

September - 25

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ State Bank of India and Titan Company have partnered to launch contactless payment services through watches, called Titan Pay.

NATIONAL

Suspension of MP

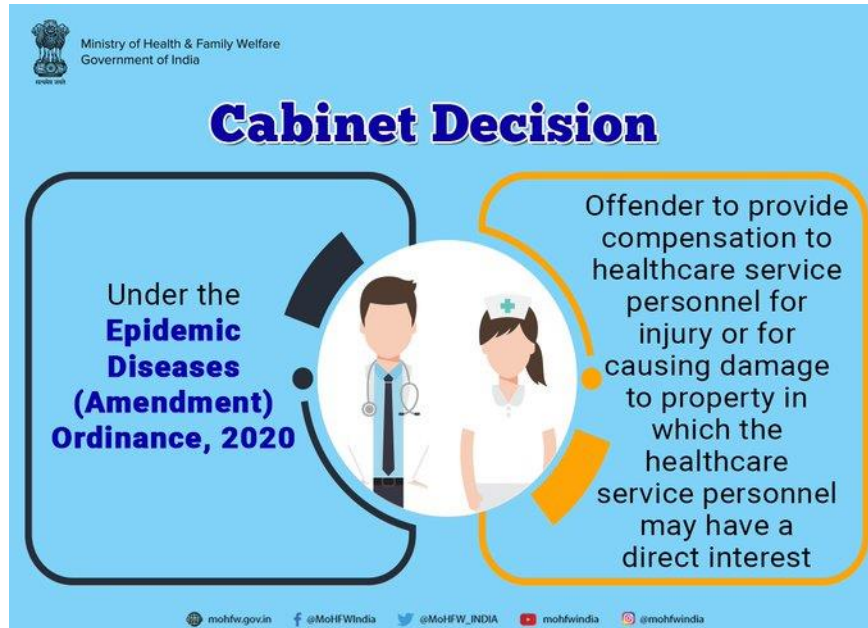
- ❖ Recently eight Rajya Sabha MPs were suspended for unruly behaviour in the House.
- ❖ The Chairman of Rajya Sabha is empowered under Rule Number 255 of its Rule Book to “direct any Member whose conduct is in his opinion grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately” from the House.
- ❖ The House may adopt a motion of suspending the Member from the service of the House for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session.
- ❖ Unlike the Speaker, however, the Rajya Sabha Chairman does not have the power to suspend a Member.
- ❖ The House may, by another motion, terminate the suspension.

Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill - 2020

- ❖ The Parliament passed the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 on September 22, 2020, ensuring the protection of the health workers.
- ❖ The bill was passed by Rajya Sabha on September 19, 2020.

Highlights

- ❖ The bill amends the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 to include the protection of health care service personnel combating epidemic diseases as well as expands the power of the central government to prevent the spread of such diseases.
- ❖ The bill passed in the parliament repeals the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance that was promulgated in April 2020.
- ❖ The legislation makes injury, harm, danger, or hurts to the life of the health care service personnel as a cognizable and non-bailable offense.
- ❖ The bill also has the provisions of imprisonment from three months to five years and a fine between Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2,00,000.



ECONOMY

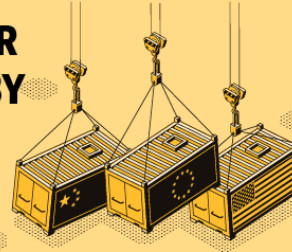
Country of Origin Rules: CAROTAR- 2020

- ❖ The Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 (CAROTAR, 2020) came into force from 21st September 2020.
- ❖ It was notified on 21st August 2020.
- ❖ They set guidelines for enforcement of the 'rules of origin' for allowing preferential rate on imports under free trade agreements.
- ❖ The new Rules would also strengthen the hands of the Customs in checking any attempted misuse of the duty concessions under FTAs.

