



June - 19

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Pune based Serum Institute of India is to supply Pneumonia vaccine to low-income countries.
  - The Institute is one of the leading manufacturers of vaccines and immunobiological drugs.
- ❖ The Delhi Government is to convert the Radha Soami Spiritual Centre into a COVID-19 care facility.
  - This centre will be the largest COVID-19 facility in the world.
- ❖ The AYUSH Ministry has launched 'Yoga at Home, Yoga with Family' campaign to mark the International Yoga Day 2020.

## TAMIL NADU

### Ordinance on Reservation

- ❖ The Tamilnadu State cabinet granted its approval to promulgate an ordinance to give horizontal reservation.
- ❖ It is likely to be between 7.5% and 10%.
- ❖ It is given to government school students who clear NEET exams for admission to medical courses from this academic year.
- ❖ The decision comes in the wake of recommendations by the Justice P Kalaiyarasan led committee.

## INTERNATIONAL

### World Competitive Index

- ❖ The Institute of Management Development recently released this.
- ❖ India was ranked 43rd in the ranking.
- ❖ Singapore secured the top position in the ranking system.
- ❖ The ranking is created by the business school based in Singapore and Switzerland.

## **Victory Day parade**

- ❖ India is to send its tri-services contingent of all three services namely army, navy and air force to Russia.
- ❖ This is the first time all the three services of India are participating.
- ❖ The military parade of Russia is held at the Red Square, Moscow with the President of Russia as the guest of honour.
- ❖ Every year, the Victory Day is celebrated on May 9.
- ❖ The parade is held every year to mark the surrender of Nazi Germany in 1945.



## **ECONOMY**

### **2020 India Mobile Payments Market Report**

- ❖ The S&P Global Market Intelligence's has launched this report.
- ❖ According to the report mobile payments and card transactions exceeded cash withdrawals from automated teller machines (ATMs) for the first time in 2019.
- ❖ Google Pay and PhonePe led the UPI (Unified Payments Interface) payment space.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Fifth State of Matter**

- ❖ The NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) scientists in the International Space Station unveiled the first results of Bose-Einstein condensate experiments.
- ❖ It is revealed that the particles can be manipulated free from Earthly constraints.

- ❖ Bose-Einstein Condensates (BEC) were predicted by Indian Mathematician Satyendra Nath Bose and Albert Einstein almost a century ago.
- ❖ BEC is a state of matter that is typically formed when a gas of bosons is cooled to temperatures close to absolute zero.
- ❖ There are four state of matter namely solid, liquid, gas and plasma.
- ❖ The BEC is the fifth state of matter and was created by the scientists 25 years ago.
- ❖ The fourth state of matter called the plasma was described by the chemist Irving Langmuir.



### **Clinical Management Protocol of COVID-19**

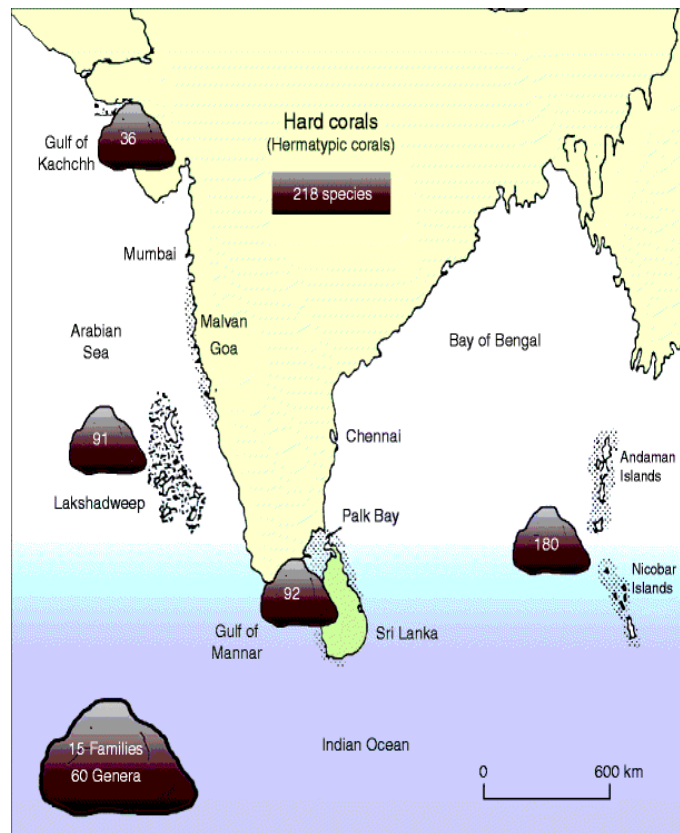
- ❖ The Union Health Ministry has recently included Remdesivir as a part of investigational therapy and updated Clinical Management Protocol of COVID-19 patients.
- ❖ The ministry has also added loss of taste and loss of smell as two key symptoms of COVID-19 infection.
- ❖ Under the updated protocol, the Ministry has removed its earlier recommendation of the use of Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) in severe cases.
- ❖ Also, the usage of HCQ along with Azithromycin was also removed.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Coral Bleaching**

