



March - 19

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ In the sixth phase excavation of Keezhadi (Sivagangai district), 2500 years old large sized pot was unearthed.
- ❖ The Central government has decided that the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi may, at his own discretion, appoint law officers to represent the Delhi Police and the NCR government before constitutional courts.
 - The order was passed by the Union Home Ministry.
- ❖ Under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, the States may take, or require or empower any person to take some measures and by public notice prescribe such temporary regulations to be observed by the public for infectious disease management.
- ❖ The Bihar government has declared COVID-19 as an epidemic and issued the Bihar Epidemic Diseases COVID-19 Regulations 2020 by invoking the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

TAMIL NADU

Thooya Thamizh Patralar Award

- ❖ Directorate of Classical Etymology Agara Mudhali Scheme has announced this award to encourage people who use pure Tamil words for communication.
- ❖ C. Manikandan, a graduate from Coimbatore, R. Haridas from Puducherry and D. Arokiya Oliver Raj, a college student from Trichy were selected for this scheme.

Amendment in PSTM act

- ❖ According to the Bill, only the candidates who have studied in Tamil medium from primary school onwards will be accorded preference in direct recruitment under the 'Persons Studied in Tamil Medium' (PSTM) quota.
- ❖ The Bill seeks to amend the Tamil Nadu Appointment on preferential basis in the Services under the State of PSTM Act, 2010.
- ❖ In 2010, the Tamil Nadu Government has announced 20% reservation in government posts for Tamil medium candidates.
- ❖ The amendment is being brought in as the government had come across instances where candidates who had obtained only the final prescribed



educational qualification in Tamil medium were applying under the PSTM quota for direct recruitment.

- ❖ For instance, for a post for which the prescribed qualification is graduation, the candidate would have obtained a degree in Tamil medium through distance education, despite having studied in English medium in school and college.

NATIONAL

Central Sanskrit University Bill 2019

- ❖ The Parliament passed the Central Sanskrit University Bill 2019.
- ❖ It will provide Central University status to three universities in India.
- ❖ Rajya Sabha passed the Central Sanskrit University Bill 2019 by voice vote on March 16, 2020.
- ❖ The three universities are
 - Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Tirupati,
 - Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi and
 - Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi.

Curative petitions

- ❖ The Supreme Court of India rejected the curative petitions filed over Nirbhaya case.
- ❖ A curative petition is filed after the plea conviction against final conviction is dismissed.
- ❖ The Curative petitions are filed under Article 142 of the constitution.
- ❖ It shall be filed after the review petition is dismissed by the apex court.
- ❖ The concept of Curative petition is supported by the Article 137 of Constitution of India.
- ❖ The Article enables Supreme Court to review its own judgements made under Article 145.
- ❖ The Review petitions are filed under Article 137 of the Constitution that enables Supreme Court to review its own judgement.
- ❖ Under Supreme Court rules, 1966, these petitions should be filed within 30 days of judgement.

INTERNATIONAL

Iraq's new Prime Minister

- ❖ Iraqi President Barham Salih appointed veteran politician Adnan al-Zurfi as prime minister.
- ❖ Al-Zurfi has 30 days to form his cabinet which he must then put to a vote of confidence in Iraq's Parliament.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

New Hand Sanitizer without using chemicals

- ❖ The Scientists at the CSIR-IHBT (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology) has developed a new sanitizer without using chemicals.
- ❖ The scientists have used active tea constituents, alcohol and have developed the sanitizer according to the guidelines of World Health Organization.
- ❖ Usually chemicals such as triclosan, parabens, phthalates and synthetic fragrance are used in the production of sanitizers.
- ❖ None of these chemicals have been used in producing the CSIR formulated sanitizer.

First COVID -19 vaccine trial

- ❖ The United States of America began the first human trial evaluating COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ The vaccine was developed by a private firm called Moderna.

