



June - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Air Force has designed, developed and manufactured ARPIT - an Airborne Rescue Pod for Isolated Transportation.
- ❖ The natural gas has been continuously flowing out of a gas well in Assam following a blowout.
 - This happened after the blowout at the Oil India Limited's (OIL) Baghjan gas well in Assam's Tinsukia district.

NATIONAL

Coal Exchange of India

- ❖ India will soon be setting up a coal trading platform as it gears up to bring in commercial mining in the coal sector.
- ❖ Under the proposal, the entire coal produced in the country will be traded on a platform called 'Coal Exchange'.
- ❖ Coal Exchange will be an online coal trading platform where the pricing will be determined in a transparent manner on the basis of demand and supply.
- ❖ The setting up of India's first coal trading platform is significant as it paves the way for the entry of multiple buyers and sellers in the coal sector.
- ❖ Coal Exchange is expected to be the only trading platform for organised sale of coal in India.

NAIMISHA 2020

- ❖ The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi will organize online NAIMISHA 2020 - Summer Art Program.
- ❖ It is an initiative to provide a chance to participants and art enthusiasts to create and learn from practicing artists.
- ❖ The exhibition of selected artworks from the program will be displayed on So'ham, the cultural media platform of NGMA.
- ❖ NGMA was established in 1954, at the Jaipur House, New Delhi.
- ❖ It is run and administered as a subordinate office to the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISRO agreement

- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organization recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Science (ARIES), Nainital.
- ❖ It works on the cooperation in the field of Space Situational Awareness and Astrophysics.
- ❖ The main objective of the MoU is to protect the Indian space assets from space debris threats.
- ❖ Under the Space Situation Awareness, India is focusing on debris tracking, collision avoidance, satellite anomaly detection, monitoring threats from space weather station, prediction of threats from asteroids and meteorites.

Internet-controlled Robot

- ❖ An engineer from Thane of Maharashtra has developed an internet-controlled robot.
- ❖ It was designed and created by Pratik Tirodkar, founder of a start-up PNT Solutions, Dombivli.
- ❖ The robot has been named Coro-bot.
- ❖ The bot is first of its kind.
- ❖ The Coro-bot has been deployed for first time at the Holy Cross hospital in Kalyan in Mumbai.
- ❖ It eliminates the need of physical presence or contact of nurses or ward boys with the patient
- ❖ The robot has a special option of controlling it through an application from any part of the world.

- ❖ The robot becomes the first in world to use Internet of Things technology in medical field.



Aerosols Radiative Forcing (ARF) at Trans - Himalayas

- ❖ Recently, a study by the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) has found that radiative forcing of aerosols i.e. effect of anthropogenic aerosols is much higher over the high altitudes of western trans-Himalayas.
- ❖ ARF is the effect of anthropogenic aerosols on the radiative fluxes at the top of the atmosphere and at the surface and on the absorption of radiation within the atmosphere.
- ❖ ARIES, Nainital is an autonomous research institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology.
- ❖ Aerosols are defined as a combination of liquid or solid particles suspended in a gaseous or liquid environment.

ENVIRONMENT

Sixth Mass extinction

- ❖ The ongoing sixth mass extinction may be one of the most serious environmental threats to the persistence of civilisation.
- ❖ This research was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS).
- ❖ Mass extinction refers to a substantial increase in the degree of extinction or when the Earth loses more than three-quarters of its species in a geologically short period of time.

- ❖ So far, during the entire history of the Earth, there have been five mass extinctions.
- ❖ The five mass extinctions that took place in the last 450 million years have led to the destruction of 70-95 per cent of the species of plants, animals and microorganisms that existed earlier.
- ❖ The sixth one, which is ongoing, is referred to as the Anthropocene extinction.
- ❖ Researchers have described it as the “most serious environmental problem” since the loss of species will be permanent.
- ❖ The loss of species has been occurring since human ancestors developed agriculture over 11,000 years ago.
- ❖ Tropical regions have seen the highest number of declining species.

The “Big Five” mass extinctions

