

April - 24

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Gujarat government has given its the green signal for the third edition "Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan".
 - It is a conservation plan to deepen water bodies in the state before monsoon.
- ❖ Saiyam is a mobile application developed by the Pune Municipal Corporation under Smart Cities Mission.
 - It is developed to effectively track the home-quarantined citizens and ensure that they are staying in the home.

NATIONAL

Ordinance by Union Government

- ❖ The Government of India brought in ordinance to end violence against doctors and health care workers.
- ❖ According to the ordinance, persons attacking health personnel are to be sentenced to jail for 6 months to 7 years.
- ❖ The ordinance will make amendment to the Epidemic Disease Act, 1897.
- ❖ Also it made the Epidemic Act as a concurrent Act.
- ❖ This allows the state governments to take actions as well.

No 100% quota for tribal teachers

- ❖ A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court held that it is unconstitutional to provide 100% reservation for tribal teachers in schools located in Scheduled Areas across the country.
- ❖ The court held that 100% reservation is discriminatory and impermissible.
- ❖ The opportunity of public employment is not the prerogative of few.
- ❖ A 100% reservation to the Scheduled Tribes has deprived Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes also of their due representation.
- ❖ The court referred to the Indira Sawhney judgment, which caps reservation at 50%.
- ❖ The case rose from a legal challenge to January 10, 2000 order issued by the High Court Bench.



- ❖ Earlier, the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh issued an order in 2000 for the 100% reservation to the Scheduled Tribe candidates, out of whom 33.1/3% shall be women, for the post of teachers in schools located in the Scheduled Areas of the State.

Covid measures at Odisha

- ❖ Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik announced the following measures.
- ❖ All health workers including doctors who will die while fighting covid-19 will be given "martyrs" status and provide them state funeral.
- ❖ He also said that their families will get a compensation of Rs 50 lakhs each.
- ❖ He also warned that action will be taken under the National Security Act against those who are attacking doctors and support staff.

Covid measures at Tamilnadu

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced an increase in the solatium for front-line staff if they died fighting COVID-19, from the existing ₹ 10 lakh to ₹ 50 lakh.
- ❖ The solatium was applicable to health, police and local administration departments.
- ❖ A family member of the deceased would be given a government job.
- ❖ The Centre has announced medical insurance of ₹ 50 lakh for health workers, involved in the fight against COVID-19.

INTERNATIONAL

G20 Agricultural Ministers Meet

- ❖ The Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar attended the G20 Agriculture Ministers Meet through video conferencing.
- ❖ The meet was chaired by Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ The G20 AMIS (Agricultural Market Information System) will help for the coordinating of policy responses.

Global Annual Report

- ❖ The World Food Programme of the United Nations recently released its fourth annual report on Food Crisis.

- ❖ According to the report, the food crisis has grown by 10% in the World.
- ❖ The report was presented by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization and World Food Programme to the United Nations Security Council.

World Press Freedom Index 2020

- ❖ It has been released by Reporters Without Borders.
- ❖ It is a Paris based non-profit organisation.
- ❖ Around 180 countries were ranked in the index.
- ❖ Norway ranks first for the fourth consecutive year and Finland and Denmark in second and third place.
- ❖ India is ranked at 142nd dropped two places from 2018 (140).
- ❖ It says no murder of journalists in India in 2019 as compared to 2018 (6 murders).
- ❖ China, Iran and Iraq are criticised for censoring coverage of the coronavirus outbreak.
- ❖ According to the index, South Asia performed the least as compared to all the other regions.
- ❖ North Korea was at 180th and China ranked 177th.



Nur (Light) satellite

- ❖ Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) says it has successfully launched a military satellite into orbit for the first time.
- ❖ The satellite is named Nur (Light).



ECONOMY

TIFAC

- ❖ A team of scientists from Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) is to prepare a revival strategy to help in the growth of Indian Economy post COVID-19 lock down.

About

- ❖ It was established in 1988.
- ❖ It is an autonomous organization under the Department of Science and Technology.

Jio and Facebook

- ❖ Facebook has bought a 9.9% stake in Reliance Jio for \$5.7 billion (Rs 43,574 crore).
- ❖ RIL said this is the largest investment for a minority stake by a technology company anywhere in the world and the largest FDI in the technology sector in India.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

TriboE Mask

- ❖ A team of researchers at the Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS), Bangalore, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), have come up with a recipe for making face masks, termed as TriboE Mask.

- ❖ It can hold electric charges to restrict the entry of infections but interestingly, without any external power.
- ❖ It relies on electrostatics.
- ❖ The tribo electric effect is also known as tribo electric charging.
- ❖ It is a type of contact electrification on which certain materials become electrically charged after they are separated from a different material with which they were in contact.



COVID 19 drug - Sepsivac

- ❖ The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) approved the trial of this drug to reduce mortality rate of COVID-19 patients.
- ❖ It was developed by the Cadila Pharmaceuticals along with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- ❖ The drug had been used to treat critically ill patients suffering from Gram Negative Bacterial Sepsis.
- ❖ Gram Negative Bacteria with Sepsis is a systematic disease that are caused by micro-organisms.
- ❖ The patients suffering from COVID-19 and Gram Negative Bacterial Sepsis have similarities.
- ❖ Sepsis is a life-threatening condition.
- ❖ When the chemicals in the bloodstream go out of balance, sepsis occurs.

SPORTS

Team Mask Force

- ❖ It was created by the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India).

- ❖ It features India's most revered cricketers such as Sachin Tendulkar, Virat Kohli, Saurav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid.
- ❖ It intends to spread awareness of the importance of wearing face masks in public places.

