

July - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The United Arab Emirates has become the first Gulf nation to open an embassy in Israel.
 - The new mission is located in Tel Aviv Stock Exchange building.
- ❖ The Manduadih railway station has been finally renamed as Banaras by the North eastern railways.
- ❖ The World Snake Day is held every year on July 16.
 - It aims to increase awareness regarding the over 3,500 snake species that exist across the world.

TAMIL NADU

Bharathiar University gets two patents

- ❖ The Bharathiar University has obtained patents for two procedures.
- ❖ They are,
 - One is related to salvaging of metals from solid wastes and
 - Other is the use of a fruit tree to treat diabetes.
- ❖ The first patent was for 'Method for recovery of metals from metal-bearing solid wastes' by K. Ramachandran, Associate Professor, and research scholars R. Saravanakumar and P.V. Ananthapadmanabhan.
- ❖ The second patent was for the use of Syzygium mundagam (wild jamun fruit tree) in treating diabetes.
- ❖ A team of Professor T. Parimelazagan and research scholar Rahul Chandran studied the tree, isolated active compounds from the tree bark and used it in various tests.

NATIONAL

UV-C technology

- ❖ Ultraviolet-C or UV-C Disinfection Technology will soon be installed in the Parliament of India.
- ❖ This is for the "mitigation of airborne transmission of SARS-COV-2".

- ❖ UV-C air duct disinfection system is developed by CSIR-CSIO (Central Scientific Instruments Organisation).

District Mineral Funds

- ❖ The Centre undertook complete control of district mineral foundation (DMF) funds from state.
- ❖ It is negating right of states to sanction or approve any expenditure out of the funds that have been accrued from mandatory contribution from mining lease holders.

Note

- ❖ According to MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015, state governments are mandated to establish DMFs in all districts for interest and benefits of persons affected by mining-related operations.
- ❖ The Lease holders are mandated to contribute to these not-for-profit foundations a defined percentage of royalty apart from paying royalty to state governments.
- ❖ The DMFs are required to use these funds for welfare of persons and areas affected by mining-related operations.
- ❖ Thus, tribal population are the principal beneficiaries.
- ❖ The scheme is also called as “Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana”.

International Cooperation and Convention Centre



- ❖ This centre, named Rudraksh, is built in Varanasi.
- ❖ It has been constructed with assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency.

- ❖ The objective of the project is to provide opportunities for social and cultural interactions between people.

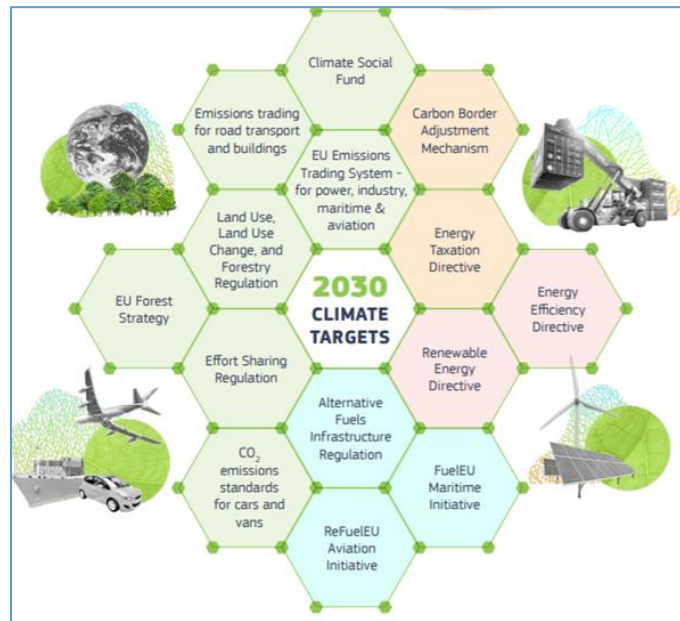
Mynvax's Covid vaccine

- ❖ Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru has developed a heat-tolerant COVID-19 vaccine formulation.
- ❖ While studying on animals, it was found to be effective against all current SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern.
- ❖ This Research was published in ACS Infectious Diseases journal.
- ❖ This vaccine was formulated by IISc-incubated biotech start-up Mynvax.
- ❖ This Vaccine also remained stable for up to a month at 37 degrees Celsius.
- ❖ At 100 degrees Celsius it remained stable for up to 90 minutes.



