

November - 23

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Veteran Journalist and News Agency ANI chairman Prem Prakash released his new book "Reporting India".
- ❖ The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that the Women's T20 World Cup has been moved from its current 2022 slot to 2023 at South Africa.
- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled two books 'The Republican Ethic Volume III' and 'Loktantra Ke Swar'.
  - They are collections of selected speeches of President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ❖ Delhi Airport becomes first airport in Asia-Pacific region to get Level 4+ carbon accreditation.

## NATIONAL

### Lilavati Awards

- ❖ The Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokriyal 'Nishank' inaugurated the Lilavati Awards.
- ❖ The award is an initiative of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).
- ❖ It aims to recognise the efforts of AICTE affiliated institutions in treating women.
- ❖ These are to be presented based on the theme of women empowerment.
- ❖ The award has been named after the 12th century book called "Lilavati".
- ❖ The book was written by the mathematician Bhaskara II.
- ❖ Lilavati was the daughter of Indian Mathematician Bhaskara II of 12th Century.
- ❖ The prize was handed out for the first time at the International Congress of Mathematicians that was held in 2010.

### Bengaluru Tech Summit 2020

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated this summit.
- ❖ He stated that it is time for tech-solutions that are "Designed in India but Deployed for the World."
- ❖ The theme of this Summit is "Next is Now".



## INTERNATIONAL

### USA and Paris Agreement

- ❖ President-elect Joe Biden has publicly stated that the United States would seek to rejoin the Paris Agreement.
- ❖ The 2015 Paris Agreement seeks to keep the rise in global temperatures to within 2°C compared to pre-industrial times.
- ❖ The US still is the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world, after China.

### Bloomberg New Economy Forum

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered an address at the third Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum.
- ❖ It was established in 2018 by Michael Bloomberg.

### Global Strategy to Accelerate the Elimination of Cervical Cancer

- ❖ During the 73rd World Health Assembly, on November 17, 2020, the World Health Organization released this report.
- ❖ It aims to reduce more than 40% of new cases by 2050.
- ❖ For the first time, the WHO commits to eliminate cervical cancer globally.
- ❖ Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer among women in the world.
- ❖ India accounts to one-fourth of world cervical cancer deaths.

### World's Best Cities 2021



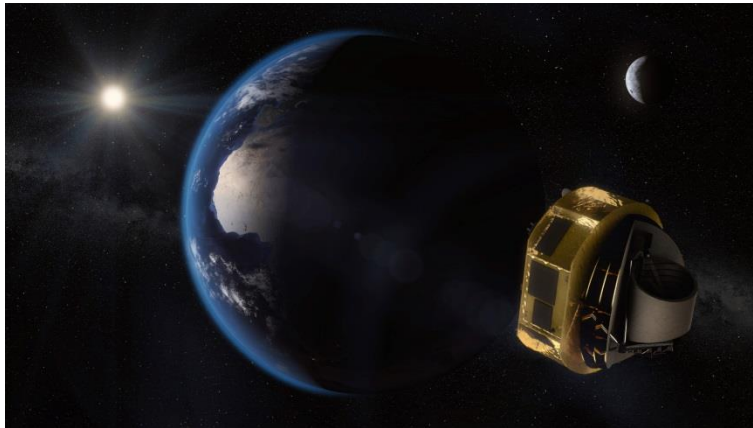
- ❖ It was released by Resonance Consultancy Ltd of Canada.
- ❖ India has only one representative on the list.

- ❖ Delhi is ranked 62 on the list.
- ❖ London is at the top of the list for the 6th consecutive year.
- ❖ It is followed by New York, Paris, Moscow and Tokyo.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Ariel Space Mission

- ❖ The European Space Agency (ESA) has formally adopted Ariel.
- ❖ Ariel means Atmospheric Remote-sensing Infrared Exoplanet Large-survey.
- ❖ It will be launched in 2029.
- ❖ It will perform a large-scale survey of over a thousand exoplanets over a period of four years.



### Phase III trial for COVAXIN

- ❖ Bharat Biotech announced the start of the third phase of clinical trials for COVAXIN.
- ❖ It will be the largest clinical trial conducted for the vaccine of Coronavirus in India.
- ❖ It is also approved by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).
- ❖ It will be conducted in partnership with ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research).
- ❖ COVAXIN is India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ It has been developed by Bharat Biotech in collaboration with the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).



- ❖ It is developed and manufactured in the BSL-3 (Bio-Safety Level 3) biocontainment facility of Bharat Biotech.
- ❖ It is manufactured in a Vero cell manufacturing platform.

### **mRNA**

- ❖ The Moderna biotech firm of United States is developing COVID-19 vaccine using messenger RNA or mRNA.
- ❖ It is to be noted that mRNA has not been approved for any disease so far.
- ❖ Both Moderna and Pfizer companies use mRNA technology in their vaccines.
- ❖ This is the first time the technology is being used in generating a vaccine.
- ❖ The mRNA sequence has been coded with spike protein of COVID-19 virus.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Deemed Forests**

- ❖ The State Government of Karnataka will soon declassify 6.64 lakh hectares out of 9.94 lakh hectares from the deemed forests category in the state.
- ❖ The States in India have full liberty in defining the deemed forest.
- ❖ Deemed Forests are land tracts that appear to be forest but have not been notified as forest in historical records or government records.
- ❖ The deemed forests comprise 1% of forest land in India.
- ❖ According to Forest Conservation Act, 1980, the preservation of forest areas is continuously monitored by the Supreme Court of India.
- ❖ In 1996, the Supreme Court in the Godavarman case ordered the states to identify and classify deemed forests.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **Africa Industrialization Day – November 20**

- ❖ It was established in 1989 by the UN General Assembly within the framework of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000).
- ❖ It is a symbol of geological portrayal of the mainland, including the island of Madagascar.
- ❖ The 2020 theme is “Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the AfCFTA and COVID-19 era”.

- ❖ On 21 March 2018 in Kigali, Rwanda, the Agreement establishing an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was signed,
- ❖ It is to create a single African market for goods and services and the world's largest free trade area by number of countries.

