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CURRENT AFFAIRS



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Fund approved for IREDA: Cabinet

- Recently the Union Cabinet has approved an investment of Rs 1,500 crore in the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).
- This will enable IREDA to lend Rs 12,000 crore to the renewable energy sector.
- Earlier 'Whistleblower Portal' was launched by IREDA as a part of 'Vigilance Awareness Week 2021'.

Importance of Fund:

- This equity investment will help create about 10,200 employment opportunities and reduce CO emissions by about 7.49 million tonnes.
- An additional equity investment of Rs 1500 crore by the Government of India will enable IREDA.
- Facilitating additional capacity of 3500-4000 MW in the Renewable Energy (RE) sector by providing a loan of about Rs 12000 crore.
- It will better contribute towards the goals of the Government of India by helping in financing in the field of RE to increase its net worth.
- Improving the capital-to-risk-weighted asset ratio (CAR) to facilitate its lending and lending operations.
- CRAR, also known as CAR (Capital Adequacy Ratio), is important to ensure that financial organizations have enough to absorb a fair amount of losses before they become insolvent.

IREDA:

- It is a Miniratna (Category 1) company functioning under the administrative control of 'Ministry of New and Renewable Energy', Government of India.

- Its function is to encourage projects related to new and renewable energy sources and to provide financial assistance to them for development.
- It has been notified as a 'Public Financial Institution' under Section 4A of the 'Companies Act, 1956'.
- It has been registered as a 'Non-Banking Financial Company' under the rules of 'Reserve Bank of India'.
- It was incorporated as a Public Limited Company in the year 1987 as a 'Non-Banking Financial Institution'.
- Its objective is to promote, develop and provide financial assistance to projects related to new and renewable energy sources.

Abdul Ghaffar Khan

- Abdul Ghaffar Khan was born on **6 February 1890 in a Pashtun family of Pakistan**.
- Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who did his studies from Aligarh Muslim University, was a person of rebellious ideas. That is why he got involved in revolutionary activities during his studies.
- Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan vowed to save the Pashtun people from the oppression of the British.
- At the age of 20, he opened a school in his hometown, Utman Jai, which was successful in a few months, but his school was banned in 1915 by the British government.
- For the next 3 years, he traveled to hundreds of villages to create awareness among Pashtuns. It is said that after this people started calling him by the name '**Badshah Khan**'.
- Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, who became famous due to the Pashtun movement, met Mahatma Gandhi, he was greatly influenced by him and increased his preference for non-violent movements.
- Abdul Ghaffar Khan was arrested by the British in Peshawar on 23 April 1923 for his involvement in the salt movement as he delivered a speech at a meeting held in the town of Utmanzai in the North-West Frontier Province.
- Abdul Ghaffar Khan is known for his non-violent methods, which led to protests in neighboring cities including Peshawar over the arrest of Khan.
- The British were scared to see the movement of thousands of people who reached there to rescue them and they ordered firing to stop the people. As soon as the order was received, the British soldiers opened fire on the unarmed people.
- About 250 people died in this massacre. It is also called Qissa Khwani Bazaar massacre.

- At the same time, the Garhwal Rifles soldiers who refused to obey the orders of the British to fire before the massacre were court-martialed and were imprisoned for many years. Among them the name of Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali of Uttarakhand was prominent.
- In 1929-30, the establishment of **Khudai Khidmatgar** was established as an institutional movement. It means to serve God, it means to serve man. Its commitment was to fight for freedom, non-violence, and religious unity. From this the foundation of Khudai Khidmatgar was prepared.
- When Gandhi called for a nationwide satyagraha against the Rowlatt Satyagraha of 1919, Badshah Khan also joined him.
- When the communal riots broke out in Bihar and Noakhali in 1946, Badshah Khan and Gandhi went there together. Together they worked in Bihar and their relationship with each other continued till the end.
- When the All India Muslim League was adamant on the partition of India, Badshah Khan strongly opposed it. In June 1947, he demanded a separate country from Pakistan for the Pashtuns, but this demand was not accepted.
- The Government of Pakistan considered him as its enemy, so he was kept in jail for many years there. He **died in Pakistan on 20 January 1988 during house arrest.**
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Prime Minister Narendra Modi: top of the list of world popular leaders

- Recently, America-based Morning Consult Political Intelligence conducted a survey around the world. In this survey, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has topped among world leaders with an approval rating of 71%.

Status of other global leaders

- US President Joe Biden is at number six with 43% approval rating in the list of 13 world leaders. Biden was followed by Canadian President Justin Trudeau with an approval rating of 43% and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison with an approval rating of 41%.
- In November 2021 also, Prime Minister Modi topped the list of most popular leaders of the world.
- Morning Consult Political Intelligence is currently tracking the approval ratings of government leaders and the country's trajectory in Australia, Brazil, Canada,

France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom and the US.

- Morning Consult said on its website, "The latest approval ratings are based on data collected from January 13-19, 2022. The approval rating is based on a seven-day moving average of adult residents in each country, with varying sample sizes.
- In May 2020, this website gave the highest rating to Prime Minister Modi with an approval of 84%. In May 2021, it had come down to 63%.

Leaders with Top Approval Ratings in the Survey

- Narendra Modi (India): 71%
- López Obrador (Mexico): 66%
- Mario Draghi (Italy) : 60%
- Fumio Kishida (Japan): 48%
- Olaf Scholz (Germany) : 44%
- Joe Biden (USA): 43%
- Justin Trudeau (Canada): 43%
- Scott Morrison (Australia): 41%
- Pedro Sanchez (Spain) : 40%
- Moon Jae In (South Korea): 38%
- Jair Bolsonaro (Brazil): 37%
- Emmanuel Macron (France): 34%
- Boris Johnson (United Kingdom): 26%
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