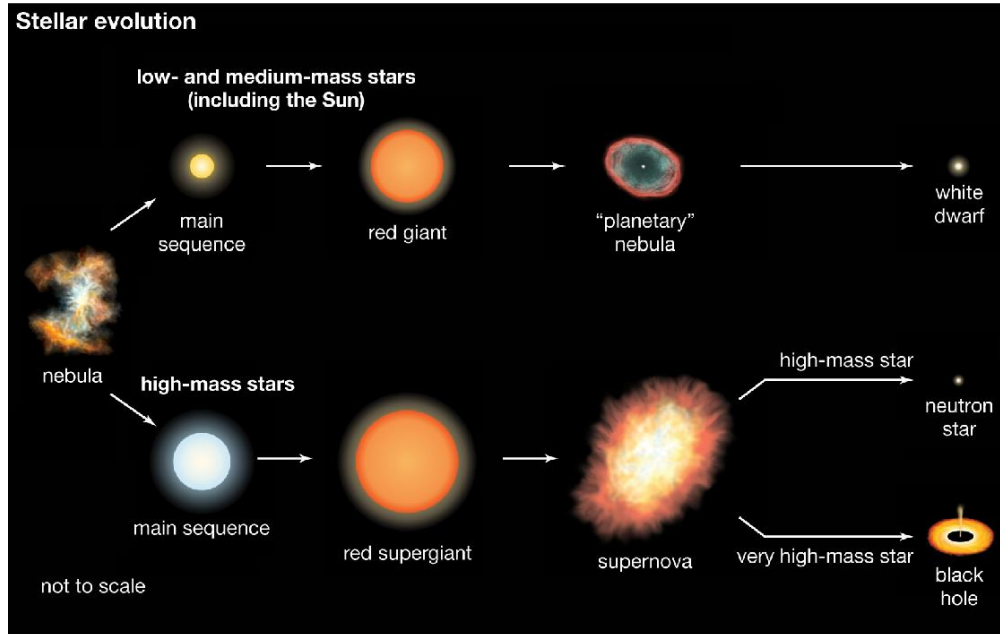


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Explosion of supernova LSQ14fmg

- ❖ Unusual supernova explosion is observed at Hundred million light-years away from Earth recently.
- ❖ That exploding star known as "Supernova LSQ14fmg".
- ❖ It gets brighter extremely slowly, and it is also one of the brightest explosions in its class are unlike any other.
- ❖ The exploding star is what is known as a Type Ia supernova, and more specifically, a member of the 'super-Chandrasekhar' group.

- ❖ Type Ia supernovae were crucial tools for discovering what's known as dark energy.
- ❖ Dark Energy is unknown energy that causes the current accelerated expansion of the universe.



STATES

India's largest "Piggery Mission"

- ❖ Meghalaya has launched India's Biggest "Piggery Mission" with an outlay of Rs 209 Crores.
- ❖ It is being launched under the aegis of Meghalaya Livestock Enterprises Advancement Society (MLEADS) and funded by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- ❖ The main objective of the Piggery Mission is to reduce the annual import of Pork and make Meghalaya self-sufficient ("Aatma Nirbhar") in pork production over the next 3 years.

MISCELLANEOUS

Countdown to 2023: WHO report on global trans-fat elimination 2020

- ❖ 58 countries so far have introduced laws that will protect 3.2 billion people from the harmful substance by the end of 2021.

- ❖ But more than 100 countries still need to take actions to remove these harmful substances from their food supplies.
- ❖ 15 countries account for approximately two thirds of the worldwide deaths linked to trans-fat intake.
- ❖ Of these 15, four - Canada, Latvia, Slovenia, United States of America have implemented WHO-recommended best-practice policies since 2017.
- ❖ The remaining 11 countries (Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Iran, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea) still need to take urgent action.

India's action

- ❖ In 2011, India passed regulations that set a TFA limit of 10% in oils and fats, which was further reduced to 5% in 2015.
- ❖ In December 2018, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) proposed reducing this limit to 2% and eliminating industrially produced TFA in the food supply by 2022, a year ahead of the global target.
- ❖ In August 2019, the FSSAI proposed aligning India's regulations with global best practice and notified for public comment draft regulations that apply the 2% TFA limit to all food products by January 2022.

