SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY™

The Best IAS Academy In South India SINCE 2004

ENGLISH

MAY - 2020

TNPSC ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS PRELIMS

0% Effort | 100% Results

www.tnpscthervupettagam.com

tnpscfeedback@shankarias.in

Available @Bookmark Store.

Plot No 1742, 1st Floor, 18th Main Road, Anna Nagar West, Chennai – 600 040

Contact : 044-43533445 | 044-45543082.

Centres : Chennai - Annanagar & Adyar | Salem | Madurai | Trichy | Coimbatore | Namakkal.

MAY – 2020

COVID – 19 NEWS

Xenophobia	Currently ***fear and hatred of strangers*** (due to COVID 19)
COVID – 19: HCARD	a Robot to assist frontline healthcare warriors
Favipiravir Antiviral tablets	**Glenmark Pharma** – 1st company to get nod from DCGI for clinical trials for the treatment of COVID – 19 patients
ATULYA	Pune based Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) develops the ***microwave sterilizer ATULYA to Kill Corona Virus within 30 secs (56 – 60 deg celsius)***
Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)	Fanned fear among the villagers and health officials of **Bihar**'s Muzaffarpur and neighbouring districts amid the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) lockdown
CSIR - CSIO	CSIR - CSIO develops Electrostatic Disinfection Machine for disinfection
REMDESIVIR DRUG	After the United States and Japan authorised the use of experimental drug remdesivir to treat Covid-19 patients, the ***government of India has also begun weighing its options.***
New Symptoms for COVID - 19	**COVID TOE:** COVID Toe is a kind of rash that is being developed in COVID-19 patients *that they observed in 19 per cent of the cases examined.*
eCovSens	biosensor that can detect the novel coronavirus in **saliva samples** developed by National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad
UV blaster	To fight against COVID -19 an ***Ultra Violet (UV) Disinfection tower is developed by DRDO***
A2a Type Virus - Corona	National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG), West Bengal, have found that the coronavirus has undergone mutations to form 10 different types **O Type Virus = China** **A2a Type Virus = India**
IIT Guwahati - Assam	Developed a device to identify patients of Coronavirus. They have **devised a drone that is equipped with an infrared camera** to aid in the thermal screening of a group of people without any human intervention.
IIT Ropar - Punjab	Developed a **trunk-shaped device fitted with ultraviolet germicidal irradiation technology** to sanitise grocery, currency notes etc.,
IIT Roorkee - Uttarakhand	**Prana - Vayu:** Developed a **low-cost portable ventilator** that can be useful for COVID-19 patients.

IIT Madras – Tamil Nadu	**Air Bin: "**Smart bin system" to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through waste generated at hospitals, clinics, and quarantine zones**.**
Special Corona fee	**Delhi government** will charge a "special corona fee" on sale of alcohol.
COVID Cess	**Haryana** levying "COVID Cess" on all types of liquor
Plasma Treatment for Corona	Introduced in Madras Medical College
Feluda Test Kit - Corona	✓ CSIR develops **low-cost, paper-based, 30-minute testing kit** 'Feluda' ✓ Testing kit has been named after ***fictional character from Satyajit Ray's detective movie 'Feluda'.***
CHDCOVID App - *Chandigarh*	To provide COVID-19 information
Ayush Kavach COVID App – *Uttar Pradesh*	Information about Ayurveda Medicines to People
COVID KATHA - a multimedia guide on COVID-19	Union Minister of Science & Technology, Health & Family Welfare and Earth Sciences launched
Surakshit Dada – Dadi & Nana – Nani Abhiyan Campaign	Protect Senior Citizens during COVID - 19
ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 – Vaccine for COVID 19	Oxford University initiated a phase-1 human clinical trial of its vaccine ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 against the novel coronavirus
AYUSH Sanjivani App	Ministry of AYUSH of released
AYUSH medicines are Ashwagandha, Yashtimadhu and Guduchi Pippali	Union Health Ministry made announcement about the ***beginning of clinical trials of AYUSH medicines for COVID-19 treatment***
Hypercapnia or hypercarbia	While using MASK regularly, having too much ***carbon dioxide (CO_2) in your bloodstream*** causes Hypercapnia
Hytopharmaceutical & favipiravir	CSIR has received approval for two clinical trial drugs
Triple combination Medicine	**Hong Kong** has trial out the combination of ***interferon beta-1b, lopinavir–ritonavir, and ribavirin*** for treating patients with COVID-19
COVID KAVACH ELISA	First Indian ***antibody detection kit for coronavirus***
Defence Research Ultraviolet Sanitiser (DRUVS)	DRDO develops ***DRUVS to sanitise electronic gadgets, papers, currency notes***
Swasth Vayu	NAL & CSIR *Non-invasive ventilator* for COVID-19 patients
Ultraviolet Germicidal radiation (UVGI)	Scientists are studying the use of ultraviolet germicidal radiation (UVGI) ***to detect Coronavirus in schools, restaurants and other public places***.
Spirulina groundnut Chikki **Spirulina - *cyanobacteria (blue-***	CFTRI can provide **micro-nutrients and boost immunity of people** during this time of pandemic.

