

The Achievers IAS Academy

Patliputra colony, Near: Tennis Court; Patna. Contact: 8434931877, 7250667974

1. Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI)



CHANDLER GOOD GOVERNMENT INDEX

India has been ranked 49th in the Chandler Good Government Index (CGGI), which classifies 104 countries in terms of government capabilities and outcomes.

Civil service innovation and capacity building is a key focus for the Indian government. The Chandler Good Government Index shows the importance of measuring and investing in governance capabilities that matter.

It highlights a key need for 'pracademics' in government – people who combine a rigorous understanding of research and data with a practical and grounded sense of what governments need to do to succeed.

Finland has topped the CGGI list, in which each country is measured across over 50 open data points. The index focuses on seven pillars: leadership and foresight; robust laws and policies; strong institutions; financial stewardship; attractive marketplace; global influence and reputation; and helping people rise.

2. India is the third largest military spending country in the world.



- India was the third largest military spender in the world in 2020, behind only the US and China. According to the latest military expenditure database published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which tracks military expenditure and arms trade globally.
- the US accounted for 39 per cent of the money spent on military globally, China accounted for 13 per cent, and India accounted for 3.7 per cent of the globe's share.

- The US spent a total of \$778 billion in 2020, China spent \$252 billion and India's military expenditure was \$72.9 billion. All three countries saw their military spending go up compared to 2019, even during a pandemic year.
- The United States' military spending was 3.7 per cent of its GDP while the corresponding numbers for China and India were 1.7 per cent and 2.9 per cent respectively.
- From 2011 to 2020, American military expenditure dropped by 10 per cent, but China saw a 76 per cent growth while India's military spending grew by 34 per cent.
- The other top spenders included Russia with \$61.7 billion, the UK at \$59.2 billion, Saudi Arabia at \$57.5 billion, followed by Germany and France at just under \$53 billion each.
- It added that as a result, "military spending as a share of GDP—the military burden—reached a global average of 2.4 per cent in 2020, up from 2.2 per cent in 2019," which, it said, "was the biggest year-on-year rise in the military burden since the global financial and economic crisis in 2009."

3. 93rd ACADEMY AWARDS



- U.S. road movie Nomadland emerged as the big winner at the Oscars on Sunday with three major prizes, including a history-making award for director Chloe Zhao.
- Chloe Zhao makes history as first woman of colour to get best director award. She is also only the second woman to win best director after Kathryn Bigelow, who broke the glass ceiling in 2010 when she won the prize for The Hurt Locker.
- Zhao's drama about marginalised Americans roaming the West in vans was honoured for best picture, director and actress for Frances McDormand, who now is in elite company with her third Academy Award.
- Hopkins' win at 83 for his shattering portrayal of a dementia sufferer in The Father makes him the oldest actor to win a competitive Oscar in history.
- **List of winners of the 93rd Academy Awards:-**
- Best picture: Nomadland
- Best actress: Frances McDormand
- Best actor: Anthony Hopkins
- Best supporting actress: Yuh-Jung Youn
- Best supporting actor: Daniel Kaluuya
- Best director: Chloe Zhao

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4. Project DANTAK



- Project DANTAK is commemorating its Diamond Jubilee in Bhutan. Project DANTAK was established on April 24, 1961 as a result of the visionary leadership of His Majesty the Third King and then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. DANTAK was tasked to construct the pioneering motorable roads in the Kingdom.
- DANTAK completed the road connecting Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang in 1968. In the same year, Thimphu was connected to Phuentsholing by DANTAK. Many Bhutanese had also volunteered to work with DANTAK.
- Some other notable projects executed by the project include the construction of Paro Airport, Yonphula Airfield, Thimphu – Trashigang Highway, Telecommunication & Hydro Power Infrastructure, Sherubtse College, Kanglung and India House Estate.
- The medical and education facilities established by DANTAK in far flung areas were often the first in those locations.
- Over 1,200 DANTAK personnel laid down their lives while constructing important infrastructure in Bhutan.

5. Nuclear scientist Krishnamurthy Santhanam



- External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar has expressed grief over the demise of an Indian nuclear scientist Krishnamurthy Santhanam.
- Krishnamurthy Santhanam was an Indian nuclear scientist and the field director of Defence Research and Development Organization during the tests of Pokhran-II.
- The Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award, in 1999.

6. Single Crystal Blades



Single Crystal Blades for Helicopter Engine Application

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed single crystal blades technology and supplied 60 of these blades to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) as part of their indigenous helicopter development program for helicopter engine application.
- It is part of a program taken up by Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), a premium laboratory of DRDO, to develop five sets (300 in number) of single crystal high pressure turbine (HPT) blades using a nickel-based super alloy. The supply of remaining four sets will be completed in due course.
- Helicopters used in strategic and defence applications need compact and powerful aero-engines for their reliable operation at extreme conditions. To achieve this, state-of-the-art Single Crystal Blades having complex shape and geometry, manufactured out of Nickel based superalloys capable of withstanding high temperatures of operation are used. Very few countries in the world such as USA, UK, France and Russia have the capability to design and manufacture such Single Crystal (SX) components.
- Special ceramic composition had to be formulated for making strong ceramic moulds which can withstand metalostatic pressure of liquid CMSX-4 alloy at 1500°C and above during casting operation. The challenge of maintaining the required temperature gradient has also been overcome by optimising the casting parameters. A multi-step vacuum solutionising heat treatment schedule for complex CMSX-4 superalloy to achieve the required microstructure and mechanical properties has also been established. Further, a stringent non-destructive evaluation (NDE) methodology for the blades along with the technique for determining their crystallographic orientations has been developed.

