

May - 21

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India observed National Dengue Day on May 16 as suggested by the Union Health Ministry to create awareness about the disease.
- ❖ The National Disaster Management Authority launched the National Migrant Information System.
  - It is a central online repository for the migrant workers.
- ❖ The scientists of Advanced Research Centre for powder metallurgy and new materials along with Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences (SCTIMST) have developed new biodegradable implant.
  - The implants were developed from Iron-Manganese alloy.
- ❖ Recently, Pakistan signed a contract with China Power firm for the construction of the Diamer-Bhasha dam.
  - It is located on the Indus River in northern Pakistan between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit Baltistan.
- ❖ The Madurai Railway Junction recently got ISO-14001 certification (International Organization for Standardization) for better service.
  - ISO 14001 is the international standard that specifies requirements for an effective environmental management system (EMS).
- ❖ United States President Donald Trump announced that the US will donate ventilators to India.
- ❖ Germany's Bundesliga has become the world's first major sports competition to resume its season post nationwide lockdown imposed to contain coronavirus pandemic.
  - The Bundesliga, means "Federal League", is the primary football league in Germany.
- ❖ US investment firm General Atlantic will be acquiring 1.34% stake in Reliance Jio for around Rs 6600 crore on a fully diluted basis.
  - This is the 4th largest investment in Jio platform in last 30 days following the deals done by Facebook, Silver Lake and Vista Equity Partners.
- ❖ A new species has just been discovered using a Twitter image and thus has been named as Troglomyces twitteri.
  - It belongs to an order called Laboulbeniales - a type of parasitic fungus.



- ❖ The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has released a report, in its official newsletter called Nyaya Deep, on number of under trials released during the lockdown period.
  - The highest number of under trial prisoners released was 9,977 in Uttar Pradesh, followed by 5,460 in Rajasthan and 4,547 in Tamil Nadu, 3,698 in Punjab and 3,400 in Maharashtra.

## **NATIONAL**

### **5th tranche of Atma Nirbhar Bharat package**

- ❖ With the announcement of the final tranche, the overall stimulus provided by the Package amounts to Rs 20,97,053 crore.

#### **Health**

- ❖ To prepare India for future pandemics.
- ❖ Government will be setting up of infectious diseases hospital blocks in all districts.
- ❖ Integrated public health labs will also be set up in the districts.
- ❖ National Institutional Platform for health will be established by ICMR
- ❖ National Digital Health Blueprint will also be implemented.

#### **Education**

- ❖ PM eVIDYA - A programme for multi-mode access to digital/online education will be launched immediately.
- ❖ It is to be launched to unify the efforts related to online education.
- ❖ It will include two major initiatives namely “One Nation One Digital Platform” and “One Class One Channel”.
- ❖ Manodarpan: An initiative for psychosocial support of students, teachers and families for mental health and emotional wellbeing will be launched
- ❖ National Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Mission for ensuring that every child attains learning levels and outcomes in Grade 5 by 2025 will also be launched by December 2020.

#### **State Finances**

- ❖ States net borrowing ceiling for 2020-21 is Rs. 6.41 lakh crores, based on 3% of GSDP.
- ❖ Now the borrowing limits of States increased from 3% to 5%, for 2020-21.
- ❖ The Part of the borrowing will be linked to specified reforms.

- ❖ The reforms include universalisation of 'One Nation One Ration card', improving ease of doing business, power distribution reforms and streamlining urban local body revenues.

### Public Sector Enterprises

- ❖ A list of strategic sectors requiring presence of PSEs in public interest will be notified.
- ❖ In strategic sectors, at least one enterprise will remain in the public sector but private sector will also be allowed.

### Others

- ❖ Swayam Prabha DTH channels to support and reach those who do not have access to the internet.

**Final dose**  
The fifth tranche of the economic package under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan was announced on Sunday

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| <b>Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Public spending to be increased; more health and wellness centres</li><li>Infectious diseases hospitals and public health labs to be set up in all districts</li></ul>                    | <b>States</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Borrowing ceiling raised from ₹6,41 lakh crore (3% of GSDP) to ₹10,69 lakh crore</li><li>Only a quarter of this hike is unconditional; rest are linked to reforms in specified areas</li></ul>               |
| <b>Disinvestment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Public sector firms in non-strategic sectors to be privatised</li><li>No more than four public sector undertakings to remain in 'strategic' sectors; to be notified soon</li></ul> | <b>Unemployment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MGNREGS allocation hiked by ₹40,000 crore to fund 300 crore person days</li><li>Aimed at giving migrants who have returned home an income option</li></ul>   |
|   | <b>Industry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fresh insolvency proceedings suspended for a year, eligible loan size to be hiked from ₹1 lakh to ₹1 crore</li><li>COVID-19 related debt not to trigger defaults; firms can list abroad directly</li></ul> |

### **61st cavalry**

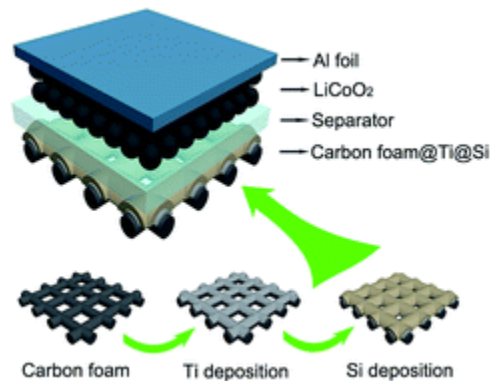
- ❖ The Indian Army is to convert the 61st cavalry into a regular armoured regiment with tanks.
- ❖ It is the only horse serving cavalry in the world.
- ❖ This is largely a ceremonial unit based in Jaipur.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Light Carbon Foam

- ❖ The researcher from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed light carbon foam that will replace lead batteries.
- ❖ The carbon foam is easy to fabricate, non-toxic and affordable.
- ❖ It is also useful to make heat sink, electromagnetic interference shielding in aerospace, electrode for lead-acid batteries, hydrogen storage and water purification systems.
- ❖ The Carbon foams are porous.
- ❖ The pores in the batteries help increase efficiency.





## **Super Earth**

- ❖ The scientists from New Zealand have discovered the “Super Earth”.
- ❖ It potentially holds the conditions to sustain human life.
- ❖ It is one of the handful of planets discovered that are of the same size and orbiting distance as that of the earth.
- ❖ The planet is larger than the earth and hence the name “Super Earth”.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World AIDS Vaccine Day - May 18**

- ❖ It was observed on May 18, 1998 to commemorate the anniversary of Clinton’s speech.
- ❖ Exactly one year ago, on May 18, 1997, the then United States president Bill Clinton had asserted upon the importance of creating a vaccine for the deadly disease.
- ❖ The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) commemorate World AIDS Vaccine Day or HIV Virus Awareness Day.



### **International Museum Day - May 18**

- ❖ It is coordinated by the International Council of Museums (ICOM).
- ❖ The theme for this year is "Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion."



**SHANKAR**  
**IAS ACADEMY**  
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**TNPSC THERVU PETTAGAM**  
*Information is a Blessing*  
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

**ICOM** international  
council  
of museums

Museums for Equality:  
Diversity and Inclusion

INTERNATIONAL  
MUSEUM DAY

**18**  
may 2020

