

August - 20

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ West Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee has announced that 1st September would be observed as Police Day in the state to recognise work done by the men in uniform, especially during the pandemic.

## **NATIONAL**

### **SWASTHYA Portal and ALEKH e-newsletter**

- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched Tribal Health and Nutrition portal called “SWASTHYA”.
- ❖ The portal is first of its kind.
- ❖ It provides information related to health and nutrition of tribal population in India.
- ❖ Also, the ministry launched the “ALEKH” e-newsletter on health and nutrition.
- ❖ It is to be released on quarterly basis and to showcase the works of different stakeholders involved in improving health and nutrition of tribal.
- ❖ According to Census 2011, the tribal population in India is 104 million.

### **NCC deployment in Border areas**

- ❖ The National Cadet Corps (NCC) is to be expanded to 173 border areas and coastal districts.
- ❖ With the deployment of NCC, the border areas are to get trained manpower for disaster management.
- ❖ Also, the youth in the area will get skill trainings to make their career in armed forces.
- ❖ The NCC cadets also participate in war.
- ❖ During Bangladeshi-Pakistani war of 1971 and Indo-Pakistani war of 1965.
- ❖ During his address at the 74th Independence Day celebration, PM announced that around 1 lakh NCC cadets from bordering areas are to be extended for the youths in the region.

## INTERNATIONAL

### BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group Meeting

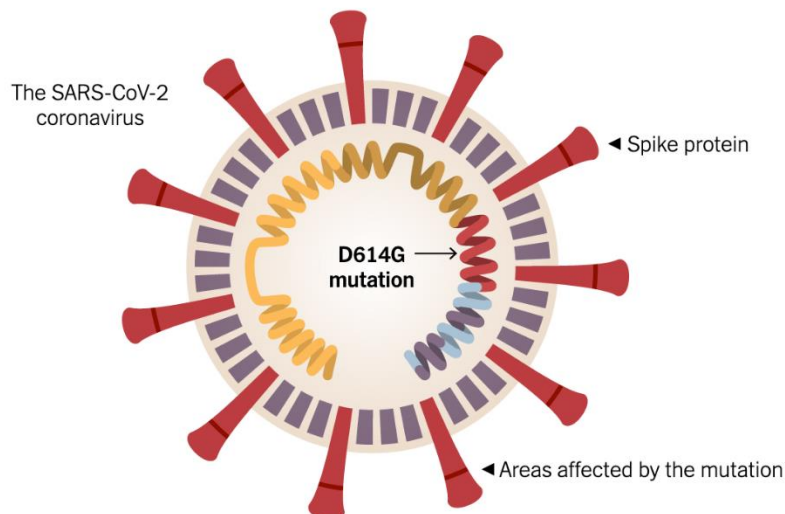
- ❖ The 4th Session of the BRICS Anti-Drug Working Group was chaired by Russia and was held through video conference.
- ❖ All the member countries of the group such as India, Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa participated in the session.
- ❖ Misuse of darknet and technologies for drug trafficking was the main theme.

### New COVID-19 strain

- ❖ Malaysia has recently detected a new COVID-19 strain that is 10 times more infectious.
- ❖ The mutation of the virus is called DG14G.
- ❖ The researchers from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of India have so far found 73 new variants of COVID-19 in their three months of research.

### About mutation

- ❖ It is the change in structure of gene caused due to insertion deletion or rearrangement of larger sections of genes.
- ❖ This does not mean that mutation should be anthropogenic.
- ❖ Mutation also occurs naturally and mainly when a gene is passed on from one generation to other.
- ❖ Sometimes, mutation can even lead to a weaker virus.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Anti-drone system

- ❖ DRDO's anti-drone system was deployed for PM security on August 15.
- ❖ The anti-drone system can detect micro drones up to 3 kilo metres.
- ❖ It uses LASER to bring down target up to 1-2.5 kilo metres.
- ❖ It can detect and identify drone threats.
- ❖ Drones are Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and they are controlled remotely by militants to carry explosives.
- ❖ The DRDO developed counter drone systems were first deployed to provide security cover to Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro when he first arrived in India.



## ENVIRONMENT

### Project Lion and Project Dolphin

- ❖ Prime Minister on August 15, 2020, announced that the centre will launch Project Lion and Project Dolphin using modern technology to replicate the success of Project Tiger.
- ❖ The projects will be launched by the central government for the biodiversity conservation of two endangered species in India.
- ❖ Project Lion is to involve conservation of Asiatic Lions.
- ❖ It will focus on habitat development by engaging modern technologies.
- ❖ The Gangetic Dolphin is one of those indicator species whose status provides information on the overall condition of the ecosystem.
- ❖ The Gangetic Dolphins have been declared 'Endangered' under IUCN Red List of Endangered Species.

- ❖ It has been listed under CITES Appendix-1.

## STATES

### **Industrial corridor between Mysuru and Bidar**

- ❖ Karnataka announced that the State Government is to build an industrial corridor between Mysuru and Bidar.
- ❖ This is being done to augment the development of commerce and industry in the state.
- ❖ An industrial corridor in India is a multi-modal transport service that will pass through several states.

### **Other New Industrial corridors**

- ❖ In December 2019, the following five industrial corridors were announced by Government of India.
  - Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor.
  - Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor.
  - Bengaluru-Mumbai Economic Corridor.
  - Amritsar-Kolkata Industrial Corridor.
  - East Coast Economic Corridor.

### **World Tallest Pier Bridge in Manipur**

- ❖ The Indian Railways is constructing world's tallest pier bridge in the state of Manipur.
- ❖ The bridge is 141 metres high.
- ❖ It has surpassed the record of 139 metres tall Mala-Rijeka bridge in Montenegro, Europe.
- ❖ The bridge is a part of the 111 km long Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line project.
- ❖ The project is to have 45 tunnels.
- ❖ The 12th tunnel in the project will be the longest tunnel in the North East.



## SPORTS

### **M S Dhoni and Suresh Raina retirement**

- ❖ Indian Cricket players M S Dhoni and Suresh Raina announced their retirement from International Cricket.
- ❖ Dhoni was awarded with Padma Bhushan in 2018, Padma Shri in 2009 and Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna in 2007-08.
- ❖ Under his captainship, India won the 2011 World Cup.
- ❖ Indian Army conferred with honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2011.
- ❖ Raina was the first Indian to hit T20 century.
- ❖ He was the first Indian player and second in the world after Chris Gayle to hit 100 sixes in IPL.

