

November - 20

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The First Solar Powered Textile mill in Asia is to come up in Parbhani district, Maharashtra.
- ❖ The World Bank and DIPAM (Department of Investment and Public Asset Management) signed an agreement.
  - Under the agreement, the World Bank is to advise DIPAM on asset monetisation.
- ❖ Japan and Australia are to sign the “Reciprocal Access Agreement” to counter the growing influence of China in the South China sea and in the Pacific Island Nations.
  - This is the first agreement of Japan to allow foreign military presence in its sovereign territory since 1960.
- ❖ The Peruvian President Manuel Merino was forced out of power.
- ❖ Vietnam, the chair of Asean 2020, virtually hosted the 37th Asean Summit

## INTERNATIONAL

### Tristan da Cunha



- ❖ It was recently declared the largest fully protected marine reserves in the Atlantic Ocean.
- ❖ It is an UK Overseas Territory.
- ❖ It is located at 6,000 miles from London in the South Atlantic Ocean.
- ❖ It is inhabited by less than 300 humans.



- ❖ The waters around the island are having the rich biodiversity in the world.
- ❖ The island will become largest no-take zone in the Atlantic Ocean after joining Blue Belt programme of UK.

### **Puerto Rico**

- ❖ For the third time in ten years, the United States territory of Puerto Rico has voted in favour of statehood.
- ❖ It demands to be treated at par with the other 50 states of USA.
- ❖ Puerto Ricans also cannot vote in US Presidential Elections.
- ❖ It is a Spanish-speaking island located in the Caribbean Sea.
- ❖ It was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493.
- ❖ In 1917, Puerto Ricans were granted US citizenship, but the island itself was never made a full state.
- ❖ It continues to remain a “US territory”, along with Guam, North Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the US Virgin Islands.
- ❖ Similarly, Washington, D.C. has also been insisting to become the 51st state of USA.
- ❖ Washington D.C. was created in 1776 on the idea that the national capital should not be a part of any state.

### **12th BRICS Summit**

- ❖ It is hosted by Russia.
- ❖ The theme of this summit “Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth”.
- ❖ The meeting was to be held at St Peterburg in July 2020.

### **Malabar exercise**

- ❖ The second phase of Malabar Exercise is to be held between November 17, 2020 and November 20, 2020 in the Northern Arabian Sea.
- ❖ The first phase of Malabar exercise was held between November 3, 2020 and November 6, 2020 in Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ The Navies of India, Japan, Australia and US are to participate in the second phase of Malabar Exercise.

- ❖ The exercise is important because the four countries together form the QUAD grouping.
- ❖ This is the first time in the decade that the four countries are participating in such a large war-gaming naval exercise.

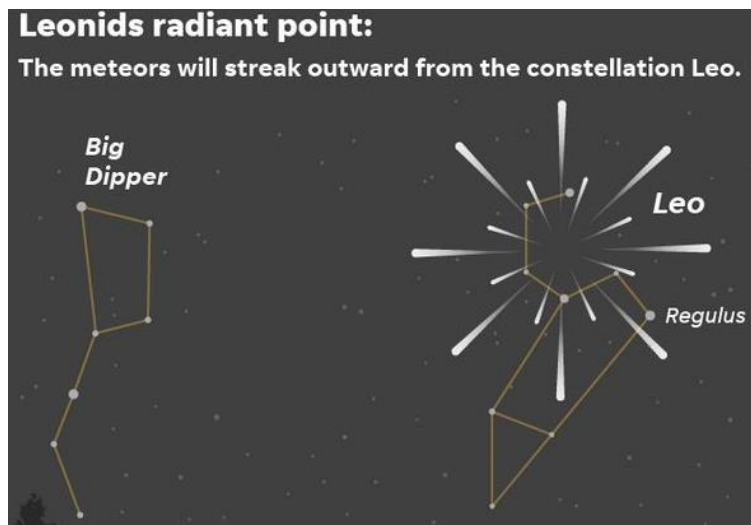
## ECONOMY

### Reserve Bank Innovation Hub

- ❖ The former Co-Chairman of Infosys Kris Gopalakrishnan has been appointed as the first Chairperson of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH).
- ❖ The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub will be creating an ecosystem that will focus on promoting access to financial services and products.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Leonid Meteor Showers



- ❖ The Leonid Meteor Showers reached their peak in India between November 17, 2020 and November 18, 2020.
- ❖ For the year 2020, these showers are active between November 6 and November 30.
- ❖ The Leonids emerge from the comet Tempel-Tuttle.
- ❖ The comet takes 33 years to complete one revolution around the sun.
- ❖ Leonids originate from the constellation Leo.

- ❖ The Leonid meteor showers are bright and are travelling at the speed of 71 km per second.

### **Mission Crew 1**

- ❖ It is the first operational mission under the Commercial Crew Programme of NASA.
- ❖ SpaceX launched four astronauts into the space under Mission Crew 1.
- ❖ The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, which is reusable, was used to launch the spacecraft.
- ❖ The crew named the spacecraft as “Resilience”.
- ❖ The Crew Dragon capsule becomes the first spacecraft to be certified by NASA after 40 years.

### **nCOP2 Vaccine**

- ❖ The World Health Organisation has added this vaccine to its Emergency Use Listings.
- ❖ It was developed by Bio Farma of Indonesia.
- ❖ It has been developed to treat derived polio virus strain.
- ❖ It is the novel oral polio vaccine type 2.
- ❖ The new Emergency Use Listing mechanism was developed by the World Health Organisation.
- ❖ It was in response to the Ebola virus outbreak that occurred between 2014 and 2016.
- ❖ The Vaccine of Bio Farma is the first vaccine to be approved under the list.

## **STATES**

### **Kerala Fibre Optic Network Project**

- ❖ Kerala aims to provide free Internet for poor families, public offices by December.
- ❖ The project seeks to fulfil the government’s aim of making internet access a ‘citizen’s right’.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### Antimicrobial Awareness Week

- ❖ The World Health Organization is to celebrate this Week between November 18, 2020 and November 24, 2020.
- ❖ It is to be celebrated under the theme of United to Preserve antimicrobials.
- ❖ The Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) occurs when parasites, fungi, virus and bacteria no longer respond to medicines.
- ❖ The main issue in India is that the antibiotics enter the food system through livestock.
- ❖ This is more common in dairy and livestock.
- ❖ The antibiotics in India are under the purview of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).

