

April - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Municipalities are now using the Integrated Command and Control Centres built under “Smart Cities” mission as war rooms of COVID-19.

NATIONAL

Containment Plan for Large Outbreaks

- ❖ The Union Health Ministry launched the “Containment Plan for Large Outbreaks”.
- ❖ The plan is similar to “Bhilwara Model” of Rajasthan.

Medical Oxygen

- ❖ The Central Government has asked the states to maintain the supply of medical oxygen smooth and hassle-free.
- ❖ Medical Oxygen is included in national list of essential medicines and also in the WHO list of essential medicines.
- ❖ Medical Oxygen is pure oxygen.
- ❖ It contains 99.5% of pure oxygen.
- ❖ Generally, the air we breathe contains 21% of oxygen.
- ❖ When the impurities in the atmosphere increase, the concentration of oxygen decreases.
- ❖ The National List of Essential medicines (NLEM) is a model of WHO List of Essential Medicines.
- ❖ The essential medicines are those medicines that satisfy priority health needs of the population.
- ❖ Tanzania was the first country in the world to compose a list of Essential Medicines in 1970.
- ❖ The WHO published essential medicines in 1977.
- ❖ The first NLEM of India was released in 1996.
- ❖ In 2018, the list was updated to 851 medicines.



List of Iconic Tourist sites

- ❖ The Ministry of Tourism has identified 19 sites in 12 clusters in the country for development as Iconic Tourist Sites.
- ❖ Recently, it has included the world famous Kaziranga among 19 'Iconic Tourist Sites'.
- ❖ Kaziranga National Park is home to more than 2200 Indian one-horned rhinoceros, approximately 2/3rd of their total world population.
- ❖ Furthermore, it has added the grand Konark Sun Temple, the UNESCO world heritage site in Odisha and Statue of Unity (Gujarat) into the list.

The other recognized places

- Taj Mahal & Fatehpur Sikri (Uttar Pradesh)
- Ajanta & Ellora (Maharashtra)
- Humayun's Tomb, Red Fort & Qutub Minar (Delhi)
- Colva (Goa)
- Ajmer Fort (Rajasthan)
- Somnath and Dholavira (Gujarat)
- Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh)
- Hampi (Karnataka)
- Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu)
- Kumarakom (Kerala)
- Mahabodhi Temple (Bihar)

ECONOMY

Poshan Abhiyan

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh ranked 1st in country for overall implementation of Poshan Abhiyan (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment).
- ❖ It was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March, 2018 Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan.
- ❖ It is earlier called as National Nutrition Mission (NNM), since 18th December, 2017.
- ❖ The Abhiyan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a life cycle approach, by adopting a synergized and result oriented approach.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu tops the list of the states in terms of the number of participants in the programme.
- ❖ It was result of the progress report of NITI Aayog, "Transforming Nutrition in India: POSHAN Abhiyan".
- ❖ It is under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ordinance Factories against Covid 19

- ❖ The Ordnance Factory Board that governs the defence manufacturing unit spread across India is to introduce "modified tents" to set up isolation units.
- ❖ The idea of modified tents was brought by the Ordnance Equipment Factory, Kanpur.
- ❖ The tent is to be made of Poly Viscos and is water proof.
- ❖ The Ordnance Factories are also working on hand sanitizers.
- ❖ The Ordnance Factory in Aruvankadu, Tamil Nadu has delivered hand sanitizers
- ❖ The Ordnance Factory in Itarsi, Madhya Pradesh and Bhandara, Maharashtra are delivering hand sanitizers on daily basis.



Covid 19 Test kits in India

- ❖ Recently the government had allowed two private companies - Indian company MyLab and German firm Altona Diagnostics - to supply COVID-19 test kits to both government as well as private testing laboratories in India.
- ❖ Two South Korean firms, Seegene and SD Biosensor have received government approval to supply RT-PCR based Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) diagnostic kits in India.

Mechanism

- ❖ RT-PCR is known as Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.
- ❖ It is a laboratory technique combining reverse transcription of RNA into DNA by using a polymerase chain reaction (PCR).
- ❖ It is primarily used to measure the amount of specific RNA in a cell.
- ❖ Its ability to quantify viral RNA makes the technique one of the most common ways of identifying viral strains.

