



July - 16

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Union Human Resource and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' released PRAGYATA guidelines on digital education.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)**

- ❖ It is an international platform for follow-up and review of progress on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ❖ The HLPF meets in July every year under the support of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN.
- ❖ NITI Aayog presented India's second Voluntary National Review (VNR) to this forum.
- ❖ It provides a detailed account of the initiatives taken by India for the successful implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda of the United Nations.
- ❖ The monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals in India is overseen by the NITI Aayog.

### **APTTA**

- ❖ Pakistan will allow Afghanistan to send goods to India using the Wagah border.
- ❖ The decision is part of Islamabad's commitment under Afghanistan- Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA).

### **Chabahar rail project**

- ❖ Iran has decided to move ahead with the construction of a railway line from Chabahar port to Zahedan without any assistance from India.
- ❖ The railway line project was part of India's commitment to the trilateral agreement with Afghanistan and Iran to build an alternate trade route to Afghanistan and Central Asia.
- ❖ By using Chabahar port, India can bypass Pakistan in transporting goods to Afghanistan.
- ❖ It is located on the Gulf of Oman and is the only oceanic port of the country.



- ❖ China is trying to ensure by helping Pakistan develop the Gwadar port.
- ❖ Gwadar port is less than 400 km from Chabahar by road and 100 km by sea.

### **Reimagine Campaign**

- ❖ The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) India joined hands with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FICCI) to initiate UNICEF's "#Reimagine Campaign"
- ❖ It is for the support of most vulnerable populations and children during the ongoing COVID-19 response and its aftermath in India.

## **ECONOMY**

### **Corona Kavach and Corona Rakshak**

- ❖ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has made it mandatory for 30 general and health insurers.
- ❖ It is to launch short-term standard health policies for coronavirus disease.
- ❖ Notably, the premium under both the products shall be the pan-India basis and no geographic location or zone-based pricing will be allowed.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Vitro cultures**

- ❖ The Institute of Life Sciences (ILS) in Odisha has successfully established vitro cultures of coronavirus from the patient samples using Vero cells.
- ❖ The Vero cell culture technology is used worldwide to develop inactivated whole cell-based vaccines.
- ❖ The Cultured SARS-CoV-2 can also be used to develop antibodies or antidotes.

### **Israeli assault rifles**

- ❖ Arad and Carmel are the two new Israeli assault rifles now set to be manufactured in India.
- ❖ The assault rifles will be manufactured under Make in India initiative in Madhya Pradesh.



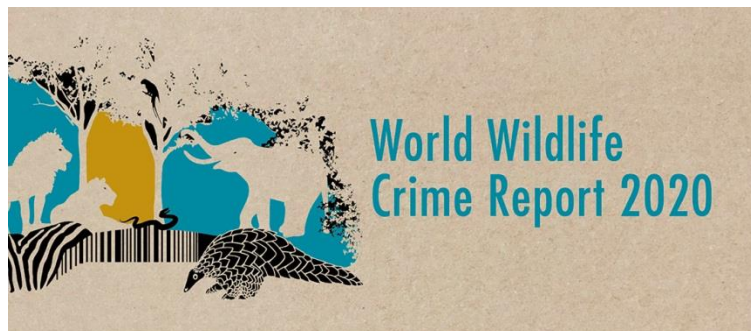
## **Shudh**

- ❖ The IIT Kanpur has developed an Ultra Violet Sanitizing product called “Shudh”.
- ❖ It is smartphone operated and is handy.
- ❖ UVC (Ultra Violet-C) is used to kill microorganisms.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **World Wildlife Crime Report**

- ❖ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) released its World Wildlife Crime Report.
- ❖ The Pangolins are the most trafficked wild animal in the world.
- ❖ Nigeria was the primary point of export of pangolins in 2019.
- ❖ Countries like Congo, Nigeria and Uganda act as transit points for the trafficking of pangolin.





## STATES

### **Roko - Toko campaign**

- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh government has decided to run this for those who do not wear masks.
- ❖ Under the campaign, the district collector will select voluntary organizations.
- ❖ They will provide masks to those who don't wear masks in public places and charge them Rs 20 per mask.

### **Tangams**

- ❖ Recently, the Arunachal Pradesh chief Minister released a book titled "Tangams: an Ethnolinguistic study of the critically endangered group of Arunachal Pradesh".
- ❖ Tangams are a little-known community within the larger Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ As per the UNESCO World Atlas of Endangered Languages (2009), Tangam is marked 'critically endangered'.
- ❖ It is an oral language that belongs to the Tani group, under the greater Tibeto-Burman language family.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### **CII-ITC Sustainability Award 2019**

- ❖ The NTPC Limited (National Thermal Power Corporation Limited) won this award.
- ❖ It is under the category of Corporate Excellence for Outstanding Accomplishment.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **NABARD Foundation - July 13**

- ❖ The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has celebrated its 39th Foundation Day



- ❖ It organized its first “digital choupal” event.
- ❖ The NABARD has launched a refinance scheme for financial institutions and banks.
- ❖ Under the scheme, the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies are to be turned into multi-service centres.
- ❖ The fund allocated is to be made available to financial institutions and banks to lend to the watershed development projects.

### **Bastille Day - July 14**

- ❖ It is also known as the French National Day.



- ❖ In 1789, a violent uprising helped usher in the French Revolution.
- ❖ Citizens stormed the Bastille fortress, which was used to lodge the state prisoners.
- ❖ Bastille had become the symbol of the harsh rule and tyranny of the French monarchy, especially King Louis XVI and his queen, Marie Antoinette.
- ❖ French poet and philosopher, Voltaire was imprisoned in Bastille.



- ❖ Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" became the war cry of the common people and it remained the country's official motto even to this day.

