

April - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Supplementing the efforts of Election Commission, Chennai Customs launched 'Operation Blue Eagle'.
 - This operation is to foil the attempts of gangs from smuggling in cash and valuables to lure voters in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The International Pillow fight day is a worldwide event held in many cities.
 - It takes place on the first Saturday in April.
- ❖ In August 2013, the UN General Assembly made the decision to proclaim 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
 - UNESCO believes that this sport is a powerful vehicle for social inclusion, gender equality and youth empowerment.
- ❖ On 7 April, UNESCO commemorates the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.
 - The date marks the beginning of the genocide perpetrated against members of the Tutsi minority by the Hutu extremist-led government.

NATIONAL

National Register for Driving License

- ❖ The Ministry of Road Transport recently announced that the National Register for Driving Licenses is to be created.
- ❖ This is being done to remove duplication of driving licenses in the country.
- ❖ Most of the states are already on the SARATHI portal of National Informatics Centre.
- ❖ These states have been instructed to migrate to the newly created national register.

National Policy for Rare Diseases:

- ❖ Recently, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has approved the National Rare Disease Policy 2021.
- ❖ The policy aims
 - To increase focus on indigenous research and local production of medicines.
 - To lower the cost of treatment of rare diseases.

- To screen and detect rare diseases early at early stages, which will in turn help in their prevention.



- ❖ The screening is to be supported by the Nidhan Kendras set up by Department of Biotechnology.
- ❖ Around eight health facilities are to be designated as Centres of Excellence of rare diseases.
- ❖ These centres are to be provided with a one-time financial support of Rs 5 crores.
- ❖ The Government of India has announced a financial support of Rs 20 lakhs under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi for treatment of rare diseases.
- ❖ This financial assistance is to be extended to 40% of the population.
- ❖ It is to be noted that, generally Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi is allocated only to Below Poverty Line people.
- ❖ The rare diseases recorded in India are
 - primary immunodeficiency disorder,
 - Cystic Fibrosis,
 - Pompe disease,
 - Gaucher's disease,
 - fabry disease,

- maple syrup urine disease, etc.

Note

- ❖ February 28 is observed as Rare Disease Day every year.

INTERNATIONAL

H-1B visa ban die out

- ❖ US President Joe Biden has not issued any notification to extend the ban on H-1B visa.
- ❖ The ban was brought in by the Trump administration last year.
- ❖ The ban expired on March 31.
- ❖ The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa.
- ❖ It allows US companies to employ foreign workers that require theoretical or technical expertise.

ECONOMY

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2021 report



- ❖ A report 'Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2021: Towards post-Covid-19 resilient economies' has been released recently.
- ❖ The report is released by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).
- ❖ According to the report, India is estimated to record an economic growth of 7% in 2021-22,
- ❖ The previous fiscal witnessed a contraction of 7.7% on account of the pandemic's impact on normal business activity.



UNESCAP

- ❖ The UNESCAP is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ It has 53 Member States and 9 Associate Members from Asia-Pacific Region including India.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Quakes in Mars

- ❖ Nasa's InSight lander has recorded over 500 quakes to date on Mars since November 2018.
- ❖ The two recent quakes of magnitude 3.3 and 3.1.
- ❖ They originated in a region called Cerberus Fossae.
- ❖ These findings support the idea that the planet is seismically active.

ENVIRONMENT

Renewable Capacity Statistics Report 2021

- ❖ The Renewable Capacity Statistics 2021 report was released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).
- ❖ It said that 260 gigawatts (GW) of new renewable energy capacity was added worldwide in 2020.
- ❖ More than 80% of all new electricity capacity added in 2020 was renewable, with solar and wind accounting for 91% of new renewables.
- ❖ China, the world's largest market for renewables, added 136 GW of renewables last year,
- ❖ The United States installed 29 GW.
- ❖ Share of renewables in energy generation worldwide stands at 30%.
- ❖ Nations are switching from fossil fuels to renewables in an effort to meet the long-term goal, agreed under the 2015 Paris Agreement.

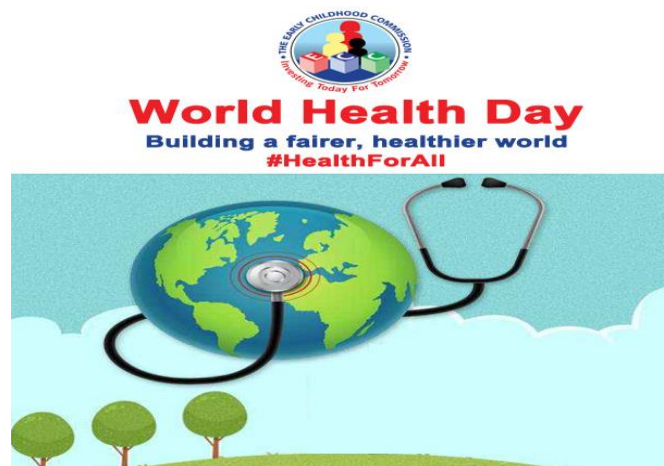
STATES

New rules in Assembly - Haryana government

- ❖ The Haryana State Government recently added several new provisions to maintain the decorum of the State Assembly.
- ❖ According to the new rule, at least two ministers should be present at every sitting of the house.
- ❖ The members shall not tear off the documents in the House in protest.
- ❖ The new Rule says that the question asked by the members during the sitting of the house shall not contain more than 150 words.
- ❖ This will help the ministers get a better clarity and provide proper reply to the query raised.
- ❖ Another new provision says that a supplementary question shall be held out of order by the speaker if in his opinion if the question has following issues,
 - If the question does not arise from the main question.
 - If it provides information instead of seeking information.
 - If the question seeks confirmation or denial of an opinion.
 - If the question infringes any of the rules regarding the questions.
- ❖ Another new rule states that timely action should be taken when the committees constituted by the Speaker of the Vidhan Sabha make recommendations.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Health Day 2021 - April 07





- ❖ The day is celebrated every year to recognize the widespread contributions of our medical faculty and the success of the World Health Organization.
- ❖ Health is not just about physical well-being but also about the mental and social aspects.
- ❖ The theme for world health day 2021 is Building a fairer, healthier world.