Other firms

- ❖ The government also approved 12 rapid antibody test kits for COVID-19 diagnosis.
- ❖ The advantage of antibody rapid tests is that the result can be made available within 30 minutes.
- ❖ The test comes positive after 7 to 10 days of infection.
- ❖ While positive test indicates exposure to COVID-19, negative does not rule out the infection.



Biotech

- ❖ The Bhopal of Madhya Pradesh based Biotech is second Indian firm to produce COVID-19 testing kit.
- ❖ It is to produce real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) COVID-19 testing kits.
- ❖ The firm in the past had launched India's first homemade test for another pandemic — H1N1 — commonly known as swine flu.
- ❖ Mylab Discovery Solutions became the first Indian company to get commercial approval for its diagnostic test for covid-19 from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) after an evaluation by the Indian Council of Medical Research.
- ❖ The test kit, named the Mylab Patho Detect COVID-19 Qualitative PCR kit, was developed in a record six weeks.
- ❖ This project was headed by the head of research and development of Mylab "Minal Dakhave Bhosale".

ENVIRONMENT

Wonder Chicken

- ❖ The oldest fossil of a modern bird, dating from the age of dinosaurs, has been discovered.
- ❖ The tiny fossil is nicknamed the "wonder chicken".
- ❖ It was found in the limestone of Sint-Pietersberg near Maastricht at Netherlands.
- ❖ It dates to more than 66 million years ago.
- ❖ This is one of the best-preserved fossil bird skulls of any age.
- ❖ The fossil provides the best evidence yet of when and how the earliest ancestors of today's birds evolved.
- ❖ Maastricht became well known through the Maastricht Treaty and as the birthplace of the euro in 1992.



STATES






Door Delivery of fish Scheme


- ❖ The Krishi Vigyan Kendra operating under Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has launched a door delivery scheme in Kerala.
- ❖ Under the scheme, it is providing door delivery of fishes to several households in Kochi city.

5T plan to control COVID-19

- ❖ The Government of Delhi announced 5T plan to tackle the spread of Corona Virus in the Union Territory.
- ❖ The 5T plan includes Testing, Tracing, Teamwork, Treatment and Tracking.
- ❖ Under the Testing Programme, the government is to conduct 1 lakh rapid tests in hotspot areas of Delhi.

WHAT ARE THE 5 Ts Photo: ANI

<p>1T: Testing</p> <p>Govt will conduct random tests, mostly in the corona hotspots of the city, to identify, treat, trace, quarantine and seal, along the lines of South Korea</p> 	<p>3T: Treatment</p> <p>2,950 beds currently available exclusively for Covid-19 patients. Detailed contingency plan ready. Hotels, banquet halls to be converted into hospitals if the number of cases crosses 30,000 mark</p> 
<p>2T: Tracing</p> <p>Will trace every single contact of positive cases through cellphone triangulation. 24-hour tabs on those in home quarantine to ensure they're following the norms</p> 	<p>4T: Teamwork</p> <p>CM to talk to all Delhi MPs on Wednesday. All departments, agencies working in coordination</p> 
<p>5T: Tracking & Monitoring</p> <p>CM to personally track and monitor every single aspect involved in making this plan successful</p> 	



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Reflection on 1994 Genocide against Tutsi in Rwanda – April 7

- ❖ On April 7, 2004, it was recognized as an international observance by the United Nations.

- ❖ More than 800,000 Tutsi people were systematically murdered in a genocide perpetrated by the Hutu extremist-led government in Rwanda.
- ❖ Tutsis are the second largest population division among the three largest groups in Rwanda and Burundi; the other two being the Hutu (largest) and the Twa (smallest).
- ❖ The Tutsi are a social class or ethnic group of the African Great Lakes region.
- ❖ The African Great Lakes are a series of lakes constituting the part of the Rift Valley lakes in and around the East African Rift.
- ❖ They include Lake Victoria, the third-largest fresh water lake in the world by area, Lake Tanganyika, the world's second-largest freshwater lake by volume and depth, and Lake Malawi, the world's eighth-largest fresh water lake by area.
- ❖ Countries in the African Great Lakes region include Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

