



April - 30

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Indian Navy has joined the rescue operation for an Indonesian submarine KRI Nanggala-402.
  - Indonesia's its 44-year-old submarine, KRI Nanggala-402, went missing while conducting a torpedo drill north of the island of Bali.
- ❖ The CBNAAT COVID-19 test is alternate Cartridge-based nucleic acid amplification test (CBNAAT).
  - It is reportedly quicker and the machines for the test are also easily available across the country.
- ❖ ZyCoV-D is the India's first indigenously developed DNA plasmid-based vaccine.
  - It was developed by Zydus Cadila Healthcare and approved by the Drugs Controller General of India.
- ❖ The 19th edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'Varuna-2021' has started in the Arabian Sea.
  - The two navies will endeavour to enhance their warfighting skills in order to demonstrate their ability as an integrated force to promote security, peace and stability in the maritime domain.

## **NATIONAL**

### **RESPOND programme**

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced that it will support eight joint research projects mooted by the Space Technology Cell (STC), IIT-Delhi.
- ❖ The ISRO has extended support to the projects under its RESPOND programme.
- ❖ ISRO started the RESPOND (Research Sponsored) programme in the 1970s.

### **COVIRAP**

- ❖ IIT Kharagpur (Kgp) has successfully commercialized its flagship healthcare product - COVIRAP.
- ❖ This novel diagnostic technology will be useful for infectious diseases including COVID-19 and beyond.

- ❖ The COVID-19 diagnostic test can be conducted directly from human swab samples in the portable device.



### **Gender bias and inclusion in advertising in India**

- ❖ It is a study released recently by UNICEF and the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media.
- ❖ The research measures over 1,000 television and YouTube advertisements aired across India in 2019.
- ❖ Female representation in Indian ads is still marginalised by colourism, hyper sexualisation, and without careers or aspirations outside of the home.
- ❖ Misrepresentation and harmful stereotypes of women in advertising have a significant impact on women and young girls.

### **CCSCH - 5th session**

- ❖ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) inaugurated the fifth session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH).
- ❖ CCSCH was established under Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).
- ❖ CCSCH was established to develop and expand worldwide standards for spices and culinary herbs.
- ❖ It was formed in 2013 with India as the Host and Spices Board India serving as the secretariat of Committee.

### **Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)**

- ❖ It was set up in 1963.



- ❖ It is an intergovernmental body established jointly by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

### **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana**

- ❖ The GOI recently announced that it will provide five kilo grams of free food grains under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana till June 2021.
- ❖ The free food grains are being provided to around eighty crore beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- ❖ PMGKAY was launched in March 2020 by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

### **Mustard cultivation**

- ❖ The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare recently announced that it is to bring nine million tonnes of land under mustard cultivation.
- ❖ This will increase mustard production to 17 million tonnes by 2025-26.
- ❖ Currently, Rajasthan, the highest mustard producing state in the country produces 40.82% of total mustards in India.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

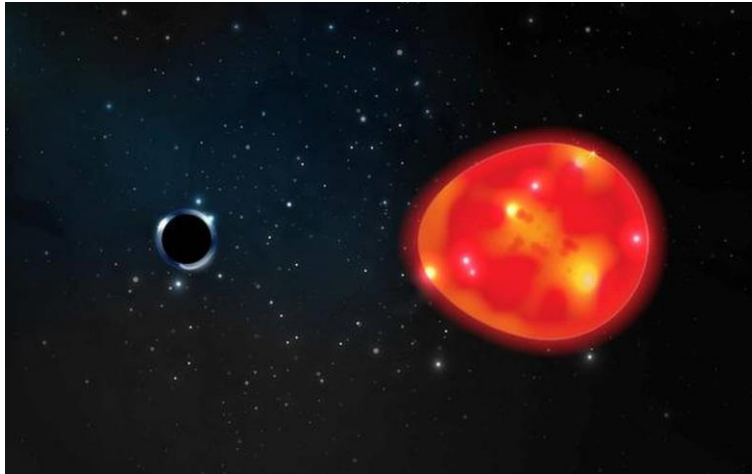
### **Impact Rankings 2021 - 3rd edition**

- ❖ The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ❖ Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Tamil Nadu became the only Indian University to make it to the list of World's Top 100 Educational Institutions for sustainability (81st rank).
- ❖ Other two Indian Universities namely Karnataka-based JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research and Punjab-based Lovely Professional University were ranked in the list with a place in the 100-200 grouping.
- ❖ At the global level, University of Manchester (UK), University of Sydney (Australia) & RMIT University (Australia) grabbed the top 3 places.
- ❖ Russia is the most represented Country in the rankings with 75 institutions, followed by Japan with 73.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Unicorn Black Hole

- ❖ Scientists have discovered the smallest-known black hole in the Milky Way galaxy.
- ❖ It is the closest to our solar system.
- ❖ They named it 'the Unicorn.'