green algae)	
hmAbs that can neutralize SARS-CoV-2	CSIR approves project to develop **'hmAbs' that can neutralize SARS-CoV-2** in patients
PM CARES Fund Trust	Allocates Rs. 3100Crore for fight against COVID - 19
COBAS-6800	Union Health Minister dedicates COBAS-6800 testing machine to the nation ***first such testing machine that has been procured by the government for testing of COVID-19 cases***
ELISA TEST KIT	ICMR-NIV, **Pune develops indigenous ELISA TEST kit** for COVID – 19 antibody detection
Mission Grand Care	**Kerala** – to spread message of elderly safely
'Aarogya' scheme complements	Tamil Nadu govt's 'Aarogya' scheme complements AYUSH Ministry schemes for boosting immunity through traditional medicines
Endemic Disease	World Health Organisation (WHO) predicted that novel ***coronavirus could become endemic to the world***.
$1 bn loan	BRICS' Shanghai-based ***New Development Bank (NDB) provides $1 bn loan to India to fight Covid-19***
NIPER Guwahati	NIPER Guwahati comes out with **two products in fight against COVID-19 pandemic** ♣ 3D-printed hands-free object ♣ 3D-printed antimicrobial face-shield
MIR AHD Covid-19 Dashboard - IIT Gandhinagar	Provide key information to stakeholders and the public in order to make research-backed decisions during the time of crisis.
Thermal Corona Combat Headgear	**Delhi Police** has launched an equipment **"Thermal Corona Combat Headgear"**
BPDS & POMID sprayer developed by CSIR-CMERI	♣ BPDS is Battery Powered Disinfectant Sprayer & ♣ POMID is Pneumatically Operated Mobile Indoor Disinfection Unit
IIT-Delhi	Ayurveda herb **Ashwagandha** has "therapeutic and preventive value" against Covid-19 infection.
Rail-Bot	**South Central Railway** zone develops 'Rail-Bot' ***to provide better health care to COVID patients***
Resolution on COVID-19 response	WHO will be initiating Independent Inquiry in the handling of COVID – 19 ***they launch "Resolution on COVID-19 response"***
Malicious Software Cerberus	CBI has sent alerts to ***that is taking advantage of the Covid-19 pandemic.***
"SUKOON – COVID-19 Beat the Stress" – *J & K*	Spread awareness about the psychological impact of lockdown and measures to be adopted to overcome them.

Agappe Chitra Magna	Magnetic nanoparticle-based RNA extraction kit for use during testing for the detection of COVID-19
Kangra Tea	***Kangra Tea could lower coronavirus activity*** better than HIV drugs said Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
PiCoVacc	♣ China has developed a coronavirus vaccine "PiCoVacc" ♣ China proved that the medicine is very effective in monkeys.
Moderna Coronavirus Vaccine - mRNA-1273	1st Coronavirus vaccine to show positive results after the it produced protective antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 virus (COVID-19)
Agappe Chitra Magna, - *a magnetic nanoparticles-based RNA extraction kit*	Launched by SCTIMST ***to detect COVID-19***
Banana Covid / fusarium wilt TR4	A novel fungus strain that has devastated plantations across the globe this year, is setting up **new hotspots and threatening output in India**, the world's largest producer of bananas
Panchgavya - Ayurvedic medicine	Clinical trial of Ayurvedic ***medicine for COVID-19 derived from Panchgavya to begin in Rajkot, Gujarat***
Operation Warp Speed	It is a public–private partnership, initiated by the Federal **Government of the United States**, to facilitate and accelerate ***the development of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.***
Bande Utkala Janani	**Odisha** to sing ***"Bande Utkala Janani"*** for ***COVID-19 Warriors***

	Diseases	Drugs
Repurposed drugs offer hope in India's Covid fight	**HIV**	Lopinavir / Ritonavir
	Leprosy	Mycobacterium w
	Skin Disorder	Itolizumab
	Arthritis	Tocilizumab
	Diarrhoea	Loperamied
	Ebola	Remdesivir
	Disulfiram	treatment of alcohol dependence

TAMIL NADU

1) **Namma Chennai Corona Thaduppu Thittam:** New COVID testing plan for Chennai - door-to-door Check up

2) **Arsenicam Album 30 – *Homeopathy Medicine:*** TN government approved the use of the Homeopathy Medicine for Corona affected person

3) **MURASU, NEER: Tropical cyclone** gets Tamil name by the World Meteorological Organisation.

4) **Silapathikaram Park – Madurai:** The project aims to bring back trees that are mentioned in the Tamil Epic Silapathikaram

5) **J. Radhakrishnan:** Former Health secretary **appointed as the special nodal officer** for Chennai Corporation to coordinate COVID-19

6) Greater Chennai police introduced a "robot' **(Robot Cop LD v5.0)** in Mylapore - to handle residents who live in containment areas

7) **Special Investment Promotion Task Force:** Tamil Nadu - constituted a 14 member Force - to attract countries interested in shifting their supply chains to India, following the outbreak of COVID -19

8) **DR. SELVA VINAYAGAM** appointed as the TN Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

9) **War Medals:** War Medals used by soldiers before 500 years are found in **Karur**

10) **Amma Thirumana Mandapam:** Tamil Nadu Housing Board has planned to build the "Amma Thirumana Mandapam" across the state

11) **Atulya Misra:** Nodal officer from Tamil Nadu to regulate the movement of stranded persons, including migrant workers, in the state during the ongoing COVID-19 lockdown.

