

June - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The International Widows Day is observed to draw attention to the voices and experiences of widows and to galvanize the unique support that they have.
 - Loomba Foundation initiated the International Widow's Day in 2005.

NATIONAL

ZyCoV-D Vaccine

- ❖ Indian pharmaceutical company Zydus Cadila is soon going to apply Central Drugs Regulator (DGCI) for emergency approval of the corona vaccine ZyCoV-D.
- ❖ If approved, it will be the world's first DNA-based vaccine.
- ❖ With this, the number of vaccines available in the country will increase to 4.
- ❖ ZyCoV-D is a needle free vaccine and will be fitted with a jet injector.
- ❖ It will be given in three dosages.



Bengaluru in Top 5 technology centers in Asia Pacific


- ❖ The Report named 'Growth Engines of Innovation: How Asia Pacific Technology Hubs are Reshaping Regional Real Estate' was recently released by Colliers.
- ❖ Bengaluru has emerged as the top five technology centres in the APAC region.
- ❖ Hyderabad is ranked in the Top 10 list.
- ❖ Beijing, Shanghai, Bengaluru, Shenzhen and Singapore currently rank as the top five technology centres in APAC.

Antibodies of Nipah Virus found in India

- ❖ A survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the National Institute of Virology has picked up samples with the possible presence of antibodies against the Nipah virus in some bat species.
- ❖ The samples were from a cave in Mahabaleshwar, Maharashtra.
- ❖ The survey was aimed at studying the prevalence of the Nipah virus (NiV) in bats of India.
- ❖ It is considered as one of the top-10 global priority list pathogens identified by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Note

- ❖ India has experienced four NiV outbreaks.
- ❖ The most recent outbreak started in Kerala in 2018.
- ❖ Nipah is considered dangerous as there is no medicine or vaccines and the death rate among those affected is high.

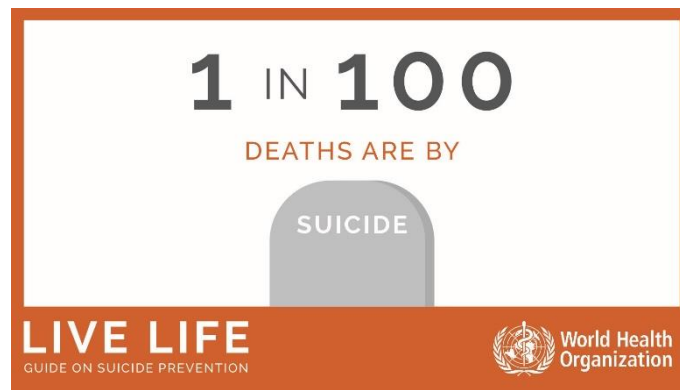
FIRST NIPAH DETECTION IN MAHARASHTRA		The Disease
THE VIRUS Nipah Virus (NiV) is on the top 10 pathogen list of WHO ➤ First identified in Malaysia in 1998-99 during an encephalitis-like outbreak among pigs and pig handlers, with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 40%	NIPAH IN INDIA India has experienced four NiV outbreaks, with CFR ranging from 65 to 100% 2001 in Siliguri district, West Bengal 2007 in Nadia district in West Bengal 2018 in Kozhikode district in Kerala with 18 deaths 2019 in Kozhikode	➤ Infected bats shed the virus in excretion & it can jump to humans ➤ NiV can be fatal, causing swelling of brain (encephalitis) after signs of respiratory illness
 <p>Researchers test bats in Kozhikode in 2018</p>		MAHABALESHWAR FINDINGS ➤ Large fruit-eating Pteropus medius bats said to be NiV reservoir in India ➤ 65 Rousettus leschenaultii (medium fruit-eating) bats and 15 (tiny, insectivorous) Pipistrellus pipistrellus from a Mahabaleshwar cave tested in 2020 ➤ Antibodies found in 33 leschenaultii and one Pipistrellus bat ➤ First report of possible NiV infection in R. leschenaultii bats in India

INTERNATIONAL

Suicide worldwide in 2019

- ❖ Suicide worldwide in 2019 report was published by World Health Organization.
- ❖ According to the report, only 38 countries have a national suicide prevention strategy, as of now.
- ❖ Suicide crisis was already in place in 2019.

- ❖ About one in 100 died by suicide in 2019.
- ❖ 58% of the suicides occurred before the age of 50 years.
- ❖ Suicide was fourth-leading cause of death in young people aged 15-29 worldwide in 2019.
- ❖ 77% of global suicides occurred in low-income and middle-income countries in 2019.
- ❖ Africa, Europe and South-East Asia accounted for suicide rates higher than world's average.
- ❖ India has highest suicide rate in Southeast Asian region.
- ❖ Rate of suicide was 9.9 in 2017 which increased to 10.2 in 2018.



STATES

Benefits in Punjab due to BT Cotton adoption

- ❖ The Researchers in India recently conducted one study funded by Agricultural Extension Division of Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- ❖ It was done under an extramural project named “Impact evaluation of integrated pest management technologies”.
- ❖ The study says that,
 - The use of highly hazardous & riskiest insecticides has reduced over time.
 - Expenses associated with insecticide use have also reduced.
 - Cotton yields in the past 13 years have been stable, except in 2015.
- ❖ BT cotton is a genetically modified pest resistant plant cotton variety.
- ❖ BT toxins are insecticidal to larvae of moths, butterflies, cotton bollworms, beetles and flies.

