

May - 11

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Himanta Biswa Sarma has been named as the 15th Chief Minister of Assam.
  - He will replace the incumbent Sarbananda Sonowal.
- ❖ Every year during May 8-9, the United Nations marks the Time of Remembrance and reconciliation for those who lost their lives during the Second World War.
  - The day pays tribute to all the victims of the Second World War and this year is the 76th Anniversary of World War II.

## TAMIL NADU

### COVID-19 War Room

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government announced the names of six nodal officers to the Unified Command Centre (UCC) that will function as the COVID-19 War Room.
- ❖ Darez Ahamed, Executive Director, Guidance, will head the UCC and will be in charge of overall co-ordination of the command centre.
- ❖ K. Nanthakumar, Secretary, TNPSC, will be the nodal officer for State oxygen monitoring and emergency response.
- ❖ Mr. Nanthakumar will co-ordinate with the Tamil Nadu Medical Supplies Corporation on all issues related to liquid medical oxygen and liaise with private hospitals for their oxygen requirements.
- ❖ Dr. S. Uma, Additional Collector (development), will be the nodal officer for bed management in both government and private hospitals.
- ❖ Dr. S. Vineet, Joint Managing Director, TANGEDCO, will be the nodal officer for field inspection of all empanelled and non-empanelled private medical college hospitals in and around Chennai.
- ❖ He will be assisted by R. Ishwarya, Assistant Collector, Vellore, and Anamika Ramesh, Collector, Tiruvallur.
- ❖ K.P. Karthikeyan, Executive Director, TIDCO, will be the nodal officer for major Government Medical Colleges (dedicate COVID-19 hospitals) and other dedicated COVID-19 hospitals in and around Chennai.
- ❖ R. Alagumeena, General Manager, TANFINET, will be the nodal officer for maintaining quality and responsiveness of the War Room.

## Important Appointments in TN

- ❖ V Irai Anbu, IAS has been appointed Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary.
- ❖ The DMK government also appointed IAS officer Shilpa Prabhakar Satish to head a special division that would take steps to redress within 100 days the grievances of people.
- ❖ Senior IAS officer from the 1993 batch, Gagandeep Singh Bedi, has been appointed as the Chennai Corporation Commissioner.
- ❖ R Shanmugasundaram is the new advocate-general of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ He is a veteran prosecutor who served as state public prosecutor from 1996 to 2001.

### Four new secretaries

- ❖ Tamil Nadu government posted four IAS officers as new secretaries to the Chief Minister MK Stalin.
- ❖ The officers are T Udhayachandran, Commissioner of Archaeology posted as Secretary I;
- ❖ P Umanath, Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation as Secretary II;
- ❖ MS Shanmugam, Commissioner of Museums as Secretary III and
- ❖ Anu George, Industries Commissioner and Director of Industries and Commerce as Secretary IV.

## NATIONAL

### 2-DG oral drug



**DCGI approves anti-COVID drug developed by DRDO for emergency use**

- The drug 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) has been developed by DRDO in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL)
- The drug will help in faster recovery of hospitalised patients and reduce supplemental oxygen dependence

- ❖ The 2-DG was developed by the Defence Research Development Organisation for Emergency Use.
- ❖ 2-DG is 2-Deoxy – D – Glucose.
- ❖ It was developed in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories.
- ❖ The DGCI has granted permission for emergency use of the drug in moderate to severe COVID-19 patients.

### **Model Insurance Villages**

- ❖ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has come out with the concept of Model Insurance Villages (MIV).
- ❖ The idea behind the MIV concept is to offer comprehensive insurance protection to all the major insurable risks that villagers are exposed to and make available covers at affordable or subsidised cost.
- ❖ Such MIVs are expected to tackle losses due to natural calamities like floods and earthquakes.
- ❖ There's no catastrophe insurance in India now.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **WHO approves Sinopharm**



- ❖ The World Health Organisation recently approved the Emergency Use of Sinopharm vaccine.
- ❖ Recently, the WHO approved COVID-19 vaccines developed by AstraZeneca, Pfizer, BioNTech, Johnson and Johnson as well.

