

Puducherry Current Affairs 2020

Puducherry celebrated its 59th anniversary of the “De-Jure” day

The Union Territory of Puducherry celebrated its 59th anniversary of the “De-Jure” day. It was on August 16, 1962, the “De-Jure” (The Legal Merger of the UT with the Indian Union) was effected after the French parliament ratified the “Treaty of cession”.

But the treaty of cession signed between the French and Indian governments was ratified by the French Parliament only on August 16, 1962. So on that day the “De-Jure” (The Legal Merger of the UT with the Indian Union) was effected.

The referendum was taken on October 18, 1954 on whether to remain in French regime or to merge with the Indian union. As many 178 representatives participated in the referendum in which 170 voted in favour of a merger with India and 8 against it.

The referendum was taken at Keezhoor near Villianur here and to commemorate the occasion a memorial was constructed at Keezhoor.

Puducherry CM Presented ₹9000 Crore Tax Free Budget for FY 20-21

Puducherry Chief Minister presented Rs 9000 crore tax free budget for the financial year 2020-2021 in the assembly.

The budget is Rs 575 crore more than the previous year’s outlay of Rs 8,425 crore and Rs 1073 crore more than the revised budget outlay of Rs 7927 crore in 2019-2020.

Highlights of the budget:

Resources of the budget

- Rs 5257 crore of the budget is from the state’s own resources.
- Rs 2023 crore the budget from central assistance and centrally sponsored schemes
- Rs 1710 crore of the budget will be from open market borrowings and negotiated loans from central financial institutions (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development- NABARD, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (HUDCO) and others).

Major Expenses

- Rs 1966 crores for salaries, Rs 1177 crores for pension, Rs 1625 crores for repayment of loans and interest and Rs 1525 crores for power purchase.
- Rs 896 crores has been earmarked for the old age pension scheme. Grants– Rs 864 crores earmarked for grants to educational institutions, public sector undertakings and cooperative institutions.
- Bank loans of Rs 87 crore will be arranged for students to pursue their education.

Free breakfast scheme

The free breakfast scheme which is now implemented in Puducherry schools will be named after former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister late M Karunanidhi. Nutritious food will be included in it, presently only milk is supplied to students.

To implement infrastructure development scheme

The government will implement a massive infrastructure development scheme with a loan of Rs 746.53 crore from JICA (a Japanese International Cooperative Agency) to meet the UT's power requirements.

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Puducherry abolished e-pass system for inter-state or intra-state movement

The Puducherry administration has abolished the e-pass system as per the orders of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

According to a notification of the Puducherry government, there is no restriction on inter-state and intra-state movement of persons and goods.

No separate permission or approval, e-pass will be required for such movements as per the MHA order.

It may be noted that an e-pass system was introduced in all the states in the country following the outbreak of CoronaVirus pandemic, to contain infection of the virus.