INTERNATIONAL

'Fit for 55' legislation



- ❖ The European Union's executive branch released a new legislation.
- ❖ It is to meet its pledge of cutting emissions of gases causing global warming by 55% this decade.
- ❖ EU's 'fit for 55' legislation includes a controversial plan to tax foreign companies for pollution caused by them.
- ❖ This Legislation also provides for de-facto phasing out of gasoline and diesel cars by 2035.

Data on Child Vaccination

- ❖ WHO & UNICEF recently released its data on Child Vaccination.
- ❖ As per the report, India registered the largest decrease in routine childhood immunization coverage in 2020
- ❖ India is followed by Pakistan and Indonesia.
- ❖ India's DTP-3 coverage (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis vaccine coverage) has fell down from 91% to 85%.

Floating solar panel farms

- ❖ Singapore has unveiled one of the world's largest floating solar panel farms.



- ❖ The project is part of efforts by the country to meet a goal of quadrupling its solar energy production by 2025.
- ❖ It is located on a reservoir in western Singapore.
- ❖ The 60 megawatt-peak solar photovoltaic farm has been built by a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sembcorp Industries.

ECONOMY

Restrictions on Mastercard Asia - RBI

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has imposed restrictions on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Private Limited for adding new domestic customers from 22nd July 2021.
- ❖ MasterCard will not be allowed to add customers, be it for debit, credit or pre-paid cards onto its network.
- ❖ This is because the entity has failed to comply with the directions on Storage of Payment System Data.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Linglong One

- ❖ China has officially begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One'.
- ❖ It is to be constructed at the Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant in the country's Hainan Province.
- ❖ The project is based on China National Nuclear Corporation's (CNNC's Linglong One ACP100) technology.

STATES

Live stream of court proceedings

- ❖ The Gujarat High Court announced that it is launching live streaming of court proceedings of all "willing benches" of the court from July 17.
- ❖ This makes it the first high court in the country to allow public viewing of the proceedings virtually.
- ❖ Earlier, in October 2020, the high court had started live streaming of proceedings of the first court, headed by the chief justice, on YouTube channel for public viewing.

Monk fruit

- ❖ Cultivation of 'monk fruit' from China has started in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The fruit was introduced for field trials in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ It was introduced by CSIR-IHBT (Council of Scientific Research and Industrial Technology-Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology).
- ❖ The Monk fruit is known for its properties as non-caloric natural sweetener.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Danish Siddiqui



- ❖ The Indian photojournalist Danish Siddiqui has passed away.
- ❖ He was killed in a clash while reporting a fight between Afghan troops and the Taliban in Spin Boldak district of Kandahar province in Afghanistan.
- ❖ He was employed with the international news agency Reuters.

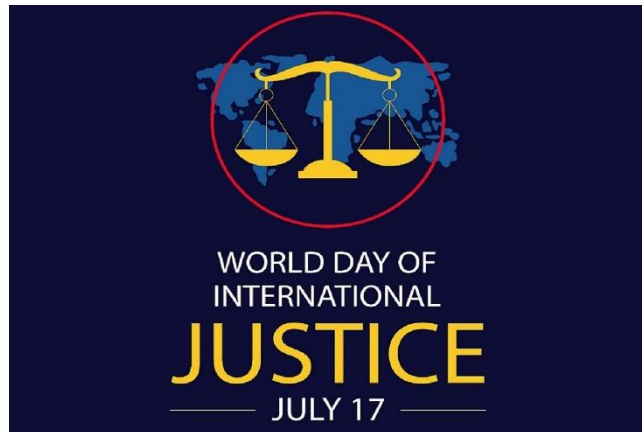
- ❖ He was a recipient of the prestigious Pulitzer Prize.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Plastic Surgery day - July 15

- ❖ India's National Plastic Surgery Day will now be celebrated as the World Plastic Surgery Day.
- ❖ The announcement was made in a statement released by the Association of Plastic Surgeons in India (APSI).
- ❖ The concept of National Plastic Surgery Day was first introduced by Dr S Raja Sabapathy in the year 2011.

International Justice Day - July 17



- ❖ The World Day for International Justice is celebrated globally to support and recognize the work of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ❖ The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute on July 17, 1998.
- ❖ The Rome Statute is the founding treaty of the ICC.

