

January - 10


TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Visakha Utsav is a tourism event every year conducted by the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation and Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority at Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has inaugurated the 31st International kite festival in Ahmedabad.
- ❖ The new research led by Universities Space Research Association (USRA) of U.S.A has found that Earth's sister planet Venus has active volcanoes.
- ❖ The Christianity festival "Epiphany" was celebrated in parts of India, such as Goa and Kerala.
 - In Goa, the celebration is known by its Portuguese name 'Festa dos Reis', and in parts of Kerala by its Syriac name 'Denha'.

TAMIL NADU

Intensified Pulse polio immunization campaign – Tamil Nadu

- ❖ The Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine of Tamil Nadu is targeting the vaccinating of around 70.50 lakh children in the age group of 0 to 5 years in a single round of the Intensified Pulse polio immunisation campaign on January 19.

IMMUNISATION DRIVE	
<p>The immunisation campaign is held on a single day to produce herd immunity among children.</p>	 <p><i>A child being given polio drops</i></p>
<p>January First phase of pulse polio immunisation campaign</p>	
<p>Feb Second phase of the campaign</p>	
<p>WHERE CAN PARENTS TAKE THEIR CHILDREN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 to booths set up at schools, ICDS centres (anganwadis), Primary Health Centres, Government Hospitals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 in case, you are travelling, the booths have been put up at various locations such as bus terminuses, railway stations and toll plazas on national highways
<p>• The booths will be open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	
WHAT PAEDIATRICIAN SAYS?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Immunisation is a must for children aged 0 to 5 years, irrespective of previous immunisation against polio 🕒 Children with minor illnesses such as mild fever, running nose and upper respiratory tract infection can be given the drops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🕒 Children on steroids for nephrotic syndrome, malignant conditions, immuno-suppressed, unconscious/unresponsive, had convulsions should not be given the drops 🕒 In case of doubts, consult your paediatrician

- ❖ This year, Tamil Nadu has entered the 16th polio-free year.
- ❖ Booths would be set up in all primary health centres, government hospitals, ICDS centres, noon meal centres, schools and other important places in the State.

NATIONAL

IMD's State of Climate Report 2019

- ❖ India Meteorological Department (IMD) released State of the Climate Report-2019.
- ❖ The past decade was the hottest on record for India.
- ❖ 2019 was the seventh warmest year since 1901.
- ❖ The annual rainfall in 2019 was 109% of the long period average for 1961–2010.
- ❖ Five cyclones were recorded from the Arabian Sea- the highest number of Arabian Sea cyclones since 1902.
- ❖ The normal number is one per year.
- ❖ Of all the states, Bihar reported highest deaths (650) due to extreme weather events.
- ❖ New Delhi recorded the longest cold wave duration of 18 days, since 1902, this year.

Western Zonal council

- ❖ The 25th meeting of the western zonal council will be held in January 2020, under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister.
- ❖ Maharashtra is the lead coordinator with the Chief Minister of the state co-chairing the meeting.
- ❖ It will present a roadmap for the safety of women online and ways to curb cyberbullying.
- ❖ The 24th meeting of the council was held in Goa in August 2019.
- ❖ Western Zonal Council is functioning under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Inter-State Council Secretariat.
- ❖ It comprises of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, the Union Territory of Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Zonal Council

- ❖ The Zonal Councils are the statutory (and not the constitutional) bodies.



- ❖ They are established by the States Reorganisation Act of 1956.
- ❖ The Act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.

2nd National GST Conference

- ❖ 2nd edition of the National GST Conference of the Commissioners of State Tax and Chief Commissioners of Central Tax was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ This conference was held under the chairmanship of Dr Ajay Bhushan Pandey, Revenue Secretary of the Ministry of Finance (MoF).
- ❖ The conference was held to streamline the GST (Goods and Service Tax) system and also to plug revenue leakages.

INTERNATIONAL

Polar Science Co-operation

- ❖ Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), India and Ministry of Education and Research, Sweden has signed an agreement on cooperation in polar science.
- ❖ This MoU is their first maritime cooperation agreement.
- ❖ The agreement includes cooperation between the countries in both Arctic and Antarctic regions on environmental protection and hence the name Polar Science.
- ❖ Sweden as one of the eight "Arctic States" is one of the Member State in the Arctic Council whereas India has the Observer Status in the Arctic Council.
- ❖ India likewise, has sustained scientific research programs in both the Polar Regions as well as in the oceanic realm.

Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement

- ❖ Union cabinet has approved the ratification of Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India and France.
- ❖ The Agreement enhances people-to-people contacts, fostering mobility of students, academics, researchers and skilled professionals.
- ❖ It aims to strengthen cooperation on issues related to irregular migration and human trafficking between the two sides.

ECONOMY



Effect of Automation on FDI flows

- ❖ World Bank released its study on how Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows are affected in the world due to automation.
- ❖ The study concluded that automation will certainly disrupt the flow of capital from rich countries to poor countries.
- ❖ The study has used data of FDI and industrial robot usages between 2004 and 2015.

GDP Growth For 2019 – 2020

- ❖ National Statistical Office (NSO) of the Ministry of Statistics has released the first advance estimates of the national income.
- ❖ According to that India's GDP growth during the fiscal 2019-20 is expected at 5% as compared to 6.8% in last year.
- ❖ Agriculture sector is expected to see a growth of 2.8% as compared to 2.9% in the previous year.
- ❖ The growth rate in per capita income is estimated at 4.3% during 2019-20.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India in its December policy had revised GDP growth downwards to 5% for 2019-20 from 6.1% in its October policy.

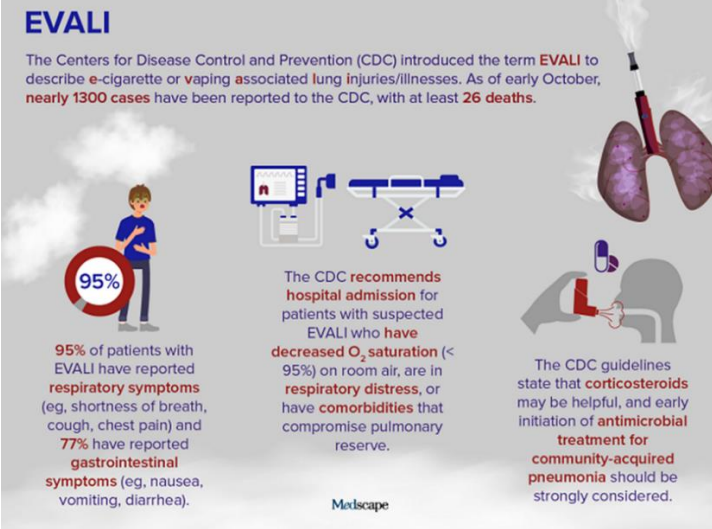
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

EVALI

- ❖ Galveston County club of USA has confirmed the first death associated with EVALI.
- ❖ Its acronym is E-cigarette, or Vaping, Associated Lung Injury (EVALI).
- ❖ EVALI is the name given by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to the dangerous, newly identified lung disease linked to vaping.
- ❖ CDC and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials urge everyone to avoid e-cigarette or vaping products that contain tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC.
- ❖ THC is a high-inducing chemical derived from marijuana.

EVALI

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) introduced the term **EVALI** to describe **e-cigarette or vaping associated lung injuries/illnesses**. As of early October, **nearly 1300 cases** have been reported to the CDC, with at least **26 deaths**.



95% of patients with EVALI have reported **respiratory symptoms** (eg, shortness of breath, cough, chest pain) and **77%** have reported **gastrointestinal symptoms** (eg, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea).

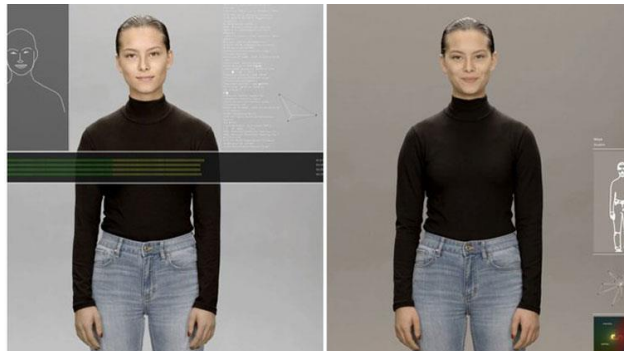
The CDC recommends **hospital admission** for patients with suspected EVALI who have **decreased O₂ saturation (< 95%)** on room air, are in **respiratory distress**, or have **comorbidities** that compromise pulmonary reserve.

The CDC guidelines state that **corticosteroids** may be helpful, and early initiation of **antimicrobial treatment for community-acquired pneumonia** should be strongly considered.

Medscape

Neon - world's first Artificial Human

- ❖ Samsung-backed Star Labs has unveiled Neon, the world's first "artificial humans".
- ❖ Neon is a humanoid AI chatbot.
- ❖ It aims to deliver a personalised experience with an AI.
- ❖ It has the ability to show emotions and intelligence.



Earth-sized planet in habitable zone

- ❖ Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) has discovered an Earth-sized planet, termed as "TOI 700 d", within the habitable range.
- ❖ Earth-sized planet located in constellation Dorado.

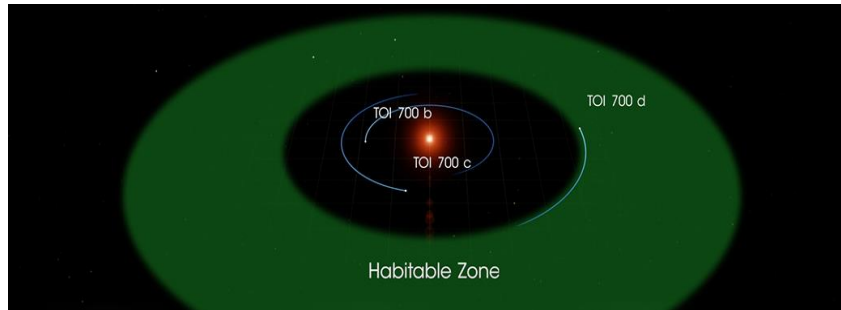
Habitable zone:

- ❖ Habitable zone is known as Goldilocks zone or Circumstellar Habitable Zone (CHZ).

- ❖ A habitable zone, also called the “Goldilocks zone”, is the area around a star where it is not too hot and not too cold.
- ❖ Our Earth is in the Sun’s Goldilocks zone.

About TESS:

- ❖ It is an all-sky survey mission launched by NASA in 2018.
- ❖ It seeks to discover exoplanets around nearby bright stars.



Lithium Sulfur (Li-S) Battery

- ❖ Researchers from Australia have claimed that they have developed the world’s most efficient lithium-sulfur (Li-S) battery.
- ❖ It is capable of powering a smartphone for five continuous days, the equivalent of an electric car being able to drive a distance of over 1,000 km.
- ❖ Li-S batteries are considered as the successors of the Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries because of their lower cost of production, energy efficiency and improved safety.
- ❖ Their cost of production is lower because sulphur is abundantly available.

