

## Daily Current Affairs 26/08/2021

### 1. India emerges as second in Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021: Cushman & Wakefield Report



#### Why in News

- According to **Cushman & Wakefield's Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021**, **India** has emerged as a global manufacturing hub and effectively surpassed the United States to become the **world's second most desired manufacturing destination**.
- **China** remains at **number one position**.
- The **US** is in **third position**.

#### Key Points:

##### About Global Manufacturing Risk Index:

- Cushman & Wakefield's Global Manufacturing Risk Index 2021 assesses the most advantageous locations for global manufacturing among 47 countries in Europe, the Americas and Asia Pacific.

##### Parameters:

- The rankings are determined based on 4 key parameters, including the country's capability to restart manufacturing, business environment (availability of talent/labour, access to markets), operating costs, and the risks (political, economic and environmental).

##### Factors Responsible for Improvement in India's Ranking:

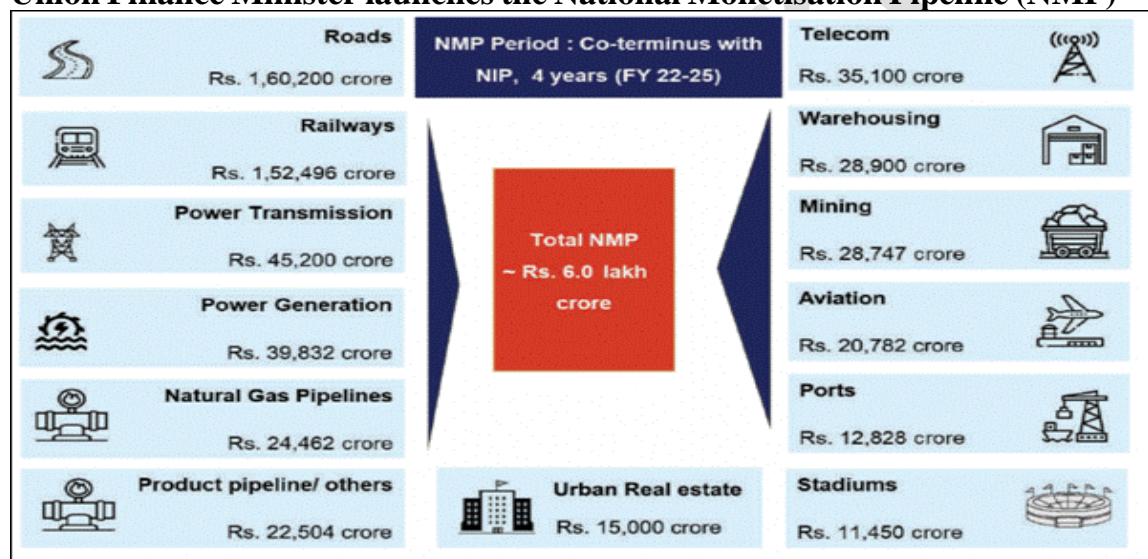
- In regards to manufacturing, often compared to its Asian rival, India has a huge population, which means a younger workforce with innovative capabilities that has the potential to fuel the country's manufacturing sector.
- The government of India is actively bringing reforms to boost the Indian economy: Accounting as the lowest in Southeast Asia, Reduced corporate tax from 30% to 25%, Rules regarding land acquisition have been subsequently relaxed over the years, Income tax, GST, and other custom reliefs provided for favorable business conditions.

### Recent Initiatives to Improve Manufacturing Sector in India:

- Make in India
- Skill India
- National Infrastructure Pipeline
- Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises
- A Scheme for Promoting Innovation, Rural Industry & Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE)
- Industrial corridors
- Prime Minister's Employment Generation programme

Source: Indian Express

### 2. Union Finance Minister launches the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)



#### Why in News

- Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman launched the asset monetisation pipeline of Central ministries and public sector entities: '**National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP Volumes 1 & 2)**'.
- The pipeline has been developed by **NITI Aayog**, in consultation with infrastructure line ministries, based on the mandate for 'Asset Monetisation' under Union Budget 2021-22.
- **NMP** estimates aggregate monetisation potential of **Rs 6.0 lakh crores** through core assets of the Central Government, over a four-year period, from **FY 2022 to FY 2025**.

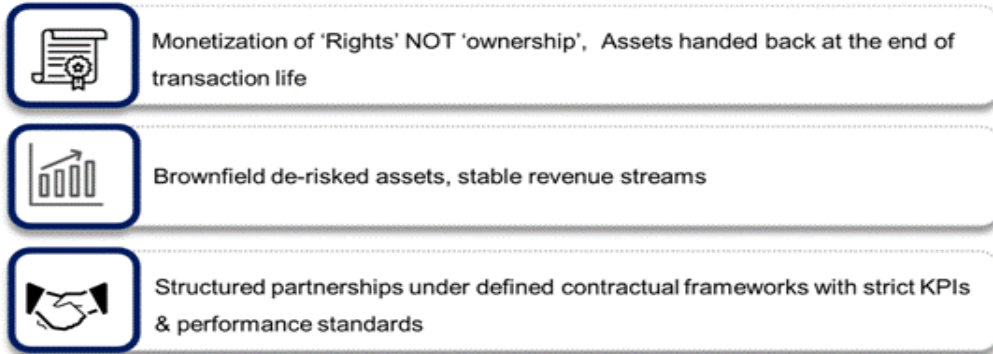
#### Key Points

##### About National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP):

- Union Budget 2021-22 has identified monetisation of operating public infrastructure assets as a key means for sustainable infrastructure financing.
- NMP aims to provide a medium term roadmap of the programme for public asset owners along with visibility on potential assets to the private sector.

