

April - 04

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ An Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130J transport aircraft recently delivered 6.2 tonne of essential medicines and hospital consumables to Maldives under Operation Sanjeevani.
- ❖ National Cadet Corps (NCC) has offered a helping hand to civilian authorities in the country's fight against COVID-19 by extending the services of cadets under 'Exercise NCC Yogdan'.
- ❖ The flying car-maker PAL-V of The Netherlands plans to set up a flying car manufacturing unit at Gujarat in India. PAL-V stands for Personal Air Land Vehicle.

TAMIL NADU

Hilly Areas Rules, 2020

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State government has decided to regularise unapproved layouts and plots certain urban and rural areas, including hill areas.
- ❖ It has notified the Tamil Nadu Regularisation of Unapproved Layouts and Plots in Hilly Areas Rules, 2020.
- ❖ A large number of unapproved layouts have come up in hill areas, which were under the purview of the Hill Area Conservation Authority (HACA).
- ❖ A Government Order issued by the Housing and Urban Development Department on March 30 said most plots in such layouts have been bought by "poor and innocent people".
- ❖ These layouts can't be put back to their original use.
- ❖ However, the G.O. covers only unapproved layouts in areas which do not fall under the elephant corridor and certain other parts.
- ❖ The order was only to benefit residential constructions and not commercial establishments
- ❖ The state government is yet to notify all the elephant corridors and announce the buffer zones around sanctuaries



NATIONAL

New Features of e-Nam

- ❖ The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched new features of e-NAM platform.
- ❖ They will strengthen agriculture marketing & reduce the need for cultivators to physically come to the mandis to sell their produce.
- ❖ E-NAM (Electronic National Agriculture Market) is an online trading platform for agriculture produce aiming to help farmers, traders, and buyers with online trading and getting a better price by smooth marketing.
- ❖ It was launched by the Centre in 2015.
- ❖ Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.
- ❖ According to the Agricultural Ministry, currently there are 585 mandis operating in 16 states have been integrated with the e-NAM portal.

INTERNATIONAL

United Nations Security Council Meet

- ❖ The current president of United Nations Security Council, Dominican Republic announced that the UNSC is to meet over COVID-19.
- ❖ The rotating presidency of the 15-member council was taken by the Caribbean country from the previous president China.
- ❖ The primary responsibility of the council is to deal with Geo-political peace and security.
- ❖ The public health security is not under the mandate of the Council.



Resolution 2518

- ❖ The United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 2518 to ensure safety and security of peacekeepers.
- ❖ This is the first time; a resolution is being passed for the safety of the peacekeepers.
- ❖ The resolution was initiated and sponsored by China.
- ❖ The resolution of safety of peacekeepers comes in a time when the United Nations is marking 75th anniversary.
- ❖ This is a crucial year for the organization to implement “Action for Peace”.
- ❖ The Action for Peace initiative was launched by the United Nations to help countries address challenges such as elusive political issues, protracted conflicts, dangerous environments, broad and complex mandates, etc.

BCG vaccine and COVID-19

- ❖ BCG, or bacille Calmette-Guerin, is a vaccine for tuberculosis (TB) disease.
- ❖ The BCG vaccine is known to confer a strong immune response and a significant degree of protection against leprosy and non-invasive bladder cancers.
- ❖ According to a recent study those countries where the elderly were likely to have had a BCG shot in their childhood were likely to be better protected against coronavirus.
- ❖ Because COVID-19 was particularly lethal to the elderly people.
- ❖ Countries like Spain, France, the United States, Italy and the Netherlands don't have universal BCG policies and have seen many deaths from COVID-19.

- ❖ Italy, where the COVID-19 mortality is very high, never implemented universal BCG vaccination.
- ❖ It is reported that India has a consistent TB vaccination policy since 1948
- ❖ Japan has a BCG policy since 1947.
- ❖ It had one of the early cases of COVID-19 but it has maintained a low mortality rate despite not implementing the strictest forms of social isolation.
- ❖ Iran began implementing its BCG vaccination policy only in 1984 and therefore anyone over 36 was vulnerable.

