

May - 10

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Mustafa Kadhimi has become Iraq's new Prime Minister.
  - Earlier, Adel Abdul Mahdi resigned in November 2019 due to massive anti-government protests.
- ❖ The Supreme Court has held that the cooperative banks involved in the activities related to banking are covered within the meaning of 'banking company'.
  - In this regard, the Parliament of India has legislative competence to provide for procedure for recovery of loan under the Sarfaesi Act, 2002.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government has allowed the 12-hour shift for workers in factories across the state until June 30.
  - The decision has been taken in the wake of factories facing the labour shortage as migrant workers have headed back to their homes.
- ❖ The Sanjivani Application was developed by Ministry of AYUSH.
  - It will help in studying the impacts of AYUSH based interventions in preventing COVID-19.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government decided to increase the retirement age of its staff from 58 and 59.
  - It will also apply to all teachers in government and government-aided schools and colleges, and in State public sector undertakings.
- ❖ The United Nations Environment Programme extended the term of actress Dia Mirza as the Goodwill ambassador of India till 2022.

## NATIONAL

### Internet penetration in India

- ❖ The Internet and Mobile Association of India recently released a report.
- ❖ According to the report, the active internet users in rural India (227 Million) have increased by 10% as compared to that of urban India (205 Million).
- ❖ In terms of Internet penetration, India (40%) lagged behind US (88%) and China (61%).
- ❖ The female internet users were higher than that of the male internet users.
- ❖ Among states, Delhi topped in internet penetration followed by Kerala.

## Internet Usage in India

- ❖ Kantar, the world's leading data, insights and consulting company released its ICUBE 2019 report on digital adoption and usage trends in India.
- ❖ All monthly active Internet users in India use a mobile phone as one of the devices to access the Internet.
- ❖ About 84% of users access the Internet for entertainment purposes.

## Vandhe Bharat Mission

- ❖ The Government of India has begun "Vandhe Bharat Mission".
- ❖ It is considered as one of the biggest evacuation exercise.
- ❖ It aims at bringing stranded Indians from all over the world.
- ❖ The entire Vandhe Bharat Mission is to be led by Air India.



## INTERNATIONAL

### Iran's new currency

- ❖ It is set to be re-named and re-valued.
- ❖ Iran's money will soon likely be called the Toman.
- ❖ The present unit of Iranian currency is Rial.
- ❖ Now one Toman will be 10,000 rials.
- ❖ It marks the reduction of four zeroes in the rial.
- ❖ Gheran is another new denomination.

- ❖ 100 Gheran makes a Toman.



## **ECONOMY**

### **Advisories to Fisheries Sector**

- ❖ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) released advisories to fisheries sector in 12 languages.
- ❖ Apart from Hindi and English, advisories were issued in 10 regional languages.
- ❖ These were prepared and issued by ICAR-CIFRI (Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute), Barrackpore.
- ❖ The advisories for fisheries sector have become part of FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) global guidelines.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Corona virus - in vitro Testing**

- ❖ In India, the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad is the only centre to pool samples of COVID-19 in the country.
- ❖ Pooling of samples is the process of collecting the virus samples.
- ❖ The CCMB in Hyderabad has collaborated with Eyestem Research Private Limited, a Bengaluru based company.
- ❖ It is for an attempt to grow novel coronavirus in human cells that will enable vitro testing of potential vaccines or drugs for the virus.
- ❖ The team will use Eyestem's human lung epithelial cell culture system

- ❖ It will help in understanding the pathological and molecular characteristics of COVID-19.
- ❖ The test which will be performed in vitro (in glass) means that it will be done outside the living organism which will involve isolated tissues, cells, or organs.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Vizag Gas Tragedy

- ❖ Styrene Gas was leaked from the South Korean Firm LG Polymers Plant in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Styrene is a chemical compound that has been identified as neuro-toxins.
- ❖ It is also known as ethenylbenzene, vinylbenzene, and phenylethene.
- ❖ It has chemical formula of  $C_6H_5CH=CH_2$ .
- ❖ Styrene Gas is a colour-less and odour-less compound.
- ❖ Styrene Gas is a by-product of highly flammable raw material Styrene.
- ❖ Styrene is used as a raw material for making products that are commonly used in electric fan blades, cups and cutlery.
- ❖ It is a flammable liquid that is used in the manufacturing of polystyrene plastics, fiberglass, rubber, and latex.
- ❖ It is also found in vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke, and in natural foods like fruits and vegetables.





## STATES

### **Labor Laws in Uttar Pradesh**

- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Government passed an ordinance to suspend labour laws in the state for three years.
- ❖ However, the ordinance does not include Building and other Construction Workers Act, Bonded Labor Act, Workmen Compensation Act and Payment Wages Act.
- ❖ Labour is a Concurrent subject.
- ❖ Therefore, both centre and state governments shall frame their own laws.
- ❖ However, approval of central government is required.

