



CURRENT AFFAIRS

≡ 06 APRIL, 2022 ≡

NATIONAL

1. The Indian Antarctic Bill

Why in news - The Union government introduced the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 to lay down a set of rules to regulate a range of activities on territories in Antarctica.

Imp points –

- It directs the creation of a fund called the Antarctic fund that will be used for protecting the Antarctic environment.
- The Bill extends the jurisdiction of Indian courts to Antarctica.
- The Bill prohibits mining, dredging and activities that threaten the pristine conditions of the continent.

Antartic treaty

- Antarctic Treaty came into force on June 23, 1961.
- The Treaty covers the area south of 60°S latitude.
- Its key objectives are to demilitarise Antarctica.
- India joined the Treaty System in 1983.

India in Antartica

- India's first expedition to Antarctica – 1982.
- First Indian research station in Antarctic

- Dakshin Gangotri 1983.

- India has now established two standing research stations, Bharati and Maitri, at Antarctica.

2. IT Rules, 2021

Why in news - Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (I&B) blocked 22 YouTube based news channels under IT Rules, 2021.

Imp points –

- Blocked channels used to spread fake news on sensitive issues relating to national security and foreign relations.
- Government notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 under the Section 79 of the Information Technology Act.

3. Electoral Bond scheme

Why in news - SC agrees to list plea against Electoral Bonds for hearing

Imp points –

- The bonds are issued in multiples of Rs. 1,000, Rs. 10,000, Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 1 crore without any maximum limit.
- State Bank of India is authorised to issue and encash these bonds, which are valid for fifteen days from the date of

issuance.

- The bonds are available for purchase by any person (who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India) for a period of ten days each in the months of January, April, July and October as may be specified by the Central Government.

4. **Bill to Include Some Communities in Jharkhand ST List**

Why in news - The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed by a voice vote the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022.

Imp points –

- Included certain communities - Deshwari, Ganjhu, Dautalbandi (Dwalbandi), Patbandi, Raut, Maajhia, Khairi (Kheri), Tamaria (Tamadia), and Puran - in the list of STs in Jharkhand.
- The Bhogta community is being moved from the list of SCs in Jharkhand to the ST list.

5. **Tamil Nadu Forms Panel To Frame Its Own Education Policy**

Why in news - The Tamil Nadu government formed a 13-member panel to frame the state education policy.

Imp points –

- Panel headed by Delhi High Court retired Chief Justice D Murugesan.
- Panel members include former chess world champion Viswanathan Anand and prominent Carnatic musician T M Krishna, among others.

- Separate panel formed in response to Tamil Nadu's opposition to the Union's New Education Policy.

INTERNATIONAL

1. **India Condemns Bucha Killings**

Why in news - India condemned the killing of civilians in Bucha, Ukraine, at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Imp points –

- India's Permanent Representative to the UN (UNPR) - T.S. Tirumurti.
- The main organs of the UN are - the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat.

2. **Russian Darknet Marketplace Hydra.**

Why in news - Germany shuts down Russian language illegal darknet marketplace Hydra, the largest such network in the world.

Imp points –

- A dark net or darknet is an overlay network within the Internet that can only be accessed with specific software, configurations, or authorization, and often uses a unique customized communication protocol.
- Hydra was founded in 2015

3. **Twitter To Name Musk To Firm's Board.**

Why in news - Twitter Inc. would

name top shareholder and Tesla boss Elon Musk to its board.

Imp points –

- Musk owns 73,486,938 shares of Twitter, which represents a 9.2% stake in the company.

ENVIRONMENT

1. Andhra to Turn Beach Waste into Value-Added Products

Why in news – Andhra govt and Global Alliance for Sustainable Planet to launch of a pilot project that will see the garbage turned into things such as building construction material, furniture, clothes and shoes.

Imp points –

- Andhra has the second longest coastline with a length of 975 km (606 mi), next to Gujarat.
- Global Alliance for Sustainable Planet (GASP) is a US based NPO head quartered in Newyork.

2. Near-extinct Vaquita Porpoise

Why in news – Mexico seeks 'miracle' to save near-extinct Vaquita Porpoise.

Imp points –

- IUCN - Critically Endangered
- Also known as "the panda of the sea" for the distinctive black circles around its eyes.
- Reside in the northern Gulf of California only
- Threatened primarily by gillnet fishing for the totoaba fish.

- "Operation Miracle" - launched by Sea Shepherd in 2015 to try to save the vaquita

ECONOMY

1. E-commerce Firm Shopee Exits Indian Market

Why in news – e-commerce firm Shopee, part of the Sea group, will leave the Indian market.

Imp points –

- It was a Singapore-based firm.
- Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) said that Shopee is operating in India against FEMA Rules and FDI Press Note of 2020, and that it is a Chinese e-commerce company.

2. Project Kuiper

Why in news – Amazon.com Inc has secured rocket launches with three companies as it spends billions on putting together a satellite constellation to beam broadband internet.

Imp points –

- It is a project of Amazon announced in 2019.
- To provide space internet to users through Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Geostationary Satellites.
- Similar Initiatives-
 - o Five to 50' service by One Web.
 - o Starlinkby SpaceX.
 - o Loon Project by Google

BIHAR

1. IGIMS Patna Gets Special

Recognition

Why in news – The Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (IGIMS) has been chosen as the National Medical Commission (NMC)'s regional centre for medical education technology.

Imp points –

- National Medical Commission (NMC) has replaced the Medical Council of India (MCI).
- The government dissolved the MCI in 2018 and replaced it with a Board of Governors (BoG), which was chaired by a member of NITI Aayog.
- The NMC will function as the country's top regulator of medical education.

2. Bihar has Sufficient Oxygen for Medical Purposes

Why in news – 400 metric ton production started daily in Bihar

Imp points –

- 119 PSA oxygen plants were set up in Bihar to deal with covid situation.
- PSA stands for Pressure swing adsorption (PSA) which is oxygen generating plants to produce medical-grade oxygen.
- Oxygen is being delivered to emergency and ICU through pipeline in hospitals.

3. Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) Diseses in Bihar

Why in news – In a high-level review meeting, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar directed that people should be made aware of its symptoms and treatment.

Imp points –

- AES is characterized by an acute onset of fever and clinical neurological manifestation that includes mental confusion, disorientation, delirium or coma.
- Piku ward would be kept fully prepared so that AES affected children can get timely treatment.
- Chief Secretary Amir Subhani reviewed the preparations made so far to deal with AES with the District Magistrates and Civil Surgeons of Muzaffarpur, East Champaran and Sitamarhi.

4. Vaccination among Adolescent in Bihar

Why in news – Health department released data on vaccination among adolescents

Imp points –

- East Chamaparan tops the chart with most number of vaccinations.
- Sheohar and Darbhanga stood at 2nd and 3rd place respectively (in % terms).
- Barring Patna and Gopalganj, ranking of every district has either improved or decreased.
- Patna stands at 32nd position.