12) **KAVASAM APP:** ***Chennai*** based Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment developed the app ***to help COVID - 19 warriors fight virus***

13) **Anna University** got the Institutions of Eminence status

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

14) **Jayalalithaa's 'Veda Nilayam':** Tamil Nadu government to convert late CM ***J. Jayalalithaa's 'Veda Nilayam' residence in Chennai into a memorial***

15) **Retirement Age:** Tamil Nadu government increases retirement age from 58 to 59

16) **GCC Vidmed App:**- Greater Chennai Corporation launched ***to provide free telemedicine consultations for Chennaiites***

17) **Madurai Railway Station** got the ISO cerification

18)

Excavation begins at Sivagalai	❖ The archaeological excavation scheduled starts the 6th Excavation work at a site at *Sivagalai in Thoothukudi district* ❖ Sivagalai is situated next to Adichanallur, which exposed the historical treasure of ancient Tamil civilization
Excavation begins at Keeladi	6th Excavation work starts at *Manaloor in Sivagangai district*

NATIONAL

1) **Visakhapatnam Gas Leak:** ***Toxic Styrene gas leak*** from LG polymers plant in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on **8th May 2020**

- Styrene Molecular formula: C_8H_8
- Structural formula: $CH_2 = CHC_6H_5$
- Molecular Mass: 104.15 g mol^{-1}

2) **440 metre-long tunnel:**

- Union Minister for Road Transport, Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated ***the 440 metre-long tunnel as part of the Chardham Connectivity Project (Chardham Pariyojana) in Chamba***
- It connects Gangotri, Kedarnath, Yamunotri and Badrinath

3) **LOCUST ATTACK:** Rajasthan, Punjab, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh & so far

4) **"Cauvery Water Management Authority** brought under the **Jal Shakthi Ministry**" - which was earlier under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

5) The name of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) has been changed to ***Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET)***

6) **African swine flu:** 1st instance of African swine fever has been reported in the **Assam**

7) **Hog cholera** RNA Virus: In ***Meghalaya for Pigs***

8) **Chhattisgarh** ranked top in providing employment under MGNREGS

9) **Electricity Act (Amendment) Bill 2020:** Ministry of Power has released draft, to amend the Electricity Act, 2003 ***to introduce key Reforms in the Power Sector.***

10) **VANDE BHARAT MISSION – THROUGH FLIGHT:** Vande Bharat Mission is the **biggest evacuation exercise** to bring back Indian citizens stranded abroad amidst the coronavirus-induced travel restrictions

11) **OPERATION "SAMUDRA SETU" – THROUGH SHIP:** Indian Navy has also launched the Operation to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas

12) **Shramik Special trains:** To move migrant workers, pilgrims, tourists, students and other persons stranded at different places due to lock down.

13) **INS Kesari:** INS Kesari sets sail on Covid aid mission to Indian Ocean countries under *Mission Sagar*

14) **INS Magar & INS Jalashwa:** As a part of **Samudra setu programme,** two ships are sent to excavate the people form **Maldives**

15) **Dehing Patkai elephant Reserve:** National Board for wild life permits coal mining in part of Assam's Dehing patkai elephant reserve

16) **State Health Register:** ***Karnataka*** to launch 'State Health Register' of all citizens

17) **One Nation One Ration Card:** Five states are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Daman and Diu have joined, already there are 12 States

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

18) **Lipulekh Pass – Uttarakhand:** New road to Kailash Mansarovar via Lipulekh Pass

19) **YASH programme:** NCSTC launches the programme on health and risk communication with focus on COVID-19

20) **VADHAVAN PORT**: The Union Cabinet approved to build the port in **Maharashtra**

21) **RAMAYAN:** Created a world record by becoming the highest viewed entertainment programme in the entire world

22) **New mandis:** 200 new Mandis added to e – NAM platform from 7states

23) **NAM 2020:** Indian Prime minister Narendra Modi will participate in a video conference meeting of non-alignment movement (NAM) on COVID crisis

24) **"#HumHaarNahiMaanenge": HDFC Bank** releases the song "#HumHaarNahiMaanenge"

25) **Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre titled - GRID 2020:** "The Global Report on International Displacement (GRID 2020)" - disaster conflicts trigger 5 million displacements in India, highest in world

26) **Madhya Pradesh:** 1st state in the country ***to provide mid-day meal ration***

27) **Pranavayu programme:** Bengaluru city corporation has launched Pranavayu programme ***to create awareness on the need to self-examine the respiratory health for Bengaloreans***

28) **Krishak Kalyan fees: Rajasthan** as levied **2% Krishak Kalyan fees** on agricultural produce brought or bought or sold in mandis

29) **Telangana:** 1st Indian state to regulate crop cultivation

30) **Manavseva Sangh an NGO:** Running a **Roti Bank in Surat** helping around 1 lakh poor and needy on a daily basis

31) **Low – intensity earthquake:** Earthquake of ***magnitude 2.2 hit the national capital Delhi***

32) World Health Organisation Said ***India likely to miss the Global Nutrition targets by 2025***

33) **Jal Jeevan Mission:** ***Haryana & J/K*** to provide tap water to every household by December 2022

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

34) **India Post:** Released a **Special Postal Cover dedicated to the migrant workers** with an objective of paying tribute to them.

