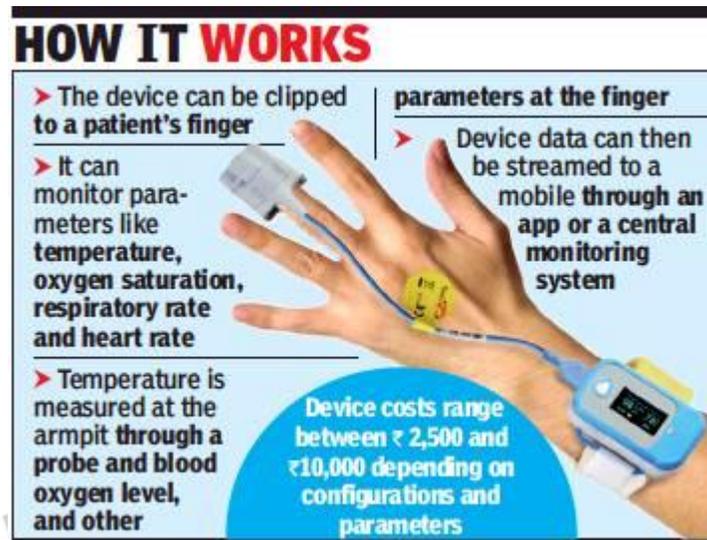


EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 4, 2020

TAMIL NADU

- **On August 3, the Tamil Nadu government - firmly rejected the three-language formula promoted by the Centre's New Education Policy (NEP), which was unveiled last week**
- ✓ The state has decided to constitute a committee of educationists soon to study the policy, which aims to introduce sweeping reforms in the educational sector.
- ✓ This was announced by the chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami after convening a high-level meeting on the policy
- ✓ The Chief Minister said that the State has been firm on the two-language policy for eight decades and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reconsider the language policy.
- ✓ Recalling the agitation against the imposition of Hindi in 1965, the Chief Minister underlined a resolution rejecting the three-language policy that was passed by the Madras Legislative Assembly on January 23, 1968, during C.N. Annadurai's tenure as the Chief Minister.
- ✓ On November 13, 1986, when M.G. Ramachandran was the CM, a resolution in support of the two-language policy was passed in the Assembly.
- ✓ The State's political journey on the issue of language can be traced to the decision of the Congress regime, led by C. Rajagopalachari or Rajaji, to make Hindi a compulsory subject in the first, second and third forms (equivalent to the present standards VI to VIII), in August 1937.
- ✓ However, the decision was met with agitations spearheaded by E.V. Ramasamy.
- ✓ But there was no change in the policy till the Congress Ministry remained in office till October 1939.
- ✓ Then, the British government made Hindi optional.
- ✓ In a 60 page long New Education Policy which follow 5+3+3+4 mode, the policy advocates three language policy promoting multilingualism

- ✓ The policy states that the child will learn in his or her mother tongue till class five and preferably till class eight.
- **IIT-M's Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre (HTIC) and Helyxon, a healthcare startup at IIT Madras Research Park – have developed a portable remote monitoring device 'OXY2' for Covid-19 patients**
- ✓ The 'smart' wearable device will be useful for monitoring vital signs of patients, including Covid-19, both at home and in hospital.



- ✓ The wireless device can monitor temperature, oxygen saturation, respiratory rate and heart rate and transmits data to a smartphone app or to a central monitoring system, to be used either at home or in a hospital.
- ✓ According to the researchers, the bluetooth-enabled reusable device could be clipped on to a patient's finger, from which the probes and sensors monitor the parameters and send data to an exclusive smartphone app.
- ✓ The temperature is measured at the armpit and blood oxygen level and other parameters at the finger tip.
- ✓ The same data could be transferred to a computer through WiFi in case of a hospital setting where many patients could be monitored continuously at a time.
- ✓ Threshold limits can be set for each parameter and the device sends out an alert to the smartphone if the measured parameter exceeds the permissible values.
- ✓ The accuracy and performance of the device was validated through a year-long multi-centric study at various hospitals in Chennai by the Institute.
- ✓ The device costs in the range of ₹2,500 to ₹10,000 depending on the configuration and parameters.
- ✓ It is powered by a small battery and is designed in such a way that it can be reused and recycled.
- ✓ It is already being used on 2,000 patients in three private hospitals in Chennai and is set to be used in three government hospitals including Government Stanley

Medical College Hospital, Institute of Child Health and Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

- **Anna University - has decided to conduct end-semester exams for final year students in 'online' mode by the end of this month.**

TIME TO TEST

- More than one lakh students are expected to take the test from their homes
- Test duration: 1 hour
- The test will have multiple-choice based questions and will be monitored remotely by artificial intelligence tools
- 30% of final mark will be based on semester exam score; 70% weightage to be given for internal assessments and project work
- Anna University floated tender inviting bids for conducting online proctoring test
- Approximate cost fixed as ₹1.86 crore

The infographic also features an image of a laptop and a photograph of the Anna University building with a statue in front.

- ✓ Anna University is the first state university to decide to conduct online exams amid the Covid-19 crisis.
- ✓ The move would benefit more than 20,000 engineering students with job offers, who are anxiously waiting to start their careers
- ✓ Students without digital gadgets and internet connectivity will be given a choice to take offline exams later.
- ✓ The final exams are crucial for the students as they would help validate their degrees
- ✓ The one-hour proctoring test will be conducting separately for each subject with multiple choice questions
- ✓ Candidates will be monitored by artificial intelligence tools, which records physical movements of students, computer screen usage and audio to prevent malpractice.
- ✓ The university has floated tender inviting bids for conducting the test for students from affiliated colleges and university departments.
- ✓ The entire process is estimated to cost ₹1.9 crore
- ✓ Due to the loss of working days, some portions could not be taught and the university has decided to drop one of five units in each subject for the final exams.

- ✓ The online test will be given 30% weightage and 70% weightage will be given for internal assessment and project work
 - ✓ The University Grants Commission (UGC) had instructed all universities to conduct exams online or offline for final year students, a move challenged in the Supreme Court.
 - ✓ The state government promoted all except final year students to next year without exams
 - ✓ It has also written to the ministry of human resource development to cancel exams for final year students as well, but it is yet to get a response.
- **Tanker Foundation - is inaugurating its 11th dialysis unit on August 5 at Easwaramoorthy Maternity Hospital in Tirupur.**
 - ✓ This is a joint effort of the Rotary Club of Tirupur North, Tirupur Corporation, and the foundation.
 - ✓ The unit will be inaugurated by Rtn. S Gunasekaran MLA, Tirupur South constituency.
 - ✓ Tanker (Tamilnad Kidney Research) Foundation is a non-profit organization started in June 1993
 - ✓ It caters poor and under-privileged renal disease patients by giving subsidized dialysis and one-time financial help for medication, investigation and transplantation.
 - **Tamil Nadu – reported 109 Covid-related deaths on August 3, the first time the daily toll touching three figures, taking the death toll to 4,241**
 - ✓ The State reported 5,609 fresh cases on the day, taking its caseload to 2,63,222

11,983 ACTIVE CASES IN CHENNAI



A Covid survivor donates plasma at the Rajiv Gandhi Government GH in Chennai

➤ 56,698 active Covid cases in TN as on Monday; 2,63,222 total cases so far

➤ 5,800 patients discharged in past 24 hours; 2,02,283 overall tally

➤ 109 deaths in a day take TN count to 4,241

➤ 1,02,985 cases in Chennai so far

Month	Deaths
March	1
April	26
May	146
June	1,028
July	2,289
August	306
Total	3,796*
(*Not inclusive of 444 reconciled deaths in city, cases cross notified)	
TN case fatality rate	1.6%
Chennai fatality rate	2.1 %

- ✓ Chennai continue to be the hotspot with 1,021 cases, while its neighbours Chengalpet (331), Kancheepuram (322) and Tiruvallur (332) together accounted for 1,185 cases.

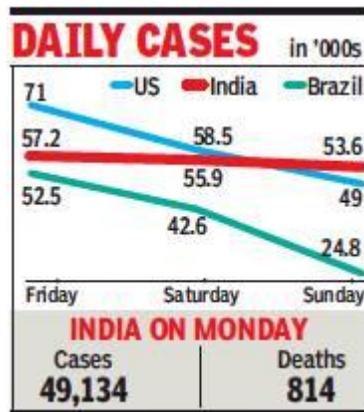
- ✓ At 1,02,985, Chennai has 39% of the cases in the state, and one in every two deaths reported.
- ✓ Further, Ranipet (382), Virudhunagar (348), Theni (303), Coimbatore (227), Kanniyakumari (215), Thoothukudi (214) and Tiruvannamalai (210) reported major cases
- ✓ The state has 56,698 active cases after the discharge of 5,800 patients on the day
- ✓ With this, a total of 2,02,283 persons have recovered from the disease.
- ✓ The number of samples tested in a 24-hour period came down to 58,211 after topping 60,000 for several days.
- ✓ With this, the total number of samples tested so far has gone upto 28,37,273.

NATIONAL

- **Around 175 guests, including 135 saints of 36 religious orders from across the country and kin of the 'kar sevaks' killed in police firing in 1990 - have been invited to attend the Ram temple foundation laying ceremony**
- ✓ The invited guest list also includes the priest of the Janaki temple in Nepal
- ✓ The 'bhoomipujan' for the Ram temple at Ayodhya would be performed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 5
- ✓ The idol of Lord Ram will be clothed in green during the ceremony
- ✓ On the eve of occasion, the Prime Minister would also launch a ₹5 stamp with the image of the Ram temple.
- ✓ Only five persons, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat, will be on stage
- ✓ The other persons on the stage would be Mahant Nrityagopal Das, head of the Trust, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel.

175 INVITED FOR BHOOMI PUJAN	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Invitations for 'bhoomi pujan sent to 175 people; Iqbal Ansari, son of Hamid Ansari, the oldest Muslim litigant in the Ayodhya case, among the first to get an invite (after his father's death in 2016, he became a litigant) ➤ Of 175 invitees, 135 are from 36 religious orders of India and Nepal ➤ PM Narendra Modi, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, UP governor Anandiben Patel, CM Yogi Adityanath and temple trust chairman Mahant Nritya Gopaldas will be on the stage ➤ Mahesh Bhagchandka and Pawan Singhal from the 	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-weight: bold; color: white; background-color: black; padding: 2px;">Iqbal Ansari with the invite</p> </div> <p>family of former Vishwa Hindu Parishad chief Ashok Singhal will be the 'mukhya yajmans' (main worshippers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Covid protocol will be strictly followed during the 'bhoomi pujan', CM Yogi Adityanath said on Monday

- ✓ Iqbal Ansari, one of the seven litigants from the Muslim side in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title suit - has been invited for the event
 - ✓ Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has also invited another local resident and social worker Mohammad Shareef for the event.
 - ✓ The 82 year old Shareef was awarded Padma Shree this year for performing last rites of more than 25,000 unclaimed bodies over a three-decade span.
 - ✓ Ansari's father Hashim was the first litigant from the Muslim side in the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi case.
 - ✓ After Hashim died at 95 in 2016, his son was included as a litigant in the case at the Supreme Court.
- **The International Seed Testing Agency (ISTA) - has placed India on high alert against suspected "seed terrorism"**
- ✓ The warning has been sounded by ISTA after unsolicited mail packages containing seeds were delivered to homes in the US, the UK, Canada and Japan.
 - ✓ Although no such deliveries have been received in India, the agency warned that the seeds may have the capacity to harm food production.
 - ✓ These seeds — delivered in packets without being ordered by the recipients — may spread crop diseases and may be poisonous seeds that may damage agriculture production and also pose health and environmental problems.
 - ✓ Testing of these seeds are being conducted in the US and Canada.
 - ✓ These seeds are suspected to have originated in China, but the Chinese foreign ministry has said it has no role in it.
 - ✓ According to ISTA, India needs to be highly vigilant at sea ports, airports and all entry points of cargo through road
 - ✓ People should immediately approach the police if they receive seeds they have not ordered.
 - ✓ These unsolicited packets were found to contain seeds of species belonging to morning glory plants, hibiscus, wild rose and Japanese knot beads.
 - ✓ These are non-native varieties imported from a country yet to be identified.
 - ✓ They may suppress food crops and may be difficult to control if they grow vigorously
 - ✓ Telangana is considered the seed capital of India
 - ✓ It exports ₹10,000 crore worth of seeds annually to Europe, the US, Africa, south and South-East Asian countries, in addition to 12 states in India.
 - ✓ The state caters to about 60% of the country's seed requirement.
- **On August 2, India – reported the highest number of fresh Covid-19 cases among all countries for the first time**
- ✓ India's count of 53,641 cases on the day was higher than the infections detected in the US (49,038) and Brazil (24,801), the two countries that have the highest daily caseloads of Covid-19, as of now.



- ✓ India also reported the world's second highest number of Covid cases (3,69,588) in the last week (Monday-to-Sunday) for the first time, overtaking Brazil (3,13,776) and behind only the US (4,41,808)
- ✓ On August 3, India reported 49,134 fresh cases and the second-highest daily toll of 814
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh reported 7,822 new Covid-19 cases on the day, taking the cumulative tally to 1,66,586.
- ✓ India's total Covid-19 tests crossed the 2 crore mark on August 2
- ✓ The average number of daily tests improved from 2,40,620 in the first week of July to 4,68,263 in the last week of July, up 94.6%.
- ✓ On July 30, over 6.43 lakh tests were conducted in 24 hours and Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) accounted for 45.68% of these tests
- ✓ Currently, India is conducting 14,640 tests per million population to detect Covid-19 infection
- ✓ Together RT-PCR and RAT account for more than 90% of the total tests conducted in a day.

INTERNATIONAL

- **On August 3, China - suspended Hong Kong's extradition treaty with New Zealand**
- ✓ The move comes in the midst of a row with Western nations protesting against a tough new security law that Beijing imposed on the city.
- ✓ New Zealand is the latest country to join other nations — including Canada, Britain, Australia and Germany — that have suspended extradition treaties with Hong Kong since the controversial law was introduced in late June.
- ✓ China has already retaliated by suspending Hong Kong's extradition treaties with Canada, Britain and Australia.
- ✓ The United States has decided to cancel Hong Kong's special trading privileges after the new law was enacted.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **The two flagship internet products of Chinese-origin, Baidu Search and Weibo App - have been blocked in India.**
- ✓ They were among the most influential apps of China and rated as China's answer to Google search and Twitter respectively



- ✓ Weibo, launched in 2009 by Sina Corporation, has over 500 million registered users globally.
- ✓ It had Prime Minister Narendra Modi as one of its star users after he opened an account on the Chinese microblogging website in 2015 ahead of his visit to the neighbouring country.
- ✓ The inaugural post of Modi — who had over 2 lakh followers on the site with 100-plus posts — had read, "Hello China! Looking forward to interacting with Chinese friends through Weibo"
- ✓ However, the PM quit Weibo recently following the heightened tensions between both the nations.
- ✓ The two apps have been asked to be taken off from the app stores of Google and Apple, while internet service providers (IPs) have also been told to block them
- ✓ They are among the 47 new apps that the government had banned on July 27, which were not listed in the public.
- ✓ Earlier, the government has banned 59 key apps — such as Tik-Tok, UC Browser, Helo, Likee, Shareit, Mi Community, We-Chat and CamScanner —on June 29

- ✓ Most apps in the second ban included clones and different versions of some of the original apps, such as TikTok Lite, Likee Lite, Bigo Live Lite, Shareit Lite, and CamScanner HD.
- ✓ The government has decided to block the apps after accusing them of “engaging in activities which are prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order”.

PERSONALITIES

- **An Indian-origin scientist in the US, Sridhar Anandakrishnan - is part of a five-year project to study Greenland ice sheet named Green Drill.**



- ✓ Sridhar Anandakrishnan, professor of geosciences at Penn State University, has a glacier in Antarctica named after him
- ✓ He is now a key primary investigator in a \$7 million project to be undertaken in Greenland
- ✓ The project aims to drill through the Greenland ice sheet to study how the mass of ice, rapidly melting due to climate change, may contribute to rising seas in the 21st century.
- ✓ The project received a \$3 million research grant and \$4 million in field operations support from the US National Science Foundation in June.
- ✓ The rapid melting of Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets is of great ‘ecological’ importance as they directly affect global sea levels.
- ✓ According to NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA), the Greenland ice sheet has lost 3.8 trillion tons of ice between 1992 and 2018.
- ✓ According to estimates, this ice sheet holds enough water to raise the sea level by 24 feet, while even a few feet of sea level rise can have a drastic impact on coastal cities and low-lying islands.
- ✓ The new project aims to analyse the rock beneath the Greenland ice sheet to determine its history and the frequency of growth or shrinkage of the rock along with its magnitude
- ✓ Anandakrishnan was born in New Delhi and grew up in Kanpur.
- ✓ The contribution of Anandakrishnan to Antarctic studies has led to a glacier being named after him as ‘Anandakrishnan Glacier’ in 2003.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) - has given permission to Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) to conduct late stage – Phase 2 and 3 - human trials for the Oxford Covid-19 vaccine candidate, COVISHIELD, in India