- ❖ During the trial phase, it is to be studied if the vaccines are safe and whether they stimulate the immune system of humans to create antibodies to stop COVID-19.
- ❖ The vaccine has been synthesized from a stretch of RNA embedded in a lipid nano particle.
- ❖ India contributes only 2.7% of global clinical trials.
- ❖ On the other hand, the US contributes 47%, followed by EU of 18%, Japan of 11%.
- ❖ In order to improve the situation, India should take active part in platforms like ICTRP of the World Health Organization.
- ❖ The International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) of WHO is a mission aimed to make sure a complete view of research is accessible to those who are involved in health care trials.

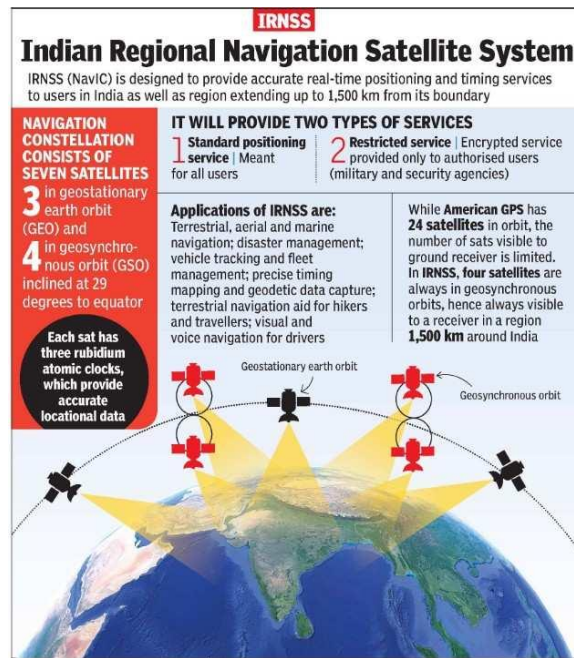


Testing of Corona Virus by private sector

- ❖ The Government of India has opened testing of Corona Virus to private sector.
- ❖ The price of testing is to range between Rs 9,000 and Rs 12,000.
- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is to establish 51 testing centres apart from the private sector operated ones.
- ❖ These centres are to be authorized by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL).

NAVIC Messaging System

- ❖ The Department of Space reported at the Parliament that ISRO has designed NAVIC messaging system and receiver.
- ❖ The system is currently used by the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information system (INCOIS).
- ❖ The system is used to broadcast emergency warning messages in cases such as tsunami, cyclone, high waves.
- ❖ The NAVIC is Navigation in Indian Constellation.
- ❖ It is an Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) developed by ISRO.
- ❖ There are 8 satellites in the constellation.
- ❖ The main objective of NAVIC is to provide continuous surveillance of the Indian sub-continent.



Hemostat

- ❖ Scientists at the INST (Institute of Nano Science and Technology), that operates under the Department of Science & Technology, have developed starch based 'Hemostat'.
- ❖ The starch-based 'hemostat' are developed to stop rapid blood loss during accidents, as it physically absorbs excess fluid and concentrates the natural clotting factors in blood.



- ❖ The product possesses increased absorption capacity, improved absorption, inexpensive and is biodegradable.
- ❖ Hemostats are surgical tools that are used to control bleeding.
- ❖ The Institute of Nano Science operates under Department of Science and Technology.
- ❖ It was established under the National Mission of Nano Science and Technology or NANO mission.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

- ❖ On March 17, 2020, Bangladesh celebrated 100th birth anniversary of “Jatir Pita” Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.
- ❖ PM Modi participated in the celebrations through video conferencing.

About

- ❖ Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a Bangladeshi politician.
- ❖ He is called the father of Bangladesh.
- ❖ He was the first president of Bangladesh.
- ❖ Later he served as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh between 1971 and 1975.
- ❖ He was assassinated in 1975.
- ❖ He founded Awami League in 1949.
- ❖ His daughter Sheikh Hasina is the current leader of the Awami League and also the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

