Rapid Fire Current Affairs

Kerala to Provide Pension to MGNREGS Workers

In a **first of its kind initiative,** the Kerala govt. has launched a **welfare fund board for the workers** registered for the **MGNREGS** and Kerala govt.'s **Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme.** They will receive a **monthly pension** from the board once they turn 60.

As per the norm, **any worker (age 18-55)** can take membership in the fund board. They have to pay a **monthly premium amount (₹50 tentatively fixed) until the age of 55** and a member who has paid the **contribution for at least 10 years will be eligible** for pension. Apart from the workers' monthly contribution, the **govt. will also make an equivalent contribution** towards the fund (which may be **revised triannually**).

Read More - [MGNREGS](#)

'Saharsh' Scheme for Social and Emotional Learning

The **state govt. of Tripura,** in an effort to encourage social and emotional learning, introduced a special education programme - 'Saharsh'. Launched in pilot mode in Aug 2022 in 40 schools, now it will be **extended to all govt. and aided schools** of the state. It aimed at empowering children to learn with happiness. **Tripura currently ranks in the Grade-I** category in the **Performance Grading Index.**

Read More - [Performance Grading Index](#)

First Advance Estimates of GDP

The [**National Statistical Office (NSO)**](#), recently released the **first advance estimates (FAEs) of national income (**[GDP](#)**)** according to which the **Indian economy is expected to grow at 7%** in FY 22-23 (up from 6.8% projected by MPC).

The **economy grew by 9.7% in the first half** of FY 22-23 which is likely to slow down to 4.5 % in the second half. **India will still be one of the fastest-growing economies** in the world.

The FAE, first introduced in 2016-17, are the "first" official estimates of how GDP is expected to grow in that FY. FAEs provide some sense of underlying momentum in economic activities and are **useful in the context of the upcoming** [Union Budget](#)**.**

Read More - [First Advance Estimates for GDP](#)