

September - 19

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Harivansh was re-elected as 12th Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha.
  - He holding this post from 2018.

## NATIONAL

### Aircraft Amendment Bill, 2020

- ❖ Lok Sabha has passed the Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020 which seeks to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934.
- ❖ The Act regulates the manufacture, possession, use, operation, sale, import and export of civil aircrafts and licensing of aerodromes.
- ❖ The Bill will provide statutory status to regulatory institutions like
  - The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA),
  - The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and
  - The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).
- ❖ DGCA will carry out oversight and regulatory functions with respect to matters under the Bill.
- ❖ BCAS carries out regulatory oversight functions related to civil aviation security.
- ❖ AAIB carries out investigations related to aircraft accidents and incidents.
- ❖ The statutory status to these regulatory institutions would improve India's aviation safety ranking as suggested by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- ❖ The Act exempted aircrafts belonging to the naval, military, or air forces of the Union.

### Shweta Kapila cows

- ❖ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) – National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) declared Shweta Kapila cows as Goan breed.
- ❖ These cows are found in Valpoi, Saakeri and some other regions in Goa.
- ❖ The Shweta Kapila cows are known for the nutritional value of their A2 rich milk.



## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **India's membership in UN's ECOSOC body**

- ❖ India & Afghanistan has been elected as a member of the United Nation's Commission on Status of Women, a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- ❖ Both countries will be a member of United Nation's Commission on Status of Women for four years, 2021 to 2025.

### **ECOSOC**

- ❖ The Economic and Social Council is at the heart of the United Nations system to advance the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.
- ❖ It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals.

### **Djibouti Code of Conduct Observer**

- ❖ India has joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct/ Jeddah Amendment as Observer.
- ❖ It is a grouping on maritime matters comprising 19 member states adjoining the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, the East Coast of Africa and Island countries in the Indian Ocean Region.
- ❖ India has joined Japan, Norway, the UK and the US as Observers to the group.
- ❖ The Djibouti Code of Conduct is a regional maritime security cooperation agreement established by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in 2008.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

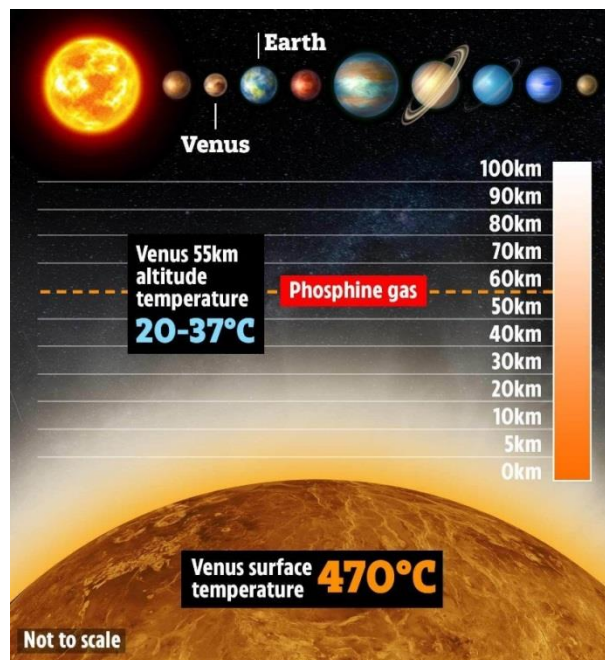
### **Phosphine Gas in Venus**

- ❖ A team of international scientists have detected traces of phosphine gas in the atmosphere of Venus.
- ❖ On Earth, phosphine is produced by bacteria thriving in oxygen-starved environments.
- ❖ So, the detection indicates the possibility of the presence of lifeforms on Venus.

- ❖ Phosphine also arises non-biologically in certain industrial settings.
- ❖ It was used as a chemical weapon during World War I.
- ❖ Phosphine is still manufactured as an agricultural fumigant.
- ❖ It is used in the semiconductor industry, and is a by-product of meth labs.

### Venus

- ❖ Venus is Earth's closest planetary neighbour.
- ❖ It is also known as earth's twin.
- ❖ Similar in structure but slightly it is smaller than Earth.
- ❖ It is the second planet from the sun.
- ❖ It is the hottest planet in the solar system.
- ❖ It has atmospheric pressure more than 90 times what's felt on Earth's surface.



## STATES

### **My Family, My Responsibility campaign**

- ❖ Maharashtra has launched a state-wide campaign titled, 'My Family, My Responsibility', to curb the spread of coronavirus pandemic.
- ❖ The campaign will be conducted in two phases.
- ❖ The campaign will aim to achieve effective health care education for the control of Covid-19 outbreak.

### **Tripura's First Ever SEZ**

- ❖ First-ever Special Economic Zone (SEZ) was laid to foundation stone by the Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb at Sabroom.
- ❖ Sabroom is the southernmost town of the state bordering Bangladesh.
- ❖ It would emerge as the commercial capital of the Northeast.
- ❖ An integrated check post will be set up for the movement of passengers and goods.

## **SPORTS**

### **US Open 2020**

- ❖ The 2020 US Open was the 140th edition of tennis' US Open and the second Grand Slam event of the year.
- ❖ Austria's Dominic Thiem defeated Alexander Zverev of Germany to win the men's singles title.
- ❖ It was Thiem's first Grand Slam title.
- ❖ Japan's Naomi Osaka defeated Victoria Azarenka of Belarus to clinch the Women's Singles title.
- ❖ This is the third Grand Slam title for Osaka.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

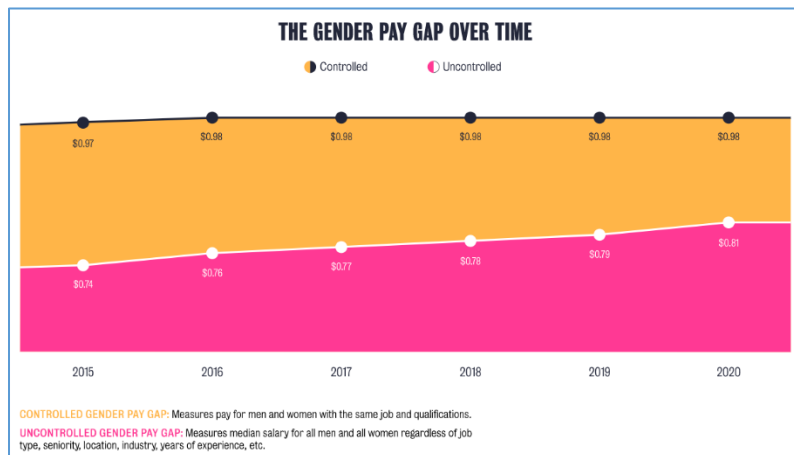
### World Patient Safety Day - September 17

- ❖ World Patient Safety Day was established by the 72nd World Health Assembly, in May 2019.
- ❖ The objectives of the day are to increase public awareness and engagement, enhance global understanding, and spur global solidarity and action to promote patient safety.
- ❖ Theme of this year is Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety



### International Equal Pay Day - September 18

- ❖ The day is intended to promote further action towards the achievement of equal pay for work of equal value.
- ❖ On November 15, 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming September 18 as International Equal Pay Day.



## World Water Monitoring Day - September 18

- ❖ World Water Monitoring Day was established in 2003 by America's Clean Water Foundation.
- ❖ The day aims to empower the citizens to conduct basic checking of their local water bodies.