- ❖ The Gulf of Mannar (GoM), spread around 21 islands, suffers significant damage caused by livelihood-linked human threats and climate change.
- ❖ The islands and the reef areas collectively constitute the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park (GMMNP).

- ❖ Corals in the GoM usually bleach in summer if the water temperature surpasses 30°C, but they recover when it drops in August.
- ❖ According to recent study Cyclones Amphan and Nisarga have saved the Gulf of Mannar corals from mass bleaching.
- ❖ The windstorms along with two low pressures have significantly lowered seawater temperature in summer.
- ❖ It is expected that the bleached corals will completely recover by July-end without facing any mortality, provided the present climatic condition continues.
- ❖ Reduction in sewage inflow, industrial and human activities and halt in fishing during the lockdown have also assisted in improvement of reef health, resulting in enhanced fish population and faster coral recovery.

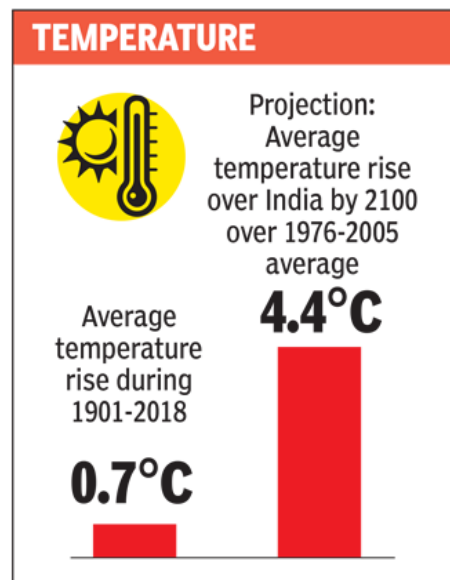


### **Schizothorax sikusirumensis**

- ❖ A new fish species called *Schizothorax sikusirumensis* has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The name of the species has been derived from the names of the rivers where the fish was found.
- ❖ They are River Sirum and River Siku.

### **First Assessment of Climate Change over Indian Region**

- ❖ The Ministry of Earth Science released its report.
- ❖ It is India's first-ever national forecast on the impact of global warming on the subcontinent in the coming century.
- ❖ It will be part of the next report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), expected to be ready in 2022.
- ❖ These projections are based on a climate forecasting model developed at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune.
- ❖ It indicates a rise in worldwide average surface air temperatures by 5°C by the end of the century if human activities keep emitting GHGs at the current rate.
- ❖ The average surface temperature of India could increase up to 4.4 degree Celsius by the end of 2100 as compared to the temperature between 1976 and 2005.
- ❖ The average temperature of the country increased by 0.7 degree Celsius as compared to the period between 1900 and 2018.



### **SPORTS**

#### **Khelo India State Centres of Excellence**

- ❖ The Ministry of Sports has launched Khelo India State Centres of Excellence to strengthen excellence of India in Olympics.
- ❖ It has identified state owned sports facilities in 8 states.



- ❖ The 8 centres to be established under the scheme are located in Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Manipur, Nagaland, Odisha, Telangana, Mizoram.