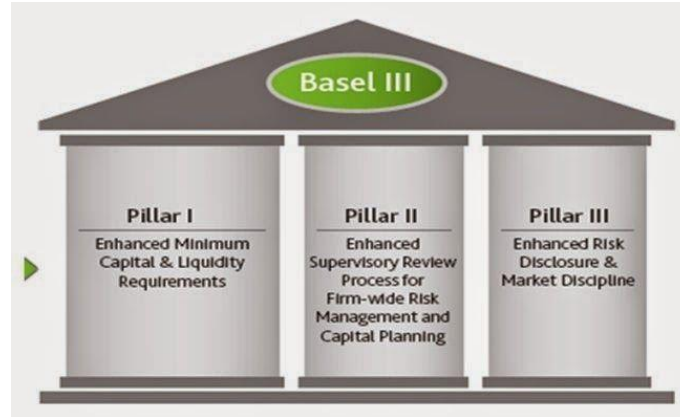


ECONOMY

Countercyclical Capital Buffers (CCyB)

- ❖ Reserve Bank has deferred implementation of countercyclical capital buffers (CCyB).
- ❖ The countercyclical capital buffer is intended to protect the banking sector against losses that could be caused by cyclical systemic risks increasing in the economy.
- ❖ The rule was first introduced in Basel III norms.
- ❖ Basel III is a voluntary set of measures agreed upon by central banks all around the world.
- ❖ These measures were drafted by the Bank of International Settlements' Basel Committee on Banking Supervision in response to the financial crisis of 2007-

09, in order to strengthen regulation of banks and fight risks within the financial system.



Fully Accessible Route

- ❖ RBI has introduced a separate channel namely Fully Accessible Route (FAR), to enable non - resident to invest in specified government bonds with effect from April 1.
- ❖ The move follows the union budget announcement that certain specifies categories of government bonds would be opened fully for nonresident investors without any restrictions.

Foreign Trade Policy

- ❖ The Government of India notified that the export schemes such as Export Promotion Capital Goods and Duty-Free Import authorization are to be extended by one year.
- ❖ Also, the Government has planned to extend Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 by another one year till 2021.
- ❖ It targets to bring in overseas sales of 900 billion USD by 2020.
- ❖ The policy launched five different schemes.
- ❖ They include Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Market-linked Focus Product Scheme and Agriculture infrastructure incentive scrip.
- ❖ Gram Udyog Yojana and Vishesh Krishi were merged with single merchandise exports, the MEIS (Merchandise Exports from India Scheme) scheme.
- ❖ The policy also aimed to diversify export baskets of the country.
- ❖ It also aimed to provide regular appraisal mechanism to reduce trade imbalances.

Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020

- ❖ The Ministry of Corporate Affairs introduces the “Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020” and revised the “LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020”.
- ❖ It aims to provide relief to law abiding companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) in the wake of COVID 19.
- ❖ These schemes incentivise compliance and reduce compliance burden during the unprecedented public health situation caused by COVID-19.
- ❖ The schemes provide a one-time waiver of additional filing fees for delayed filings by the companies or LLPs.

About

- ❖ A Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) is a partnership in which some or all partners have limited liability.
- ❖ It therefore exhibits elements of partnerships and corporations.
- ❖ In an LLP, one partner is not responsible or liable for another partner’s misconduct or negligence.

SPORTS

2021 World Games

- ❖ The 2021 World Games that was scheduled to be held in Birmingham, Alabama in USA was postponed to 2022.
- ❖ This is being done to avoid the clash with Tokyo Olympics.
- ❖ The World Games is held once in four years.
- ❖ It features 32 sports that are not a part of the Olympics.
- ❖ The World Games was first held in 1981.
- ❖ So far, the World Games has not yet been held in African countries.



The World Games
2021 BIRMINGHAM, USA



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