

February - 07

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The marine version of the Rafale fighter jet was recently tested on INS Vikrant.
  - The test conducted by the aircraft carrier was successful.
- ❖ Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and the Indian Army signed a contract to manufacture and supply Konkurs-M anti-tank guided missiles.
  - This contract will be executed in three years.
- ❖ The government of India has appointed Jawaharlal Nehru University Vice-Chancellor, M Jagadesh Kumar as the new Chairman of the University Grants Commission.
  - He has been appointed for a period of five years or till he attains the age of 65 years, whichever is the earliest.

## NATIONAL

### ICRISAT's 50th-anniversary celebrations



- ❖ The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi visited the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) campus in Patancheru, Hyderabad, and kickstarted the 50th Anniversary celebrations of ICRISAT.

- ❖ He inaugurated Climate Change Research Facility on Plant Protection and Rapid Generation Advancement Facility and also launched a commemorative stamp issued in Hyderabad.

### **Scheme of Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram**

- ❖ The Central Government has decided to continue the Scheme of “Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram, RYSK for another five years from 2021 -22 to 2025-26.
- ❖ The decision was taken with a view to achieving the objectives of developing the personality and leadership qualities of the youth and engaging them in nation-building activities.



### **ZyCov-D**



- ❖ ZyCov-D, India's first needleless vaccine for Covid-19 has been launched in Bihar's Patna.
- ❖ ZyCov-D is India's second indigenous Covid-19 vaccine after Covaxin.
- ❖ This is a needleless vaccine unique in nature because it has been developed on a plasmid DNA platform.
- ❖ ZyCov-D is India's second indigenous Covid-19 vaccine after Covaxin.
- ❖ ZyCov-D has already received approval for administration in kids aged 12-15.

- ❖ However, it will first be given to adults in India.

### **Assam Leopard census**

- ❖ The forest department officials have rescued a leopard from Sishugram Red Cross society near IIT Guwahati recently.
- ❖ Also for the first time, the North Kamrup Forest Division has initiated an exclusive leopard counting census in Assam's Forest and non-forest areas.
- ❖ Leopard counting census has been initiated in leopard density areas of Amingaon in Kamrup district.

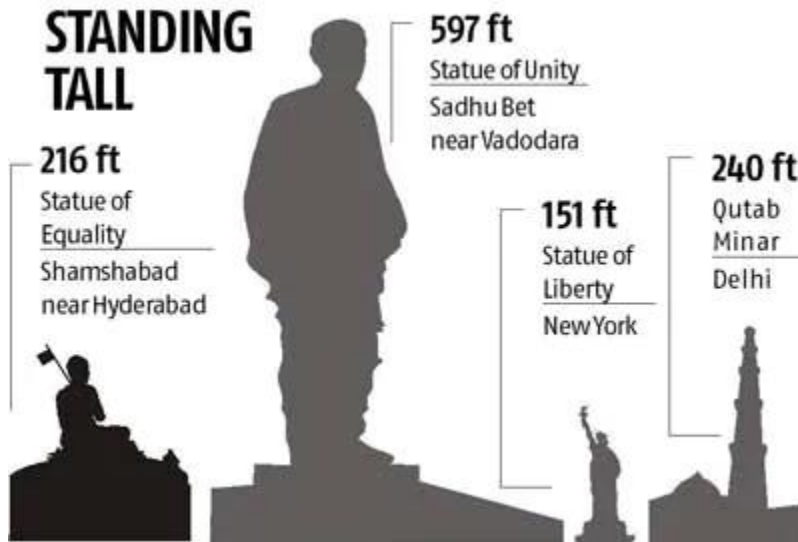
### **Chilika Lake Annual survey**



- ❖ The Chilika Development Authority recently held the annual survey at the Chilika lake recently.
- ❖ The survey was all about the flora and fauna in the lake.
- ❖ According to the survey, the lake has more than 33% of the seagrass area of the country.
- ❖ Seagrass is an underwater plant.
- ❖ They live in or close to the sea.
- ❖ Five species of seagrass were witnessed.

- ❖ They are *Halophila beckari*, *Halophila ovate*, *Halophila ovalis*, *Halodule pinifolia*, *Holodule uninervis*.

## Statue of Equality



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated to the nation 216-feet tall Statue of Equality in Hyderabad.
- ❖ The statue has been conceptualized by Chinna Jeeyar Swami of Sri Ramanujacharya Ashram.
- ❖ The inauguration of the statue is a part of the 12-day Sri Ramanuja Sahasrabdi Samaroham, the ongoing 1000th birth anniversary celebrations of the Bhakti saint Ramanujacharya.
- ❖ The statue is made of 'panchaloha', a combination of five metals.
- ❖ They are gold, silver, copper, brass, and zinc.



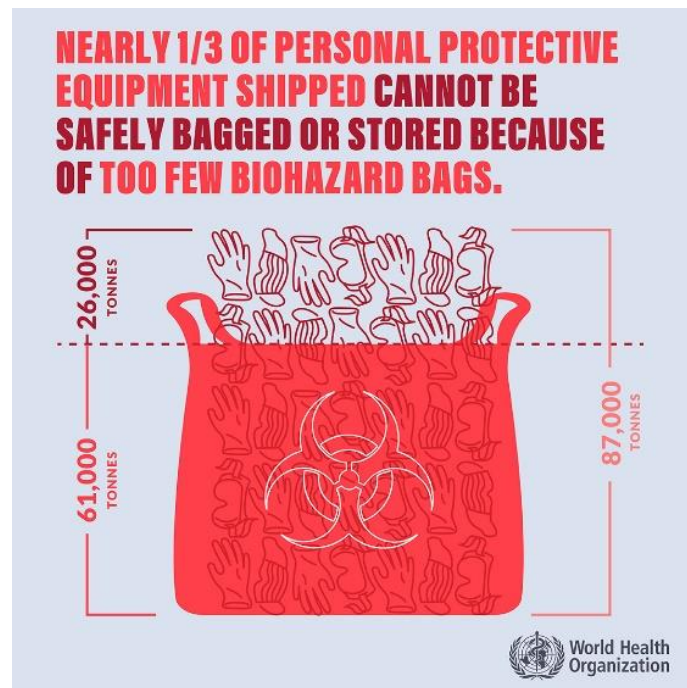
- ❖ It is among one of the tallest metallic statues in sitting positions in the world.
- ❖ The 216-feet tall 'Statue of Equality statue is mounted on a 54-feet high base building, called 'Bhadra Vedi'.