35) Lata Mangeskar sings **"JAYTU BHARATAM"** song for ***Atma Nirbhar Bharat***

36) **Didi Vehicle Service:** ***Madhya Pradesh***, the women of Rural Livelihood Mission have started Didi Vehicle Free Service for rural women for the safe delivery

37) Western Ghats declared as **Ecologically Sensitive Area**

38) **ReStart Programme for MSMEs: Andhra Pradesh** has launched a programme 'ReStart' to support the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector in the State

39) **5 Cities were given 5 - Star rating of garbage free cities:** Ambikapur, Surat, Rajkot, Mysuru, Indore and Navi Mumbai

40) **Herbal roads:** ***Uttar Pradesh government*** will develop 800 km roads as Herbal roads in the state.

41) **Hindi** as Official Court Language in **Haryana**

INTERNATIONAL

1) **TOMAN: Iran** to change its currency ***to 'Toman' from Rial***
   - ✓ **1 Toman = 10000 Rial**

2) **Slovenia:** 1st European country ***to proclaim an end to the coronavirus epidemic at home***

3) **Montenegro:** 1st Country in Europe ***to declare itself coronavirus-free.***

4) **USA terminates** relationship with World Health Organisation

5) **Diamer – Basha Dam in PoK: China and Pakistan** signed an accord to construct the dam in ***Gilgit – Baltistan region***

6) **India – Nepal dispute:** Nepal unveils new map showing **Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh regions of Uttarakhand,** as part of its sovereign territory

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

7) **Treaty on Open Skies:** Both **USA and Russia** are signatories of the treaty. Recently, USA is to withdraw from Open Skies treaty

8) **Earthquake in Indonesia:** 5.6 magnitude earthquake jolts 259 km North-West of Saumlaki

9) **Digital Yuan:** ***China*** seeks to be the first major economy to launch a digital currency

10) **Hanko:** Hanko is a ***personal to verify your identity stamp of Japan*** - two millennium old tradition system

11) **BHASHAN CHAR:** ***Island of Bangladesh*** – For Rohingya Rufugees

12) **Triple Taxes: Saudi Arabia** triples taxes amid pandemic

13) **JEFF BEZOS:** World's richest person – by Bloomberg Billionaires Index

14) **BoBBLE:** Bay of Bengal Boundary Layer Experiment or BoBBLE is a BoBBLE is a joint India - UK project. It seeks to examine the impact of ocean processes in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) on the monsoon system.

15) **Israel Government:** Israeli MPs have approved the formation of ***a unity government between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and rival Benny Gantz***

16) **UNPA and WHO:** Postal Stamp launched to mark **40th Anniversary of Smallpox Eradication**

17) **US-Israel Talks on West Bank Annexation:** US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss Israel's plans ***to annex parts of the West Bank***

18) **China- Taiwan relations:** Taiwan is not a part of the WHO owing to objections from China which calls the nation a part of its own.

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

ECONOMICS

1)

RBI's Monetary Policy Statement for 2020 - 21	**Repo Rate** = 4 %
	Reverse Repo Rate = 3.35 %
	Marginal Standing Facility Rate = 4.25%

2)

Fiscal deficit and associated terms for the Financial Year 2020 – NSO released	❖ Fiscal deficit = 4.6% ❖ Budget estimate = 3.8% ❖ Revenue deficit = 3.27% ❖ Effective Revenue deficit = 2.36%

3) The Centre announces '**Mudra Shishu loan**' for small businesses and cottage industries

4) **Tap & Go:** RBI directed to use more touchless POS card payment (Tap & Go) throughout the country

5) **Kotak Mahindra Bank:** 1st bank in India to ***allow video Know your customer (KYC)*** facility for customers opening savings accounts

6) **Economic growth:** Moody's Investors Service projects ***India's economic growth at 0% in 2020-21***

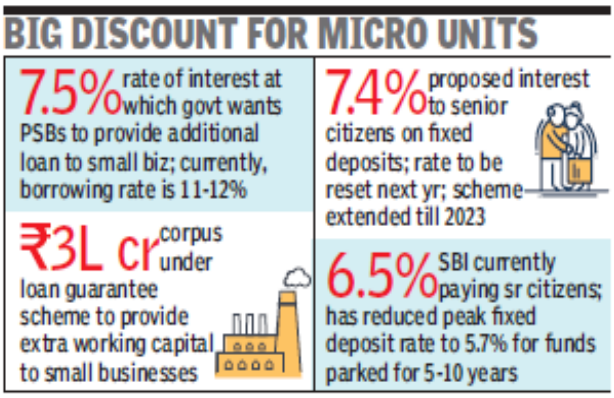
7) **Trading in rupee-USD:** Two exchanges at ***International Financial Services Centre in Gift City, India INX and NSE IFSC***, launch trading in rupee-USD derivative contracts

8) **www.Champions.gov.in:** The Ministry of MSMEs launched the CHAMPIONS portal (www.Champions.gov.in) ***to assist Indian MSMEs to become national and global champions***

