

Economy

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)- Quarterly Bulletin (January-March 2024)

Why in the news?

The 22nd edition of the Periodic Labour Force Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) was released recently.

Key Points of the Survey:

- ❖ Unemployment Rate (UR) in urban areas decreased from 6.8% to 6.7% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024 for persons of age 15 years and above.
- ❖ Female UR decreased from 9.2% in January – March 2023 to 8.5% in January – March 2024.
- ❖ Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in urban areas has shown an increasing trend from 48.5% to 50.2% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024 respectively for persons of age 15 years and above.
- ❖ Female Labour Force Participation Rate in urban areas rises from 22.7% to 25.6% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024, reflecting Overall Increasing Trend in LFPR.

- ❖ Increasing Trend in Worker Population Ratio (WPR) for persons of age 15 years and above from 45.2% in January – March 2023 to 46.9% in January – March 2024.
- ❖ Female Worker Population Ratio in urban areas rises from 20.6% to 23.4% during January – March 2023 to January – March 2024, reflecting Overall Increasing Trend in WPR.

About National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)

- ❖ It is an organisation in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and is the largest organisation in India that conducts regular socio-economic surveys.
- ❖ The three major surveys in which NSSO is involved are Socio-economic Surveys, Annual Survey of Industries, and Agricultural Surveys.

About Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

- ❖ The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) gives estimates of key employment and unemployment Indicators like the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), etc.

- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR):** LFPR is defined as the percentage of persons in the labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work) in the population.
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** WPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- **Unemployment Rate (UR):** UR is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.
- **Current Weekly Status (CWS):** The activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey is known as the current weekly status (CWS) of the person.

- ❖ **Initiative:** The Clean Air Programme (CAP) has recognized cities for their efforts in improving air quality. Kanpur has been ranked first, followed by Thane, Delhi, Kolkata and Ghaziabad.

National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

- ❖ **Launch:** Initiated by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in January 2019.
- ❖ **Objective:** A long-term, national-level strategy to comprehensively address air pollution in India.
- ❖ **Targets:** Aims to implement mitigation measures in 131 Indian cities to prevent, control, and reduce air pollution.
- ❖ **Goal:** Decrease PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations by 20% to 30% by 2024 compared to 2017 levels.

Environment and Geography

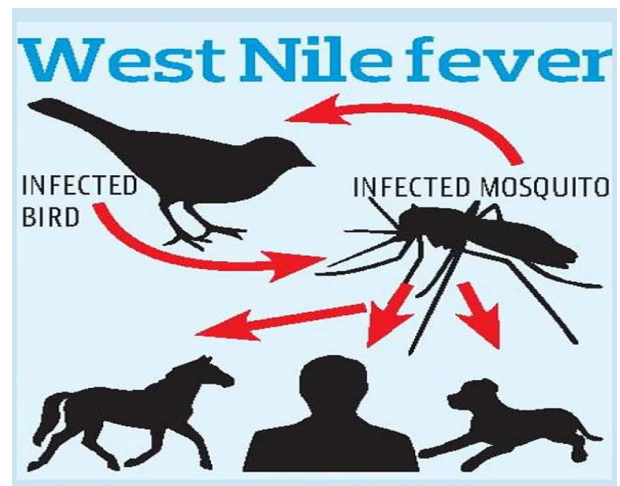
Kanpur Leads in Air Pollution Control

Why in the news?

Kanpur has secured the top position in the ranking of cities that have improved in controlling air pollution, while Thane has secured the second spot.

Science and Technology

West Nile Fever



Why in the news?

- ❖ Kerala has reported several cases of West Nile Fever (WNF) across multiple districts. As of now, Kerala has reported 20 suspected WNF cases, with 10 confirmed and two suspected deaths.

About West Nile Fever

- ❖ West Nile fever is an infection by the West Nile virus, which is typically spread by mosquitoes.
- ❖ **Vectors:** The principal vectors are Culex mosquitoes, typically found in stagnant water bodies like paddy fields.
- ❖ West Nile virus (WNV) is usually spread by mosquitoes that become infected when they feed on infected birds, which often carry the disease.
- ❖ **Environmental Factors:** Kerala's large stagnant water bodies and migratory birds create an ideal environment for WNV.
- ❖ **Symptomatic Cases:** Symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, myalgia, nausea, vomiting, and swollen lymph glands.

Society

World Health Organization approves Takeda's Dengue Vaccine

Why in the news?

The World Health Organization (WHO) approved Takeda Pharmaceutical's

dengue vaccine 'TAK-003' whose brand name is "Qdenga."

- ❖ **Target Group:** Recommended for children aged 6 to 16 years in high dengue prevalence areas.
- ❖ **Countries:** Already approved in Indonesia, Thailand, and Brazil.
- ❖ **India:** Takeda is negotiating with Indian regulators for approval.
- ❖ **Comparison:** Second dengue vaccine after Sanofi's Dengvaxia.
- ❖ **Administration:** Two doses administered three months apart.
- ❖ **Production Agreement:** Takeda signed a manufacturing agreement with Indian company Biological E in February.
- ❖ **Annual Production:** Expected to produce 100 million doses annually by year-end.



Awards and Honors

Kavita Krishnamurti: Lifetime Achievement Award

Kavita Krishnamurti has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for her

contributions to music at the UK Asian Film Festival in London.

- ❖ **Versatility:** Sang more than 50,000 songs in over 45 languages, showcasing exceptional talent.



Important Days/ Dates

World Hypertension Day

World Hypertension Day is observed every May 17th annually.

- ❖ **Purpose:** to increase public awareness about the high blood pressure which is the main risk factor to develop cardiovascular disease.
- ❖ **Theme:** The theme for the year 2024 is, "Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer!".
- ❖ **Hypertension** (high blood pressure) is when the pressure in your blood vessels is too high (140/90 mmHg or higher).



Obituary

Dr. Kamla Beniwal passed away

कमला बेनीवाल का सियासी सफर

1954 में आमेर विधानसभा सीट से उपचुनाव जीता		2009 में त्रिपुरा की राज्यपाल नियुक्त
1977 में प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी की संयुक्त सचिव	2003 में उपमुख्यमंत्री बनीं	2014 में मिजोरम की राज्यपाल नियुक्त

अमरउजाला
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Dr. Kamla Beniwal, former and first woman Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan and Governor of many states of the country, passed away recently in Jaipur.

Kamla Beniwal: Rajasthan's First Woman Minister

- ❖ **Early Achievement:** Appointed as a minister in the Mohanlal Sukhadia government in 1954 at the age of 27, making her the first woman minister in Rajasthan.

- ❖ **Later Career:** Served as the deputy chief minister in the Ashok Gehlot government in 2003.
- ❖ **Governorship:** Held the position of State Governor in Tripura, Gujarat, and Mizoram.

Today's Top One Liners:

1. Former Union Minister and senior advocate Kapil Sibal was elected as president of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

2. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) will begin work in mid-September (2024) on the Shinku La tunnel.
 - The 4.1-km long Shinku La tunnel will reduce the distance between Manali and Leh by 60 km, from 355 to 295 km.
 - Shinku La pass is located in Himachal Pradesh.



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