CAROTAR rules:

- ❖ An importer is now required to do due diligence before importing the goods to ensure that they meet the prescribed originating criteria.
- ❖ A list of minimum information which the importer is required to possess has also been provided in the rules along with general guidance.
- ❖ An importer would now have to enter certain origin related information in the Bill of Entry, as available in the Certificate of Origin.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE BY IMPORTERS



- ▶ Denial of benefit under FTA with possible recovery of custom duty differential (with interest and penalties) for past and future consignments of identical imports
- ▶ Future benefit to be restored only prospectively on demonstrating that origin criteria is met; this results in denial of benefits during the intermittent period
- ▶ Subsequent imports, where preferential duty claims have been made, are compulsorily verified, resulting in clearance delays with all attendant consequences
- ▶ Possible investigations of past transactions
- ▶ Provisional assessments (that are long drawn and time consuming)

Source: EY

4th Global Ayurveda summit

- ❖ The 4th edition of Global Ayurveda Summit was virtually inaugurated by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu.
- ❖ Theme of the event is “Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic”.
- ❖ The objective of the summit is to showcase the Ayurveda immunity model to the global level as a solution named ‘Health as One’ and ‘Immunity through Ayurveda’.

i-ATS - Automatic Train Supervision

- ❖ The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) launched ‘i-ATS’, an indigenously-built communication-based train control signalling technology for the metro.
- ❖ The i-ATS (Automatic Train Supervision) is a computer-based system that manages train operation.
- ❖ This system is indispensable for high-density operations such as the metro, where services are scheduled every few minutes.
- ❖ i-ATS is indigenously-developed technology, which will significantly reduce the dependence of Indian metros on foreign vendors dealing with such technologies.
- ❖ It can work with train control and signalling systems of various suppliers.
- ❖ Additionally, it is suitable for introduction in Indian Railways.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Red Panda Day - September 19

- ❖ It is celebrated on third Saturday of September every year to raise public awareness and support for red panda conservation issues.
- ❖ The day was launched by the Red Panda Network in 2010.
- ❖ The first international red Panda day was celebrated on 18th September 2010.
- ❖ There are two distinct species of red pandas:
 - *Ailurus fulgens* is commonly known as Himalayan Red Panda and
 - *Ailurus fulgens styani* commonly known as Chinese Red Panda.



Rhino Day – September 22

- ❖ It provides an opportunity to work towards saving the rhinos, which has been the target of poachers for decades.
- ❖ India is home to the Greater Indian One-Horned Rhino commonly found in Assam and in neighbouring Nepal and Bhutan.
- ❖ The rhinos prefer tall grasslands and forests in the foothills of the Himalayas.
- ❖ Apart from the Indian one-horned rhino, there are four other species which are famous.
- ❖ The IUCN's conservation status of the Five Rhino Species

Rhino Species	Conservation Status
Javan Rhino	Critically Endangered
Sumatran Rhino	Critically Endangered
Black Rhino	Critically Endangered

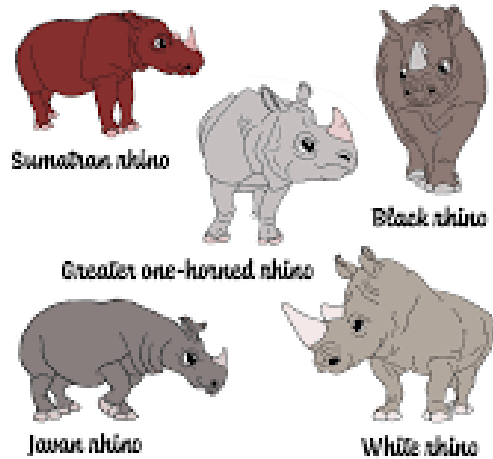
White Rhino	Near Threatened
Greater One-Horned Rhinos (Indian Rhino)	Vulnerable

WORLD RHINO DAY

22 September

Celebrating

the FIVE species of rhinoceros



MISCELLANEOUS

Special Report on Sustainable Recovery

- ❖ In the backdrop of the ongoing Covid-19 crisis, International Energy Agency (IEA), in collaboration with NITI Aayog, presented a 'Special Report on Sustainable Recovery'.
- ❖ It is a part of International Energy Agency's flagship World Energy Outlook series.
- ❖ It proposes a number of actions that could be taken over the next three years to revitalize economies and boost employment while making energy systems cleaner and more resilient.
- ❖ The IEA's report, prepared in cooperation with IMF, details energy-focused policies and investments that could help boost economic growth, create jobs and put emissions into structural decline.

