



26-04-2024 NEWS

Excess sugar content in Cerelac FSSAI collecting samples

- The Swiss-based International Children's Food Monitoring Organization (IPFAN) (NGO) recently published a report.
- In that, compared to the 'Cerelac' food product sold in the European markets on behalf of 'Nestle' company, additional sugar additives were reported in the 'Cerelac' food sold in South Asian countries with low economic development including India.
- Accordingly, the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs directed the FSSAI to conduct a study on the ingredients of 'Cerelac' food.
- FSSAI is currently collecting samples for this study.

Educational Opportunities of Poor should be ensured

- According to the Right to Education Act (RTE) passed in 2009, 25% seats are reserved for children belonging to socially and economically backward families.
- This section was included in the Act which made education a fundamental right so that no one should be denied education due to inability to pay fees.
- The Maharashtra government amended the state rules for the act that private schools located near government and government aided schools need not reserve 25% seats.
- A similar amendment was introduced in Karnataka in 2018.
- A case against it is pending in the Supreme Court.

Central Govt's Nav Bharat Literacy Programme

- The new Bharat Literacy Scheme 2022 was launched by the central government to provide basic literacy training to uneducated people above 15 years across the country with volunteers.
- Under this scheme, a target has been set to educate 5 crore people by 2027.
- In Tamil Nadu, the Directorate of Non-School and Adult Education has imparted basic literacy education to 10 lakh people in the last 2 years under this scheme.
- The guidelines for the implementation of Bharat Literacy Program this year have now been published.
- Citizens of other states, people in rural areas and hilly areas should be identified. Accordingly, the tasks including finding illiterates and appointing volunteers should be completed.

Sunita Williams to go into space for the 3rd time

- Indian-origin astronaut Sunitha Williams is working for the American space agency NASA.
- She is training as a pilot in the Boeing Starliner space program.
- Following this, NASA has released the list of astronauts for the new space exploration mission.
- Sunita Williams is featured in it and will go to space for the 3rd time. She is going to board the Boeing Starliner spacecraft that will be launched from the Cape Canaveral launch pad on May 6 and spend a week in space for research.
- Along with her, an astronaut named Butch Wilmore has been selected for this project.

Tamil Nadu bans use of Liquid Nitrogen

- The Commissioner of Food Safety has announced that liquid nitrogen should not be mixed directly with food products such as biscuits, ice cream, wafer biscuits and sold.
- According to the Food Safety and Standards Act and Regulations, liquid nitrogen is a processing aid only used to carry out the freezing process in foods that are freezable, such as dairy desserts and ice cream.
- Also under the Food Safety and Standards Act, liquid nitrogen can only be used as a refrigerant.

Do not mix directly:

- Therefore, as per the Food Safety and Standards Act, liquid nitrogen should not be mixed directly with food products like biscuits, ice cream, wafer biscuits and sold.
- Designated officers of the Food Safety Department and Food Safety Officers have been instructed to take appropriate legal action against the food traders who sell in violation.