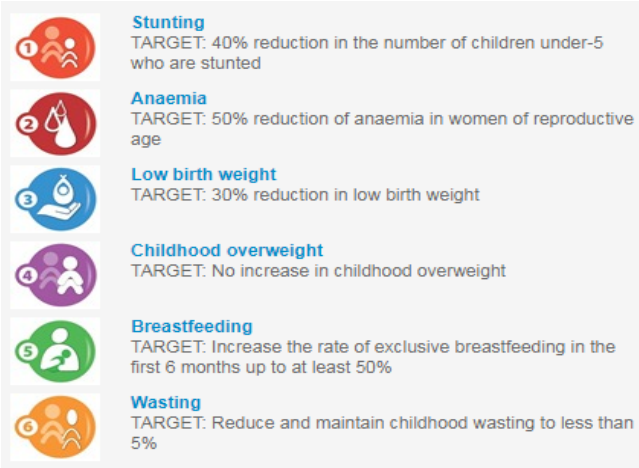
9) **Under-5 Mortality Rate:** U5MR dropped 49% since 2000

10) **Wholesale Price Index (WPI) deflation:** The rate of inflation based on WPI Food Index decreased from 5.49 per cent in March, 2020 to **3.60 per cent in April, 2020**.

11) **Govt pushes PSU banks to provide cheaper loans to small businesses:**

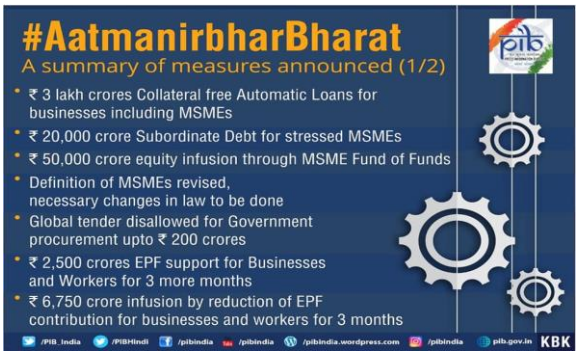
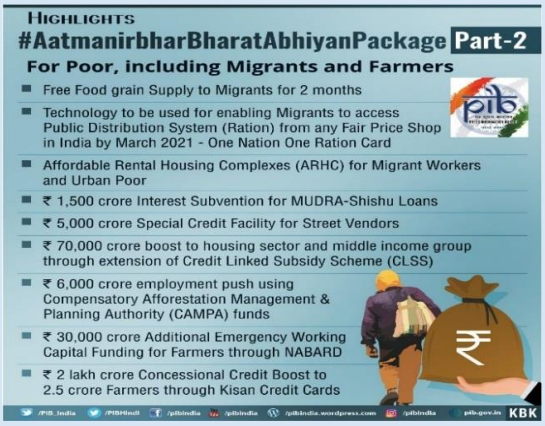
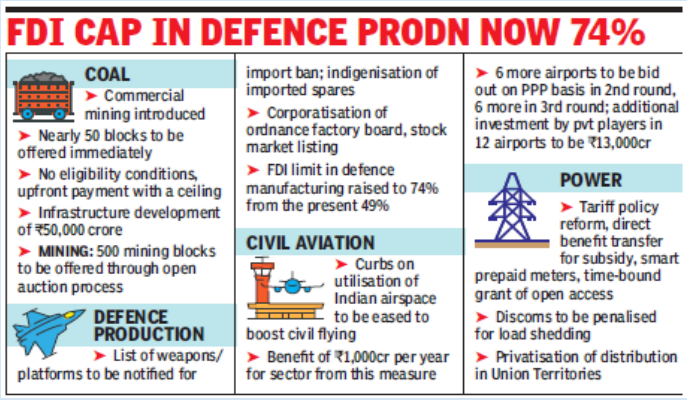


12) **Global nutrition targets 2025:**



13) **PM Narendra Modi Speech:**

14)

Finance Minister's Speech on 13-05-2020		
Finance Minister's Speech on 14-05-2020		
Finance Minister's Speech on 15-05-2020		
Finance Minister's Speech on 16-05-2020		

Finance Minister's Speech on 17-05-2020

JOBS: Additional ₹**40,000cr for MGNREGS**, will help generate 300cr person days work

PSU REFORMS
- All sectors open to the private sector
- Number of PSEs in strategic sectors will ordinarily be 1-4; others will be privatised/ merged/ brought under holding companies
- In other sectors, PSEs will be privatised

SUPPORT TO STATES
- Increase in borrowing limits of states from 3% to 5% of GDP, for 2020-21 only, linked to reforms. This will give states extra resources of ₹4.3 lakh cr

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS
- Minimum threshold to initiate insolvency action raised to ₹1cr (from ₹1 lakh, which insulates MSMEs)
- Suspension of fresh initiation of insolvency proceedings up to 1 year depending on situation
- Empowering Centre to exclude Covid-19-related debt from definition of 'default' for triggering insolvency
- Direct listing of securities by public companies in permissible foreign jurisdictions

HEALTH
- Infectious diseases hospital block in all districts
- Integrated public health labs in all districts and block level labs and public health units to manage pandemics

EDUCATION
- PM e-vidya for multi-mode access to digital education
- One TV channel per class from 1 to 12
- Top 100 universities will be permitted to automatically start online courses by May 30