### **ITS in Mumbai - Nagpur expressway**

- ❖ ITS' is an Intelligent Transportation System.
- ❖ It is a Korean technology.
- ❖ The technology is to be used to monitor Mumbai – Nagpur Expressway.
- ❖ It is the fastest and longest expressway in the country.
- ❖ It is an eight-lane expressway.
- ❖ Vehicles can run at a maximum speed of 150 km per hour.
- ❖ The technology will help to prevent accidents.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **WHO Report on Health Care Waste**



- ❖ The World Health Organization recently raised concerns against the extra medical waste created by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ The pandemic has put immense strain on medical waste management systems in the world.

- ❖ The WHO report says that 30% of health care facilities are not equipped to handle medical waste.
- ❖ 60% of them are in the least developed countries.

### **Kosk**

- ❖ A South Korean company has rolled out an anti-virus mask called Kosk.
- ❖ It covers only the nose.
- ❖ It can be worn while eating and drinking.
- ❖ The “kosk” is a combination of ko (the Korean word for nose) and mask,
- ❖ It has been released by the company called Atman.



### **New HIV variant**

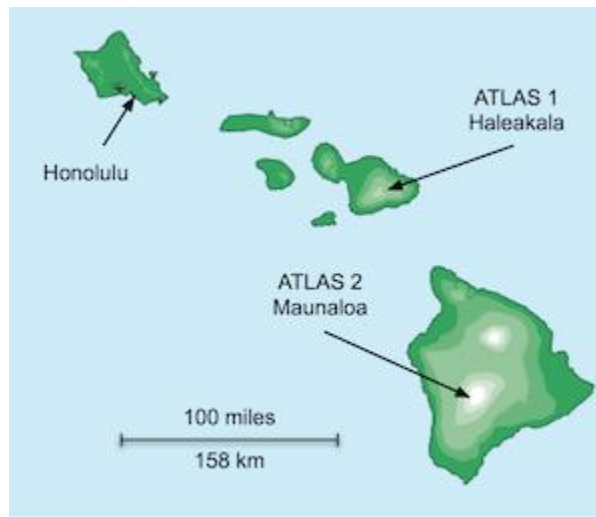


- ❖ The researchers of the Netherlands have discovered a new HIV variant.
- ❖ It has been named the VB variant.

- ❖ The variant causes 3.5 times to 5.5 times higher levels of infection.
- ❖ However, there is no cause of alarm because of modern treatments.
- ❖ The variant emerged between 1980 and 1990 in the Netherlands.
- ❖ However, it began to decline in 2010.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### ATLAS Asteroid Tracking System



- ❖ The NASA-funded Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS) has become the first survey capable of searching the entire dark sky for near-Earth objects (NEOs), every 24 hours.
- ❖ ATLAS is a state-of-the-art asteroid detection system.
- ❖ ATLAS has recently expanded its reach to the southern hemisphere by including two additional observatories in Chile and South Africa.
- ❖ It now comprises four telescopes.
- ❖ It has two existing northern-hemisphere telescopes on Haleakala and Maunaloa in Hawaii.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Melting on Mount Everest

- ❖ Recently scientists found that the highest glacier on Mount Everest is melting at a faster rate.
- ❖ It is the South Col glacier.

- ❖ The glacier has lost 54 meters of thickness in the last 25 years.
- ❖ The South Col glacier is located at a height of 7,906 meters.

## STATES

### Craft Map of Manipur

- ❖ The craft map of Manipur was prepared on the basis of a field survey by an expert team in 2018-19.
- ❖ It is the first of its kind, prepared with the objective of providing equal, concentrated attention to all art forms.
- ❖ It provides the details of Manipur's handloom and handicraft traditions.
- ❖ This map recently came into the limelight, when Kongsam Ibomcha Singh received the 2022 Padma Shri for the doll-making craft.



### Third Border Haat - Tripura

- ❖ Chief Minister of Tripura Biplab Kumar Deb laid the foundation stone for the Kamalpur-Kurmaghat border haat between India and Bangladesh.
- ❖ The border haat will be constructed in the Dhalai district.



- ❖ This project will further boost trade relations between both countries.
- ❖ It will strengthen the cultural and emotional ties between both.

## SPORTS

### U19 World Cup 2022



- ❖ India defeated England by four wickets to clinch a record-extending fifth title at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua, West Indies.
- ❖ India added the fifth title to their collection, having previously won the trophy in 2000, 2008, 2012, 2018.
- ❖ Yash Dhull becomes the fifth Indian captain to win the title after Mohammad Kaif, Virat Kohli, Unmukt Chand, and Prithvi Shaw.
- ❖ India's Raj Angad Bawa was announced as Player of the Match of the ICC Under19 World Cup 2022 Final between India and England.