#### Framework:

- The pipeline has been prepared based on inputs and consultations from respective line ministries and departments, along with the assessment of total asset base available therein.
- Currently, only assets of central government line ministries and CPSEs in infrastructure sectors have been included.
- The framework for monetisation of core asset monetisation has three key imperatives.



#### Estimated Potential:

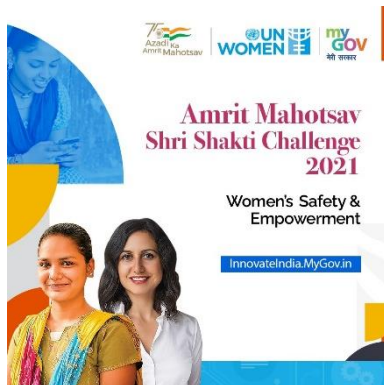
- There are more than 12 line ministries and more than 20 asset classes.
- The sectors included are roads, ports, airports, railways, warehousing, gas & product pipeline, power generation and transmission, mining, telecom, stadium, hospitality and housing.

#### Sector wise Monetisation Pipeline over FY 2022-25:

- The top 5 sectors (by estimated value) capture ~83% of the aggregate pipeline value. These top 5 sectors include: Roads (27%) followed by Railways (25%), Power (15%), oil & gas pipelines (8%) and Telecom (6%).
- In terms of annual phasing by value, 15% of assets with an indicative value of Rs 0.88 lakh crore are envisaged to be rolled out in the current financial year (FY 2021-22).

Source: PIB

### 3. UN Women and MyGov launch Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021 on Women's Safety and Empowerment



#### Why in News

- On this special occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the 75th year of Independence of India, **MyGov** under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, and **UN Women** jointly launched the **Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021** on Women's Safety and Empowerment.



- The aim of the Challenge is ‘Nari Sashaktikaran’, that is to empower women to help them achieve their full potential.

### Key Points

#### About Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021:

- It will support and promote women entrepreneurs and women led Start-ups to find technology solutions for women’s safety and empowerment.
- It provides a much-needed platform to foster women-led solutions that can improve women’s safety, build economic gains and benefit thousands of other women as we build back from COVID-19.
- The **first Shri Shakti Challenge** was held in 2020.

#### About MyGov:

- It is the citizen-centric platform of the Government of India that empowers people to connect with the Government and contribute towards good governance.
- It is a unique path-breaking initiative which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014.

#### About UN Women:

- UN Women, as the UN agency with the mandate to work on gender equality, is responsible for leading and coordinating United Nations system efforts to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world and at the country level.

#### Government’s Initiatives towards Women Empowerment:

- MUDRA scheme
- Ujjwala scheme
- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
- Abolition of Triple Talaq
- New Labour Code
- POSHAN Abhiyaan

Source: PIB

#### 4. India’s evacuation mission from Afghanistan named “Operation Devi Shakti”



Why in News

- India's complex mission to evacuate its citizens and Afghan partners from Kabul after its swift takeover by the Taliban has been named as "**Operation Devi Shakti**".
- Apart from them, **three saroops of the Guru Granth Sahib** were also brought back.
- **Note:** There were **13 saroops of Guru Granth Sahib in Afghanistan** of which 7 were already shifted to India earlier.

#### Key Points

- India began the complex evacuation mission by airlifting 40 Indians from Kabul to Delhi on August 16, a day after the Taliban seized control of the Afghan capital city.

#### Background:

- **Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani** fled to Tajikistan on August 15, 2021.
- This was followed by the capture of Kabul by Taliban insurgents who took over the presidential palace and claimed that the war was over.
- Afghanistan's first **Vice President Amrullah Saleh** declared himself as the caretaker president of Afghanistan.
- The Taliban were removed from power in Afghanistan by US-led forces in 2001, but the group has seized control of the country once again following a rapid offensive.

#### About Taliban:

- The Taliban, or "students" in the Pashto language, emerged in the early 1990s in northern Pakistan following the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Source: Indian Express

### 5. Mission Shakti 3.0 launched in Uttar Pradesh



#### Why in News

- **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of Mission Shakti (**Mission Shakti 3.0**).

#### Key Points

#### About Mission Shakti:

- It is the Uttar Pradesh government's flagship programme aimed at promoting

the security, dignity and empowerment of women.

- The first phase was launched in October 2020.

#### About Mission Shakti 3.0:

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> phase will end on December 31, 2021.

- Under this scheme, CM Adityanath transferred Rs 30.12 crore into the accounts of 1.55 lakh girls and women as a part of the Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangla Yojana.
- The main schemes that are scheduled to be implemented in this phases are the launch of Mission Shakti Kaksha (classrooms), formation of one lakh women self-help groups, linking of 1.73 lakh new beneficiaries to the destitute women pension scheme, construction of pink toilets (for women) in 1,286 police stations, special recruitment for women battalions of Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) to 2,982 posts etc.

Source: TOI

## 6. Legendary athletics coach O.M. Nambiar passes away



- **O.M. Nambiar**, the man who transformed a village girl **P.T. Usha** into Asia's golden girl, passed away.
- He was one of the three recipients of the first Dronacharya Award in 1985.
- Nambiar was honoured with the Padma Shri Award in 2021.

Source: The Hindu