Item	₹Crore
Tranche 1	5,94,550
Tranche 2	3,10,000
Tranche 3	1,50,000
Tranche 4 & 5	48,100
Sub Total	11,02,650
Earlier Steps, Including PMGKY	1,92,800
RBI Measures	8,01,603
Sub Total	9,94,403
Total	**20,97,053**

SPORTS

1) **Sania Mirza:** 1st Indian to be nominated for ***"Fed cup Heart Award"***

2) **World's highest-paid female athlete:** Japanese tennis star - ***Naomi Osaka*** ($37.4 million / year)

3) Indian hockey legend Balbir Singh Dosanjh passes away

4) **#WeWillWin campaign: FIFA** launches the campaign to pay tribute to COVID – 19 health workers

5) **All India Football Federation (AIFF):** FIFA Under 17 Women's World Cup to be held in February 2021

6) **COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES:** 7th season of 2021 Commonwealth youth games was postponed to 2023

7)

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award & Arjuna Award 2020 Nominees	**Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** = Rohit Sharma **Arjuna Awards** = Shikhar Dhawan, Deepti Sharma and Ishant Sharma

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME	PLACE / By
Extraordinary Virtual G20 Digital Economy Ministers summit	G20 Digital Economy Task Force COVID-19 Ministerial Statement appealed for a ***coordinated global Digital response in order to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and protect people***	Video Conferencing
11th Petersberg Climate Dialogue	The dialogue was held virtually for the first time in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.	Video Conferencing

SCHEMES / YOJANAS

SCHEMES / YOJANAS	PURPOSE / Why in News?	MINISTRY / CABINET / STATE
Vikas Abhaya loan Scheme	Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank launched	Karnataka
Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana	Free and Cashless Health insurance scheme – ***1st state in India to provide the Free and Cashless Health insurance scheme***	Maharashtra
Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana	Under this scheme **Rs. 500 for 3 months will be provided for financially backward women** through the Jan Dhan Account	The Union Government
3 Schemes	♣ **Birsa Harit Gram Yojana** - rural plantations, ♣ **Neelambar Pitambar JAL Sammridhi Yojana** - water conservation ♣ **Poto Ho Khel Vikas Scheme** - making playgrounds	Jharkhand
Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna	Provide 120 days of employment to those living in urban areas	Himachal Pradesh
Mukhymantri Yub Yogayog Yojana	Scholarship scheme for students	Tripura
FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana	Country's ***first ever 'FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana'*** for development in Police department	Madhya Pradesh

Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana	Under the scheme, the farmers are to be paid Rs 10,000 per acre for the crops such as sugarcane, corn and paddy	Chhattisgarh
Matir Smristi scheme	To generate income activities in horticulture and pisciculture involving the locals	West Bengal
Atmanirbhar gujarat sahay Yojana	Provide loan for small traders, street-vendors and small professionals in the state	Gujarat
Charan Paduka Campaign	Charan Paduka campaign for migrant labourers	Madhya Pradesh
Sneher Porosh & Prochesta	Two schemes for Migrant Workers	West Bengal
Mee Annapurna Programme	Welfare program of farmers and Bhoomiputras	Maharashtra
Mukhyamantri Swarozgar Yojana	For returnee migrants	Uttarakhand

REPORTS / INDICES

INDEX	PURPOSE / RELEASED BY	INDIA's / Tamil Nadu's RANKING	TOP RANKING
Budget Transparency	International Budget Partnership	53	New Zealand
Energy Transition Index 2020	World Economic Forum	74	Sweden

DEFENCE & SPACE

DEFENCE & SPACE	PURPOSE	COUNTRY / STATE / ORGANIZATION
Commercial Arm of ISRO	New Space India and Antrix	ISRO
Mars Helicopter - "INGENUITY"	♣ **Attached to Perseverance Rover** ♣ **Named by: Vaneeza Rupani**	NASA

LONG MARCH 5	**China** has successfully launched a **most powerful rocket** and prototype spacecraft in a major test of the country's ambitions ***to operate a permanent space station and send astronauts to the Moon.***	China
Luhman 16 A	Jupiter like cloud bands on closest dwarf planet discovered by astronomers	
Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sachet and two Interceptor Boats (IBs) C-450 and C-451	Defence Minister of India has commissioned Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Sachet and two Interceptor Boats (IBs) C-450 and C-451 in Goa	Indian Coast Guard Ship
INLCU L57	7th LCU Ship 'INLCU L57' commissioned into Indian Navy	Indian Navy
Tianwen-1	1st Mars Mission - Tianwen-1- in July, 2020	China
SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft	♣ SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft successfully took off from the International Space Station with two NASA astronauts Robert Behnken and Douglas Hurley. ♣ The mission marks the first launch of a rocket owned by SpaceX	Space X