7. LADAKH IGNITED MINDS



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- To provide better educational opportunities for Ladakhi students, the Indian Army has initiated the project Ladakh Ignited Minds: A Centre of Excellence and Wellness.
- On behalf of Indian Army, Fire and Fury Corps has signed a couple of MoUs with partner Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and executing agency, a Kanpur based NGO, National Integrity and Educational Development Organization (NIEDO), in Leh today. The project is aimed at providing better training facilities to disadvantaged Ladakhi students to give them opportunity to study in niche educational institutes.
- In its continuous efforts to maintain cordial Civil and Defence relations and better future for Ladakhi youth, the Indian Army began a project called, Ladakh Ignited Minds: A Centre of Excellence and Wellness, in Ladakh. Fire and Fury Corps of Indian Army with the support of HPCL and execution agency NIEDO will provide a holistic training for Ladakhi youth. In the first batch, comprising 20 girls, 45 students from Leh and Kargil districts, would get training for JEE and NEET entrance examinations.
- Fire and Fury signed MoUs with HPCL's J&K Chief Regional Manager Mr. Prince Singh and NIEDO's CEO Dr. Rohit Srivastav in the presence of the 14 Corps GoC Lt.Gen PGK Menon, Member of Parliament Jamyang Tsering Namgyal and Advisor to Ladakh UT, Umang Narula.

8. CSIR-CMERI indigenously developed Oxygen enrichment technology.



- CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur, in association with MSME-DI, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Government of India jointly organised a Webinar on 'Oxygen Enrichment' Technology on 25th April, 2021.
- The CSIR-CMERI indigenously developed Oxygen enrichment technology may be effective for treating COVID-19 patients. This Technology has tremendous potential.
- Dr. Anupam Sinha, Sr. Principal Scientist, CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur presented the technical note on the Oxygen enrichment unit, which has been transferred to two industries. The unit is capable of delivering medical air in the range of up to 15 LPM with oxygen purity of more than 90%. If required, this unit can even deliver up to 70 LPM at a purity of around 30%.
- **ABOUT CSIR-CMERI, DURGAPUR**
- The Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (also known as CSIR-CMERI Durgapur or CMERI Durgapur) is a public engineering research and development institution in Durgapur, West Bengal.
- It is a constituent laboratory of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- This institute is the only national level research institute in the field of mechanical engineering in India.
- The CMERI was founded in 1958.

9. The First Oxygen Express arrives in Mumbai.



- **A Ro-Ro service carrying three tankers loaded with Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) left Hapa in Gujarat on 25th April, 2021 and reached Kalamboli in Maharashtra on 26th April, 2021.**
- Green corridor has been provided for the faster movement of the Oxygen Express. The medical oxygen is being made available for treatment of COVID-19 patients across the country, through Oxygen Express trains run by Ministry of Railways.
- The Oxygen Express has travelled a distance of 860 Kms to reach its destination. These tankers are carrying approx. 44 tonnes of Liquid Medical Oxygen. Necessary arrangements have been made at Kalamboli Goods Shed for smooth movement of the Oxygen Express.
- The Oxygen Express has reached Kalamboli from Hapa via Viramgam, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat, Vasai Road and Bhiwandi Road keeping in place all the safety parameters.
- These oxygen tankers were supplied by M/s Reliance Industries, Jamnagar.
- Railways has so far run Oxygen Express between Mumbai to Vizag via Nagpur to Nashik and Lucknow to Bokaro and back and a total of nearly 150 tonnes of liquid Oxygen have been carried till 25.4.2021. More 'Oxygen Express' are on run and are being planned to various parts of the country.

10. Rafael Nadal



- Rafael Nadal beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-7 (6), 7-5 in the final of the 68th Barcelona Open Banco Sabadell tournament. With this win at the clay court, Rafael Nadal claimed his 12th Barcelona Open title of his career and his first title of the year 2021.
- The match went on for 3 hours, 38 minutes, becoming the ATP's longest match of 2021.
- **About Barcelona Open Banco Sabadell**



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- The Barcelona Open Banco Sabadell is the oldest and one of the most prestigious men's tennis tournaments that are played on clay courts.
- The Real Club de Tennis Barcelona is the venue of the Barcelona Open tournament.
- The 68th Barcelona Open Banco Sabadell was held in Barcelona, Spain from April 19 to April 25, 2021.

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