### MOXIE

- ❖ The Perseverance rover of Mars 2020 Mission of NASA recently converted carbon dioxide into oxygen.
- ❖ This is the first time this has been achieved in another planet.
- ❖ This was achieved by MOXIE (Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment), an instrument placed in the front side of the rover.
- ❖ MOXIE is also called “Mechanical Tree”.
- ❖ This is because; it uses electricity and chemistry to split carbon molecules into carbon and oxygen.
- ❖ It produces carbon monoxide as a by-product.

### SHIELDS Mission

- ❖ NASA recently launched the SHIELDS Mission from the White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.
- ❖ The Mission is to study light from interstellar particles in the heliosphere.



- ❖ SHIELDS is Spatial Heterodyne Interferometric Emission Line Dynamics Spectrometer.
- ❖ It will fly to a height of 300 kilo metres.
- ❖ At this height SHIELDS can see light from particles beyond the solar system.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **The Climate Summit**

- ❖ Around 40 world leaders participated in the virtual summit hosted by the US.
- ❖ PM Modi said that India's per capita carbon footprint is 60% lower than the global average.
- ❖ Also the India-US climate and clean energy Agenda 2030 partnership was launched.
- ❖ India will deploy 450 GW of renewable power under the partnership with the US.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Nelson Mandela World Humanitarian Award 2021**

- ❖ Rumana Sinha Sehgal won the Nelson Mandela World Humanitarian Award 2021 by the Diplomatic Mission Global Peace.
- ❖ She is a Software engineer turned entrepreneur from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ She was awarded for her contribution to the field of developing innovative and functional green products by recycling varied materials and non-biodegradable materials.

### **Oscars 2021 - First Asian woman**

- ❖ Chloe Zhao is the first Asian woman and second woman ever to win best director at the Academy Awards.
- ❖ The Chinese-born Zhao not only directed Nomadland, but also wrote the screenplay and edited the film.
- ❖ Kathryn Bigelow was the first woman to win the Oscar for Best Director.
- ❖ She won in 2010 for Hurtlocker.





## SPORTS

### AIBA 2021



- ❖ Indian Women have created history at the AIBA 2021 Youth World Boxing Championship.



- ❖ A total of eight Indians entered the finals.
- ❖ Of this, seven were women.
- ❖ And they won gold in their categories.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Workers' Memorial Day - April 28

- ❖ The day is also known as International Commemoration Day for Dead and Injured Workers.
- ❖ It has been organized worldwide by the International Trade Union Confederation since 1996.
- ❖ Theme for 2021: 'Health and Safety is a fundamental worker right.'
- ❖ Its purpose is to remember workers killed in incidents at work or by diseases caused by work.

### World Day for Safety and Health at Work - April 28

- ❖ This day is observed to promote the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally and raise awareness to ensure health and safety at the workplace.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 is "Anticipate, prepare and respond to crises - Invest Now in Resilient Occupational Safety and Health Systems".
- ❖ The day has been observed by the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 2003.





### **International Dance Day - April 29**

- ❖ The day celebrates the value and importance of the dance and encourages participation and education in this art form through events and festivals.
- ❖ This day has been chosen as it marks the birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre.
- ❖ He is known as the creator of modern ballet.
- ❖ The theme of International Dance Day 2021: 'Purpose of dance'.
- ❖ The day was created in 1982, by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO.

### **Ayushman Bharat Diwas – April 30**

- ❖ It is celebrated to achieve twin missions.
- ❖ They are to promote health and wellness to the poor and also to provide insurance benefits to them.
- ❖ Ayushman Bharat Scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April 2018.
- ❖ It is the largest health scheme in the world.
- ❖ The theme for this year is “Keep your Health, Save Your Wealth”.