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SPECIES / NEW DISCOVERIES	TYPE / PURPOSE	PLACE / BY
wag 12b	♣ Indian Railways operationalises its most powerful **1st 12000 HP** made in India locomotive ♣ 6th country in the world to join the elite club of producing high horse power locomotive indigenously	Indian Railways
Troglomyces twitteri	The fungus has been named after Twitter as it was discovered in Twitter	Denmark
Spinosaurus aegyptiacus	1st known Aquatic Dinosaur	North Africa
Arktika-M	1st satellite to monitor Arctic Climate	Russia
Geological map of the moon	1st detailed geological map of the moon	USA
Super Flower Moon 2020	Last month we witnessed the Super Pink Moon and the month of ***May we have***	

	witnessed another supermoon called Super Flower Moon at perigee position	
injectable silk fibroin-based hydrogel (or iSFH)	An injectable silk fibroin-based hydrogel for sustained insulin delivery in diabetic patients.	Scientists at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) developed
EventBot	Trojan Virus is spreading and steals the personal financial info	CERT
Light Weight carbon foam	light carbon foam that will replace lead batteries	CSIR
MeerKAT Telescope	Astronomers using the **MeerKAT telescope** at the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory in Cape Town, South Africa, have solved a longstanding mystery of **X-shaped radio galaxies.**	South African Radio Astronomy Observatory
Three new Fish Varieties	Darsincia apsara, Daccincia austelles, Daccinicia karrassa	found in Western Ghats
Puntius Sanctus	a new freshwater fish	Velankanni, Tamil Nadu
Super Earth	It potentially holds the conditions to sustain human life	New Zealand
LESS INVASIVE SURFACTANT ADMINISTRATION (LISA)	A new medical technique for treatment of lung disease	
H.A.C.K	CySecK launches programme ***"H.A.C.K" for Cyber Security Start-ups***	
Rht14 and Rht18	Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) Pune, have ***mapped two alternative dwarfing genes Rht14 and Rht18 in wheat*** that can help in reducing rice crop residue burning i.e. stubble burning.	
Antarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna (ANTIA)	The ANTIA is high-energy cosmic neutrino that detect radio pulses that are being emitted by Antarctic ice sheet. ***The neutrinos in the ice produce radio pulses due to Askaryan effect.***	

CYCLONE

Cyclone Amphan ***Named by: Thailand***	New Cyclone formed on the Bay of Bengal

APPS & PORTALS

MSME Portal	Nitin Gadkari launched the *"MSME Bank of Ideas, Innovation and Research portal"*
KISAN SABHA APP	Developed by CSIR - Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi to connect farmers **to supply chain and freight transportation management system**
AAROGYA SETU APP	Set a record of highest downloading app in India
GARUD PORTAL	DGCA launches 'GARUD' portal to fast-track exemptions of coronavirus-related drone operations.
AYUSH KAVACH APP - UTTAR PRADESH	The app will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines amid the coronavirus pandemic.
Zoom App	**Vulnerable To Cyber Attacks**, Says CERT-India
Pravasi Raahat Mitra App	Uttar Pradesh launches the App for migrant workers
eSanjeevaniopd Portal - TN	Free online medical consultation to sick people
National Test Abhyas App	Union HRD Ministry launches new mobile app "National Test Abhyas" to ***help the candidates to take mock tests for exams such as JEE Mains, NEET, etc..,***
CatchUp App	A **calling application** named as **"CatchUp"** has been launched by the social media major **Facebook.**
Rozgar Setu scheme	**Madhya Pradesh government** would help to secure employment for skilled workers who have returned to the state in the COVID-19 situation.

COMMITTEES

Justice B. Seshasayana Reddy committee	National Green Tribunal sets up committee ***to probe Vizag gas leak***
C Rangarajan Committee – *24 member committee*	Tamil Nadu government has set up a high-level committee ***to examine fiscal challenges facing the state owing to the COVID-19 pandemic*** and suggest the way forward to improve its fiscal position.
Shekatar Committee	Union Defence Minister approved the **abolition of 9,304 posts in the military engineering services** with the recommendation of Shekatar Committee
Rohit Bharadwaj Committee	Sports Authority of India (SAI) has formed a committee to prepare a **Standard Operating Procedure to resume training in all SAI Centres** post lockdown
Rajesh Bhushan Committee	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has constituted a committee to reform the **Drug Regulatory System**

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

PERSONS	POSITION / DESIGNATION
Harsh Vardhan	Chairman of the Executive Board of World Health Organization (WHO)
Carmen Reinhart	Chief Economist of World Bank Group
Govinda Rajulu Chintala	Chairman of NABARD
SANJAY KOTHARI	New Central Vigilance Commissioner
SURESH N. PATEL	New Vigilance Commissioner
Shobana Narasimhan	International Honorary Member to American Academy of Arts and Science
SARITHA KOMATIREDDY	Appointed as the **Judge of US Federal Court** in New York
ASHOK MICHAEL PINTO	Nominated as US representative to **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**
MANISHA SINGH	US envoy to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Rahul Dev	The first Hindu youth to join Pakistan Air Force

