

INTERNATIONAL

India-Japan civil nuclear deal comes into force

- ❖ The India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy entered into force on July 20.
- ❖ The pact was signed in Tokyo during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Japan on November 11, 2016.
- ❖ This Agreement is a reflection of the strategic partnership between India and Japan and will pave the way for enhanced cooperation in energy security and clean energy.

INDO-JAPAN CIVIL NUCLEAR DEAL
India and Japan sign historic civil nuclear cooperation deal

Key Points

- ☢ Japan can now supply nuclear reactors, fuel and technology to India
- ☢ India can purchase new generation of nuclear reactors with over 1,000 MW capacity with hi-tech safety features
- ☢ India will get state-of-the-art nuclear fuel fabrication and breeder technology from Japan
- ☢ Tokyo had earlier asked for further commitments from New Delhi on nuclear non-proliferation, but later gave up on the conditions
- ☢ India persisted on its stand that it cannot go beyond what it had agreed to with the US on a similar nuclear deal and eventually convinced Japan on the terms

KBK Infographics

The infographic features a central photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan shaking hands. A red radiation symbol is overlaid on the photo. A vertical red line with a downward-pointing arrow connects the 'Key Points' header to the text on the right side of the infographic.

- ❖ It seeks to promote full cooperation between the two countries in the development and uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes on a stable, reliable and predictable basis.
- ❖ The deal is essential for bringing a network of nuclear energy cooperation for India, especially with the U.S. as prominent American nuclear companies are owned by the Japanese nuclear majors like Toshiba.

Pant-Mirza Agreement

- ❖ It is an agreement between India and Pakistan under the 'Bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines' signed in 1974.
- ❖ It facilitated visits by nationals of India and Pakistan to mutually agreed list of religious shrines in each other's country.
- ❖ Under the Protocol, it is the obligation of the concerned country to make every effort to ensure that the places of worship in the agreed list of shrines are properly maintained and their sanctity preserved.
- ❖ Shrines of Hazrat Moinuddin Chishti (Ajmer), Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya (Delhi), Hazrat Amir Khusro (Delhi), Hazrat Mujaddid Alf Sani (Sirhind Sharif) and Hazrat Khwaja Alauddin Ali Ahmed Sabir (Kalyar Sharif) in India are included under the protocol.
- ❖ Shadani Darbar (HyatPitafi), Shri Katasraj Dham (Lahore), Gurudwaras of Shri Nankana Sahib (Rawalpindi), Shri Panja Sahib (Rawalpindi) and Shri Dera Sahib (Lahore) in Pakistan are included.

ECONOMY

India set to achieve 7.4% growth in 2017: ADB report

- ❖ India's economy is set to grow at 7.4% in the current fiscal year 2017-18 against 7.1% in the previous year, on the back of pick-up in consumption demand and higher public investment. Additionally, ADB projected inflation to accelerate to 5.2% in 2017-18 and 5.4% in 2018-19 as the global economy recovers and commodity prices rebound.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

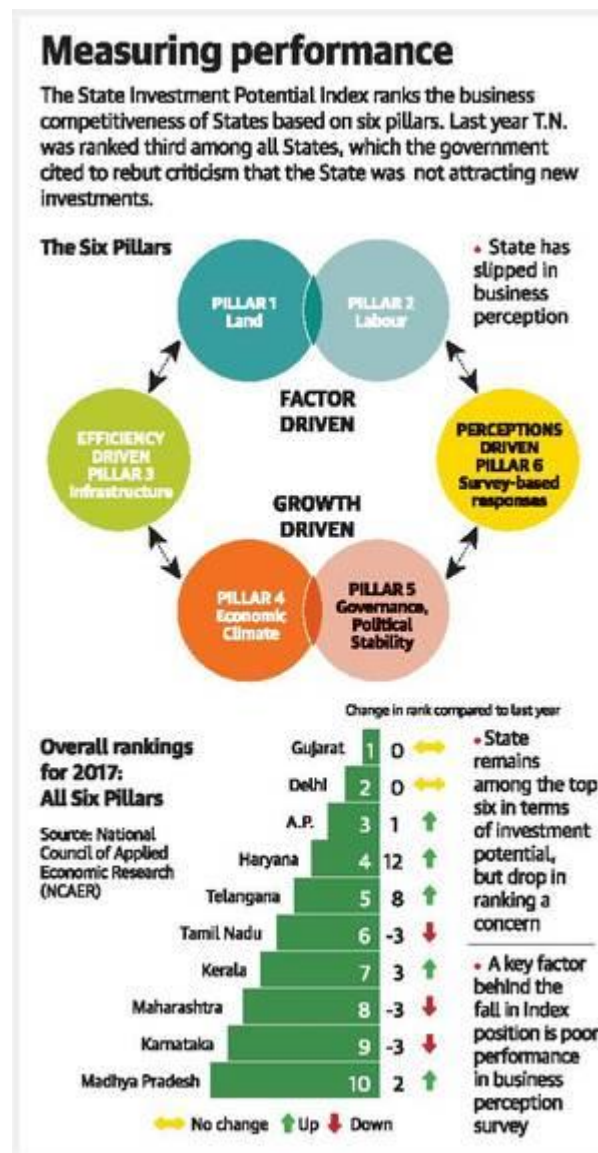
LinkedIn Lite app: first being rolled out in India

- ❖ LinkedIn, one of the world's largest professional networks with more than 42 million members in India, announced the introduction of the 'LinkedIn Lite,' an Android app which was a faster and lighter version of its flagship app.
- ❖ LinkedIn Lite app is first being rolled out for members in India. LinkedIn may roll out the mobile web version and the Android app in more than 60 plus countries shortly.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Tamil Nadu drops in NCAER State Investment Potential Index (N-SIPI 2017)

- ❖ Tamil Nadu slipped three ranks to the sixth position in the State Investment Potential Index this year (2017) compared to last year.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has lost its position among the top three States in overall ranking, primarily on account of falling short on the pillar relating to perceptions, in which surveyed firms reported facing constraints on land, labour, infrastructure, economy and governance issues.
- ❖ The Index released by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) ranks the competitiveness of Indian States on six pillars: land, labour, infrastructure, economic climate, political stability and governance, and business perceptions.



- In 2016, T.N. dropped six places to 18 - the lowest among developed States — in the business reforms rankings released by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and the World Bank. Its share of FDI into the country declined to 2.9% in 2016 from 13.1% in 2015.

NCAER (National Council of Applied Economic Research)

- NCAER is India's oldest and largest independent, non-profit, economic policy research institute. It is a New Delhi based non-profit think tank of economics.
- Nandan Nilekani is President of the Governing Body and Dr Shekhar Shah is current Director General of NCAER.
- It was established in 1956 with financial support from the Ford Foundation, Finance Ministry and Tata Sons. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation stone of NCAER campus on October 31, 1959.