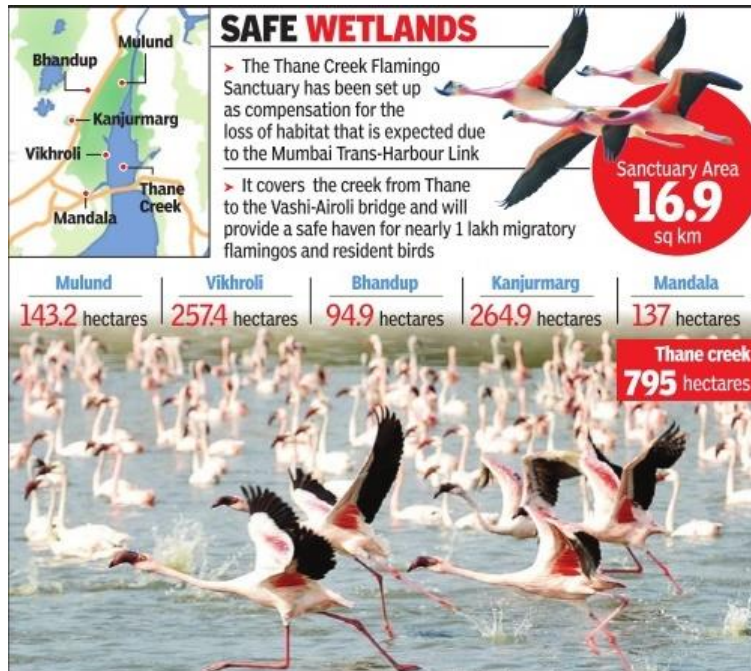
- ❖ Sinopharm vaccine was developed by China.
- ❖ This is the first time the WHO has given approval to a Chinese vaccine.
- ❖ It is also a sign that Sinopharm vaccine might be allowed to be included in COVAX programme.
- ❖ According to WHO, the efficacy of Sinopharm vaccine is 79%.
- ❖ The other popular Chinese Vaccine is sinovac.

### India, Israel and UAE trilateral agreement

- ❖ An Israel-based company 'Ecoppia' is set to produce robotic solar cleaning technology in India for a project in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ❖ The project will take place through the Trilateral cooperation agreement between Israel, India, and UAE.
- ❖ This is the 1st of its kind between the 3 countries.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary as ESZ



- ❖ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change recently notified 48.32 square kilo metres around Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary as the Eco Sensitive Zone.

- ❖ Eco Sensitive Zones act as a buffer zone for protected areas.
- ❖ They are economically fragile areas in a radius of ten kilometres around the national parks, protected areas and wildlife sanctuaries.
- ❖ They reduce development pressures around national park or wildlife sanctuary.

## **PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS**

### **Kami Rita Sherpa**

- ❖ A 52-year-old Nepali Climber Kami Rita Sherpa climbed the world's highest peak, Mt Everest, for the 25th time.
- ❖ He breaks his own record for summiting the mountain most number of times.
- ❖ Kami had climbed Mt Everest for the 24th time in 2019.
- ❖ Kami had climbed Mt Everest for the first time in May 1994.



## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day - May 08**

- ❖ The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is observed every year to celebrate the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- ❖ It is observed to reduce the suffering of people and enabling them to lead a dignified life with independence, humanity, impartiality, universality, unity and neutrality.
- ❖ Theme 2021 World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day: 'Unstoppable'
- ❖ The day also marks the anniversary of the birth of Henry Dunant (8 May 1828).

- ❖ Henry Dunant was the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- ❖ He was the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize.
- ❖ The Headquarters of ICRC is in Geneva, Switzerland.



### World Thalassaemia Day - May 08



- ❖ World Thalassaemia Day is celebrated every year to commemorate Thalassaemia victims and to encourage those who struggle to live with the disease.
- ❖ The theme for 2021 World Thalassaemia Day is “Addressing Health Inequalities Across the Global Thalassaemia Community”.
- ❖ Thalassaemia is an inherited blood disorder that is characterised by less haemoglobin and lesser than normal blood cells.



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