Uddhav Thackeray	Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray elected ***unopposed to Legislative council***
Charles Michel	European Council president
Tedros Adhanom	WHO Director-General
Henrietta Fore	UNICEF Executive Director
Mike Pence	Vice president of USA
Mustafa Al-Kadhimi	Prime Minster of Iraq
Dia Mirza	UNEP Goodwill Ambassador
Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury	Chairperson of Parliament's Public Accounts Committee
António Guterres	Secretary-General of the United Nations
Adarsh Kumar Goel	Chairperson of National Green Tribunal
Ajit Doval	National Security Advisor
Abdel Fattah el-Sisi	Egyptian President
Rodrigo Duterte	Philippines President
Balram Bhargava	ICMR director
Soumya Swaminathan	WHO's Chief Scientist
Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi	New Secretary, Ministry of & Renewable Energy Ministry
Manoj Ahuja	New Chairman of Central Board of Secondary Education
Jair Bolsonaro	President of Brazil
Mike Pompeo	United States Secretary of State
Mette Frederiksen	Prime Minister of Denmark
Rajesh Goel	Appointed as Director General of NAREDCO (National Real Estate Development Council)
David Malpass	President of World Bank
Roberto Azevedo	WTO Director-General
G.R. Chintala	new chairman of **NABARD**
Marcos Troyjo	New President of New Development Bank **(NDB)**

GI TAG

Kovilpatti Kadalai mittai	Tuticorin district, Tamil Nadu
Chak-Hao, a black rice variety	Manipur
Gorakhpur terracotta	Uttar Pradesh
Kashmir Saffron	Jammu & Kashmir
Netti Works	Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
Arumbavur wood carvings	Perambalur, Tamil Nadu
Sohrai Khovar Painting	Jharkhand
Telia Rumal Cloth	Telangana

AWARDS

A commemorative medal from Russian President Vladimir Putin on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Russia's victory in World War II	***KIM JONG UN***
"Order of Rising Sun" Award by Japan	Thangjam Dhabali Singh – Indian Doctor
Nikkei Asia Prize 2020	T. Pradeep
Pulitzer Prize 2020	Dar Yasin, Mukhtar Khan and Channi Anand
SKYTRAX Award 2020	**Kempegowda International Airport**, Bengaluru has won the SKYTRAX Award 2020
Alexander Dalrymple Award 2019	Indian Naval Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar
United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the year Award	Indian major Suman Gawani

BOOKS & AUTHORS

BOOK	AUTHOR
The Room where it Happened: A White House Memoir	John Bolton
Delhi That No One Knows and Capital Vignettes	R. V. Smith
Prof. B. B. Lal – India Rediscovered	Released by: Prahlad Singh Patel
Vijyant at Kargil: The life of a Kargil War Hero	VN Thapar & Neha Dwivedi
Finding freedom: Harry and Meghan and the making of a modern Royal family	Omidscobie & Carolyn Durand
Parliamentary Committee on Labour	Bhartruhari Mahtab
Leadership and the rise of great Power	Yan Xuetong
Wuhan Diary: Dispatches from a Quarantined City	Fang Fang
Hop On: My Adventures on Boats, Trains and Planes	Ruskin Bond
The lckabog	J K Rowling

FESTIVALS

S.No.	FESTIVAL	STATE
1.	Thrissur Pooram	Kerala
2.	Bishnu Sendra Parva	Tribal festivals of Jharkhand, Odisha & West Bengal

IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
May 1	International Labour Day	**THEME:** *"Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement."*
May 3	World Press Freedom Day	To raise awareness of the importance of freedom of the press
May 4	International Firefighter's Day	To recognise and honour the sacrifices that firefighter's make to ensure that their communities and environment are as safe as possible.
May 5	World Hand Hygiene Day	**THEME:** *"SAVE LIVES: Clean your hands"*
May 5	World Asthma Day	**THEME:** *"Enough Asthma Deaths"*
May 5	International Day of the Midwife	**THEME:** *"Midwives with women: celebrate, demonstrate, mobilize, unite - our time is NOW!"*
May 7	World Athletics Day	To boost the participation of youths in athletics.
May 8	World Thalassaemia Day	**THEME:** *''The dawning of a new era for thalassaemia: Time for a global effort to make novel therapies accessible and affordable to patients"*
May 9	World Migratory Bird Day	**THEME:** *"Birds Connect Our World"*
May 10	Mother's Day	Mother's Day is celebrated every year on the second Sunday of May to honour motherhood and is observed in different forms throughout the world.
May 11	National Technology day	Marking **22nd anniversary of Pokhran nuclear tests**
May 12	International Day of the Nurse	**THEME:** *"Nursing the World to Health"*
May 15	International Day of Families	**THEME:** *"Families in Development: Copenhagen & Beijing"*
May 16	National Dengue Day	To Create awareness about dengue
May 17	World Telecommunications Day	**THEME:** *"Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"*
May 18	International Museum Day	**THEME:** *"Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion"*
May 20	World Bee Day	**THEME:** *"Bee Engaged"*
May 21	International Tea Day	To boost its production and consumption
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity	**THEME:** *"Our solutions are in nature"*

May 23	World Turtle Day	To spread awareness about the protection of the natural habitat of turtles & tortoises.
May 25	International Day to End Obstetric Fistula	**THEME:** *"End gender inequality! End health inequities! End Fistula now!"*
May 28	World Dugong Day	**THEME:** *"Save dugong, save livelihood"*
May 29	International Day of UN Peacekeepers	**THEME:** *"Women in Peacekeeping: A Key to Peace."*
May 30	Goa celebrated its Statehood Day	
May 31	World No Tobacco Day	**THEME:** *"Tobacco and related industry tactics to attract younger generations."*

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS