



July - 02

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Union Government launched the 'Atma Nirbhar Krishi App' recently.
  - The app provides farmers with actionable agricultural insights (Soil Type, Soil Health etc) and weather alerts.
- ❖ Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated the country's first Fenton wastewater treatment plant at the Vatva GIDC (Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation) in Ahmedabad.
  - The Fenton Catalytic Reactor was implemented by the Green Environment Services Co-operative Society Limited.
- ❖ Anshula Rao (Madhya Pradesh all-rounder) became the first women cricketer to be handed a four-year ban after failing the dope test.
  - She was handed the ban by the panel of the National Anti-Doping Agency.

## **NATIONAL**

### **One Nation, One Ration Card Scheme**

- ❖ The Supreme Court has directed all states and UTs to implement the One Nation, One Ration Card system.
- ❖ ONORC was launched in August, 2019.
- ❖ It comes under the National Food Security Act, 2013.
- ❖ Four states are yet to join the scheme.
- ❖ They are Assam, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and West Bengal.

### **Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine**

- ❖ The Drugs Controller General of India has granted permission to Cipla to import Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ Cipla is a Mumbai-based pharma company.
- ❖ This makes the fourth vaccine in the country to be given the emergency use authorisation (EUA).
- ❖ Currently, India has made available three COVID vaccines — Covaxin, Covishield and Sputnik.

## One more joins the battle

Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine has become the fourth one to get emergency use authorisation in India

■ Three other COVID-19 vaccines – **Covaxin**, **Covishield** and **Sputnik B** – are currently available

■ India is also in talks with **Pfizer** and **Johnson & Johnson** to add to the vaccines available

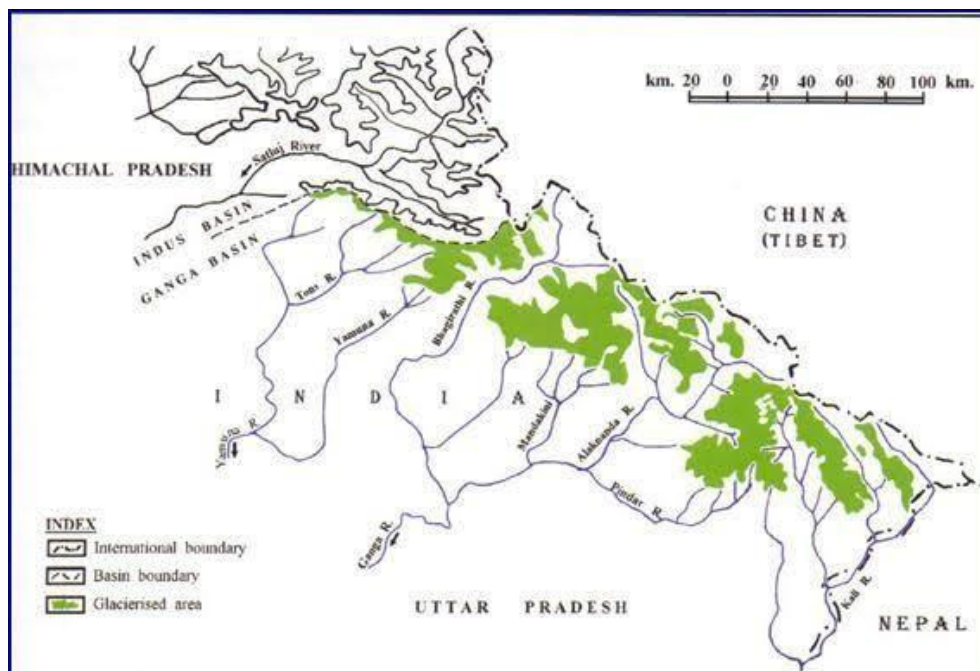
■ Moderna's vaccine can be stored for a period of **seven months** at prescribed temperature and normal storage after the vial is opened is **30 days**

■ It has shown to have an efficacy of approximately **94.1%** in protecting against COVID-19, starting **14 days** after the first dose



Based on evidence collected so far, the new variants of SARS-CoV-2 do not alter the effectiveness of the vaccine

## Atlas of glacial lakes



- ❖ The Ministry of Jal Shakti has released an updated atlas of glacial lakes that are part of the Ganga River basin.
- ❖ About 4,707 glacial lakes have been mapped in the Ganga basin.

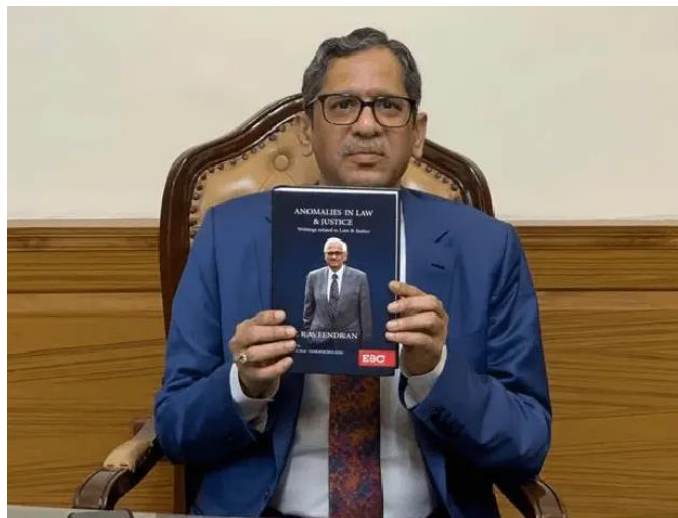
- ❖ Glacial lakes with water spread area greater than 0.25 ha were mapped using Resourcesat-2 Linear Imaging Self Scanning Sensor-IV satellite data.
- ❖ The Atlas is available on Bhuvan portal of National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO.

### **Shibu Lal commitee**

- ❖ The Former Infosys CEO S D Shibu Lal was appointed chairperson of a three-member task force.
- ❖ This task force is formed to help the government in bringing major bureaucratic reforms through its "Mission Karma yogi".
- ❖ Besides Lal, who is founder of Shiksha Lokam and founder and ex-CEO of Infosys Limited, Govind Iyer, and Pankaj Bansal will be part of the task force.
- ❖ The Centre has recently approved the 'National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building - Mission Karma yogi'.
- ❖ This is to make a transformational shift from rule based training to role-based capacity development of all civil services in the country.

### **Anomalies in Law and Justice - book**

- ❖ The Chief Justice of India Justice NV Ramana has released former Supreme Court judge RV Raveendran's book "Anomalies in Law and Justice".
- ❖ The book is an attempt to explain to the layman that the law and the legal system is still evolving.
- ❖ Also that it requires more critical thinking to resolve issues that have persisted in the system for a long time.

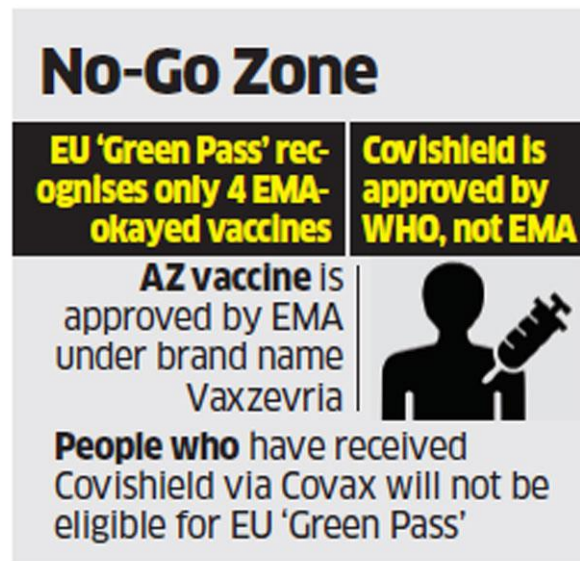


## INTERNATIONAL

### Computer models to protect delta system

- ❖ Erosion, sinking land and sea rise from climate change have killed the Louisiana woods.
- ❖ Louisiana woods are near the Mississippi River delta system of the USA.
- ❖ NASA Scientists and scientists from other universities from Boston to California are aiming to create some computer models due to this.
- ❖ These models can be used with satellite data to learn which parts of their dwindling deltas can be shored up and which deltas are past hope.

### European Union's Green Pass list



- ❖ Travellers vaccinated with Covishield may not be eligible for the European Union's 'Green Pass' that will be available for use from July 1.
- ❖ At present, four vaccines have been approved by the European Medicines Agency.
- ❖ They are,
  - Comirnaty (Pfizer/BioNTech),
  - Moderna,
  - Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca),
  - Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).



## **New Chair of ILO**

- ❖ India's term as chair of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) was ended recently.
- ❖ Apurva Chandra, Secretary (Labour & Employment) completed his tenure as Chair of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (October 2020 - June 2021)
- ❖ India had assumed the chairmanship of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation after a gap of 35 years.

### **Note**

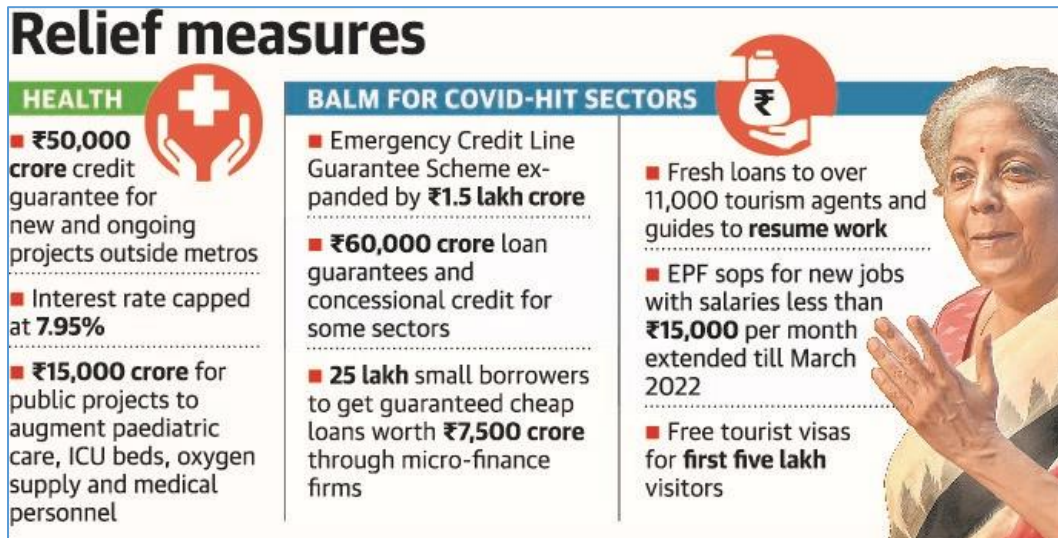
- ❖ Ambassador Anna Jardfelt Melvin of Sweden was elected as the new Chairperson.
- ❖ Renate Hornung-Draus of Germany was elected as Employer Vice-Chairperson.
- ❖ Catelene Passchier (Netherlands) was re-elected as the Worker Vice-Chairperson.
- ❖ For the first time in the ILO's history the Governing Body will have female tripartite leadership.



From left to right, Ms Renate Hornung-Draus, Ambassador Anna Jardfelt (Sweden), Ms Catelene Passchier

## ECONOMY

### Relief measures – Finance ministry



**Relief measures**

**HEALTH**

- **₹50,000 crore** credit guarantee for new and ongoing projects outside metros
- Interest rate capped at **7.95%**
- **₹15,000 crore** for public projects to augment paediatric care, ICU beds, oxygen supply and medical personnel

**BALM FOR COVID-HIT SECTORS**

- Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme expanded by **₹1.5 lakh crore**
- **₹60,000 crore** loan guarantees and concessional credit for some sectors
- **25 lakh** small borrowers to get guaranteed cheap loans worth **₹7,500 crore** through micro-finance firms

**Fresh loans to over 11,000 tourism agents and guides to resume work**

- EPF sops for new jobs with salaries less than **₹15,000** per month extended till March 2022
- Free tourist visas for **first five lakh** visitors

- ❖ The government has announced some fresh relief measures for the economy.
- ❖ This is the first such package after the second COVID-19 wave.
- ❖ The following eight measures were proposed by Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ Rs 1.10 lakh crore Loan Guarantee Scheme for COVID Affected sectors
  - This includes Rs 50,000 crore for the health sector and Rs 60,000 crore for other sectors, including tourism.
- ❖ Additional Rs 1.5 lakh crore for Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme.
- ❖ Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro Finance Institutions (New scheme).
  - Amount per loan capped at Rs 1.25 lakh at an interest rate of MCLR (the minimum lending rate for a bank) plus 2 per cent.
- ❖ Scheme for Tourists guides/ stakeholders
  - Tourism Stakeholders will be eligible to get a loan up to Rs. 10 lakh each while tourist guides can avail of loan up to Rs 1 lakh each.
- ❖ Free one-month tourist visa to 5 lakh tourists
  - The total amount sanctioned for the scheme is Rs 100 crore.
  - The facility will be applicable till 31st March 2022 or till 5 lakh visas are issued, whichever is earlier.
- ❖ Extension of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana
  - The date of registration under the scheme has been extended from 30 June 2021 to 31 March 2022.

- ❖ The Additional Subsidy for DAP & P&K fertilizers.
- ❖ Free food grains under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) to be provided from May to November 2021.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **National Chartered Accountants Day - July 01**

- ❖ This day is celebrated to commemorate the founding of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) by the parliament of India in 1949.
- ❖ Every year CA Day is celebrated to honour the Chartered Accountants.
- ❖ ICAI is India's national professional accounting body and also the second biggest accounting organization in the world.
- ❖ Headquarters of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India is in New Delhi.



### **National Doctors' Day - July 01**

- ❖ The day is organised in India by the Indian Medical Association (IMA).
- ❖ The day is celebrated to honour the great physicians and help us understand the importance of doctors in our lives.



- ❖ The day commemorates the birth anniversary of the second Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy.

