



October - 27

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ The Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched CuRED (CSIR Ushered Repurposed Drugs).
- ❖ The Financial Action Task Force voted for Pakistan to remain under “grey list” of the organisation.
- ❖ The NITI Aayog recently constituted a 14-member panel to reform the urban planning education system.
  - The panel is to be headed by Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog.

## **NATIONAL**

### **Election Expenditure Committee**

- ❖ The Election Commission has constituted a committee to examine issues concerning campaign expenditure limits for a candidate in the view of an increase in the number of electors and a rise in the Cost Inflation Index.
- ❖ The committee will comprise two members- former IRS and DG (Investigation) Harish Kumar and Secretary-General and DG (Expenditure) Umesh Sinha.

### **Ayushman Sahakar**

- ❖ It is a scheme to assist cooperatives play an important role in creation of healthcare infrastructure in the country.
- ❖ It was launched by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), an autonomous development finance institution under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

### **Heeng Cultivation**

- ❖ Scientists at CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource, Palampur (IHBT), are on a mission to grow heeng in the Indian Himalayas.
- ❖ The first sapling has been planted in Himachal Pradesh’s Kwaring village in Lahaul valley recently.
- ❖ Asafoetida or Heeng is endemic to Iran and Afghanistan.
- ❖ Heeng is not cultivated in India.
- ❖ Heeng is currently imported from Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Iran.

- ❖ It is very popular in India and is used in cooking.

## INTERNATIONAL

### India and ILO

- ❖ India has assumed the chairmanship of International Labour Organization (ILO) after 35 years.
- ❖ India is one of the founding members of ILO.
- ❖ It was created in 1919 under Treaty of Versailles and became a specialized agency in 1946.

### SLINEX 20

- ❖ The 8th edition of the annual Indian Navy (IN) and Sri Lankan Navy (SLN) bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX-20 held at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka.
- ❖ The previous edition of SLINEX was conducted off in Vishakhapatnam, India in September 2019.
- ❖ It is in agreement with India's 'neighbourhood first' policy and PM Modi's vision of 'Security and Growth for all the Region'- SAGAR.

### Sudan and Israel



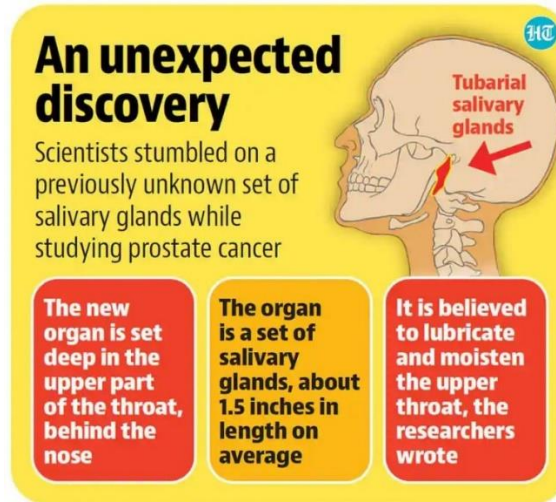
Note: Israel has diplomatic relations with more than 160 countries.  
Sources: Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WSJ and news reports

- ❖ Sudan became the third country to join the UAE and Bahrain in recognizing Israel.
- ❖ The United States recently brokered pacts between Israel with UAE and Bahrain.

- ❖ After UAE, Bahrain became the fourth country to sign a peace deal with Israel.
- ❖ Egypt was the first country to recognize Israel.
- ❖ Following Egypt, Jordan recognized Israel.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Tubarial salivary glands



- ❖ They were discovered recently by Scientists in the Netherlands
- ❖ They are a set of salivary glands deep in the upper part of the throat.
- ❖ The glands probably lubricate and moisten the upper throat behind the nose and mouth.
- ❖ The discovery may be important for cancer treatment.
- ❖ Until now, there were three known large salivary glands in humans:
  - Under the tongue,
  - Under the jaw and back of the jaw,
  - Behind the cheek.

### INS Kavaratti

- ❖ It is an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) ship to be commissioned into the Indian Navy at Naval Dockyard, Vishakhapatnam.
- ❖ It is built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata
- ❖ It is the last of four indigenously-built ASW under 'Project 28' or Kamorta-class corvettes of the Navy.

- ❖ The other three warships under this project are INS Kamorta (commissioned in 2014), INS Kadmatt (2016) and INS Kiltan (2017).



## STATES

### Evidence of River at Thar Desert

- ❖ The researchers from Anna University, IISER Kolkata and Max Planck Institute of Germany have found that the population of stone age lived in a different landscape in Thar desert.
- ❖ The researchers have found a lost river in the central Thar desert.
- ❖ The river would have supported populations of Paleolithic era.

### Country's first multi-modal logistic park



- ❖ The Country's first-ever multi-modal logistic park will be built in Assam.

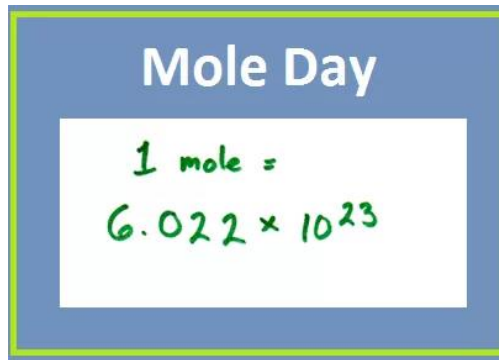


- ❖ It will be developed under the ambitious Bharatmala Pariyojana of the Government of India.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### National Mole Day - October 23

- ❖ It is celebrated every year on 23 October from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m.
- ❖ The theme of Mole Day 2020 is 'MOLEzilla!'
- ❖ The day commemorates Avogadro's Number ( $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ ).
- ❖ It is a basic unit of measuring in chemistry.
- ❖ It is to define the number of particles present in a single mole of any substance.
- ❖ Mole is one of all the seven base SI units.



### International Snow Leopard Day - October 23

- ❖ Snow Leopard is called Man's Best Friend.
- ❖ The first International Snow Leopard Day was celebrated in 2014.
- ❖ It was proclaimed at the first Global Snow Leopard Forum held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- ❖ Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Programme was initiated by Kyrgyzstan Government.
- ❖ The programme secures 20 snow leopard landscapes under the "Secure 20 by 2020" initiative.
- ❖ India is a signatory of the programme.
- ❖ The other countries that have signed the programme are China, Uzbekistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Bhutan, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- ❖ All these countries are in the Snow Leopard ranges.

- ❖ These countries signed the Bishek Declaration
- ❖ The year 2015 was declared as the International Year of Snow Leopard.
- ❖ India has 10% of global snow leopard population.
- ❖ It is listed in Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in India.
- ❖ Project Snow Leopard was launched in 2009 in India.
- ❖ The project was launched in states where the population of snow leopard are found.
- ❖ They are Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