GM Rubber planted in Assam

- ❖ The Rubber Board has started field trial of world's first GM (genetically modified) rubber in the state of Assam.
- ❖ GM Rubber was developed in biotechnology laboratory at Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII) in Puthuppally, Kottayam.
- ❖ It was planted at Rubber board's Sarutari research farm in Guwahati.
- ❖ In Kerala, the state Government denied permission for the field trial of GM Rubber because of its adverse impact on environment.

Incentives for having more children - Mizoram

- ❖ Sports Minister of Mizoram, Robert Romawia Royte, has announced a cash incentive of Rs 1 lakh for having more children.
- ❖ Rs 1 lakh would be given to living parent with highest number of children in minister's constituency.
- ❖ This is to encourage population growth among the demographically small Mizo communities.

Freshwater Black Softshell Turtle



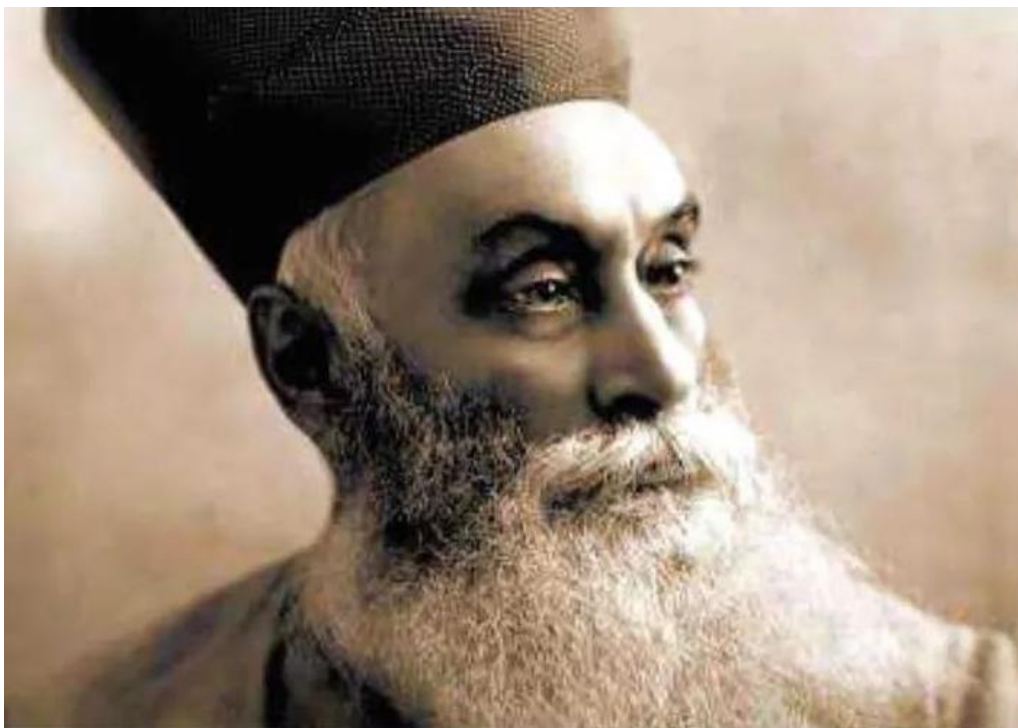
- ❖ Hayagriva Madhava Temple Committee (Assam) signed a MoU with two NGOs, Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden and the Kamrup district administration.
- ❖ This is for conserving the rare freshwater black softshell turtle.
- ❖ Also, a Vision Document 2030 was launched to raise at least 1000 black softshell turtle (Nilssonina nigricans) by 2030.
- ❖ These turtles are found along the Brahmaputra River's drainage in Assam, and in ponds of temples in north-eastern India and Bangladesh.

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature had in 2021 listed the turtle as 'critically endangered'.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata

- ❖ Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata has emerged as the topper of the list of EdelGive Hurun Philanthropists of Century.
- ❖ He is the only Indian among the top 10 list, compiled by Hurun Research and EdelGive Foundation.
- ❖ He was the founder of Tata Group.
- ❖ Jamsetji Tata was the founder of Tata Iron and Steel Works Company (TISCO) in Jamshedpur.
- ❖ Jamsetji Tata is regarded as the "Father of Indian Industry".
- ❖ Jawaharlal Nehru referred him as "One-Man Planning Commission".



Jamsetji Tata tops the list of 'Philanthropist of the Century' with donations worth \$102 billion

SPORTS

Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce

- ❖ Jamaican sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce became the second-fastest woman of all time.
- ❖ She clocked 10.63 seconds at a 100 metre meet in Kingston.
- ❖ She is behind 100 metres world record holder Florence Griffith-Joyner.
- ❖ Florence Griffith-Joyner holds the women's 100m world record of 10.49 seconds, set in Indianapolis in 1988.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Olympic Day - June 23

- ❖ This day signifies the Olympic Games which is held every four-year featuring summer and winter sports competitions.
- ❖ Olympic Day is observed on the basis of three pillars. They are,
 - Move
 - Learn
 - Detect
- ❖ World Olympic Day was introduced in 1948.
- ❖ It was started to commemorate the birth of modern Olympic Games on June 23, 1894.
- ❖ Modern Olympic Games was born at Sorbonne in Paris.
- ❖ Theme for 2021 is “Stay healthy, stay strong, stay active with the #OlympicDay workout on 23 June.”



United Nations Public Service Day - June 23

- ❖ This day is to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process and to value public service to the community.
- ❖ As a part of the occasion, a virtual event named “Innovating the Future Public Service: New Government Models for a New Era to Reach the SDGs” was conducted.
- ❖ This event will be hosted by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in collaboration with the government of the United Arab Emirates.

