



# GIST OF PIB

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**PIB-DAILY ANALYSIS**

**16 September 2019**

**Important for competitive exam**

**UPSC PSC NDA/NA PCS-J**

## **1. Indian Railways will launch another campaign of "Comprehensive Shramdaan" to focus on "collection of plastic waste"-**

Indian Railways will launch another campaign of "Comprehensive Shramdaan" to focus on "collection of plastic waste". It will be launched on this Tuesday, September 17, 2019. In the recent times, many such expeditions have been carried out by the Railways. The purpose of this shramdaan is to: -

- Promoting sanitation through collection of plastic waste from all railway premises. Special attention will be paid to the connectivity routes to the stations.
- Creating awareness for greater impact against single use plastics.
- Display of replacement / substitute for such plastic items.
- Distributing a large number of cloth bags as advised by the Railway Environment and Housekeeping Management Division through its letter dated 12.9.2019.
- To educate everyone in the Railways including vendors for the ban of single use plastics from 02.10.2019. Single use plastic means the use of any plastic below 50 microns in any manner. <sup>®</sup>

Apart from this, Indian Railways is undertaking various activities related to Swachhata Pakhwara from September 11 to October 2, 2019 which is the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It will be celebrated as Community Services Day, involving all stakeholders to demonstrate a clear impact on cleanliness. The Chairman of the Railway Board was also in constant touch with all the divisional heads to emphasize the subject. He has asked all divisional heads to provide plastic bottle crushing machines at more than four thousand A1 and A2 stations by October 2, 2019.

## **2. India-Switzerland signed and shared three agreements-**

The President today (September 14, 2019) unveiled the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Villeneuve, Switzerland, in the presence of the Mayor and President of Canton Vaude and other dignitaries.

Addressing the business conference, the President said that Switzerland is known for high technology and India is a country of world class human capital. India is established as a major global player in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, healthcare, information technology, solar, automobile, space and biotechnology. Our two economies are highly complementary. There is great potential to combine our relative benefits in capital, technology, science and skills for mutual benefit.

The President said that India has gained Swiss participation in its flagship Make in India, Smart Cities, Digital India, Swachh Bharat, Start-up India and skill development programs. We welcome the cooperation of Swiss companies to move forward in our transformation and development. He said that India has set up an online portal India Investment Grid to make investment opportunities transparent across the country. He also called on Swiss companies to watch it.

### **3. AFRO completes 80 years-**

The Air Force Record Office (AFRO) celebrated its 80th anniversary today in a formal ceremony held at Subroto Park in New Delhi. Several senior serving and retired officers attended the event. AFRO can be proud to be one of the oldest divisions of the Indian Air Force. After its formation as a record office of the Indian Air Force at Ambala in 1939, it had to change several locations such as Lahore in 1941, Bombay in 1942, Madras in 1946 and New Delhi in 1947 before finding its permanent location at Subroto Park. Its development has been closely associated with the Indian Air Force during its eight decades of existence. Initially in 1947, it was handling the HR management of just 14100 airmen. But today it has developed into a large institute overseeing about 1,43,000 air warriors. The aim now is to automate all manual processes and reduce paper usage between external units and AFROs so as to increase transparency and accountability. The skilled and dedicated personnel of 'Team AFRO' follow the Indian Air Force's principle of "Mission, Integrity and Excellence" in the discharge of their duties to take the pride of the Indian Air Force to the heights of the sky.

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