THE 3 PHASES

- 1** Few people given vaccine, researchers measure antibodies. Takes 3 months
- 2** Reactogenicity (ability to produce expected adverse reactions), immunogenicity (ability to provoke an immune response) and safety of vaccine assessed on several hundred, usually over 6-8 months
- 3** Confirm, expand on results from Ph 1 & 2. Thousands enrolled, usually takes 6-8 mths

- ✓ With this, Serum Institute also joins the trials for Covid-19 vaccine in India along with two other potential candidates – each from Bharat Biotech and Zydus Cadila Healthcare, which are already conducting phase 1 and phase 2 of human trials.
- ✓ The human trials by Serum Institute will involve around 1,600 people aged above 18 years across 17 selected sites
- ✓ Each one of them will be administered two doses four weeks apart.
- ✓ On day one first dose will be administered then following 29 days the second dose of medicine will be administered.
- ✓ The trials will be held at AIIMS-Delhi, AIIMS-Jodhpur, Nehru Hospital in Gorakhpur, Andhra Medical College in Visakhapatnam, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research in Mysore, B J Medical College in Pune, Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences (RMRIMS) in Patna, and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh, among other health institutes
- ✓ However, this is the largest trial for Covid-19 vaccine in the country, as on date, as the other two candidates involve a relatively smaller trial base
- ✓ The human trials for locally developed Bharat Biotech's Covaxin involve 1,150 participants in eight sites, whereas the trials of ZyCov-D vaccine of Zydus Cadila will be held in five sites with 1,000 participants.
- ✓ Serum Institute has partnered with British pharma giant AstraZeneca for the Oxford University's Covid-19 vaccine candidate which showed promising results in early human trials (Phase 1 and 2) in UK.
- ✓ The results – published in The Lancet last month - indicated the vaccine to be safe and capable of inducing an immune response.

- ✓ Once the trials are over successfully and the vaccine is approved, Serum plans to make one billion doses of the vaccine over the next one year for India and other low-and-middle-income countries.
- **Test pilots Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken - returned to earth in their SpaceX Dragon capsule named Endeavour, after spending 64 days in space at the International Space Station (ISS)**



- ✓ The two NASA astronauts landed their capsule into the Gulf of Mexico, about 40 miles off the coast of Pensacola, Florida, in a parachute to complete an unprecedented test flight by Elon Musk's SpaceX company
- ✓ It was the first return by U.S. astronauts in 45 years, with the first commercially built and operated spacecraft to carry people to and from orbit.
- ✓ The return clears the way for another SpaceX crew launch as early as next month and possible tourist flights next year.
- ✓ On 30th May 2020 at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carrying the company's Crew Dragon spacecraft was launched as part of Demo-2 mission
- ✓ This was the first time in the history that NASA sent their astronauts in a commercially built and operated American crew spacecraft.
- ✓ With this successful landing, the Elon Musk's Space-X has become the first-ever private company to achieve this success.
- ✓ The last time NASA astronauts returned from space to water was on July 24, 1975, in the Pacific to end a joint U.S.-Soviet mission known as Apollo-Soyuz.

DEFENCE

- **On August 3, the defence ministry - released a draft defence production and export promotion policy (DPEPP 2020)**
- ✓ The proposed policy aims to achieve a turnover of ₹1,75,000 crore (\$25 bn), including export of ₹35,000 crore (\$5 bn) in aerospace and defence goods and services by 2025.

- ✓ Currently, in overall India's defence procurement the share of domestic procurement is just about 60%.
- ✓ The ministry aims at doubling the current domestic procurement from ₹70,000 crore to ₹1,40,000 crore by the year 2025.

EYES ₹35K CR EXPORTS

- Policy eyes turnover of ₹1,75,000cr, including exports of ₹35,000cr in aerospace and defence goods & services
- Aims to reduce need for imports and push "Make in India" initiatives through domestic design, development
- Focuses on support to MSMEs/startups, optimisation of resource allocation, ease of doing business, FDI, investment promotion, R&D and export promotion

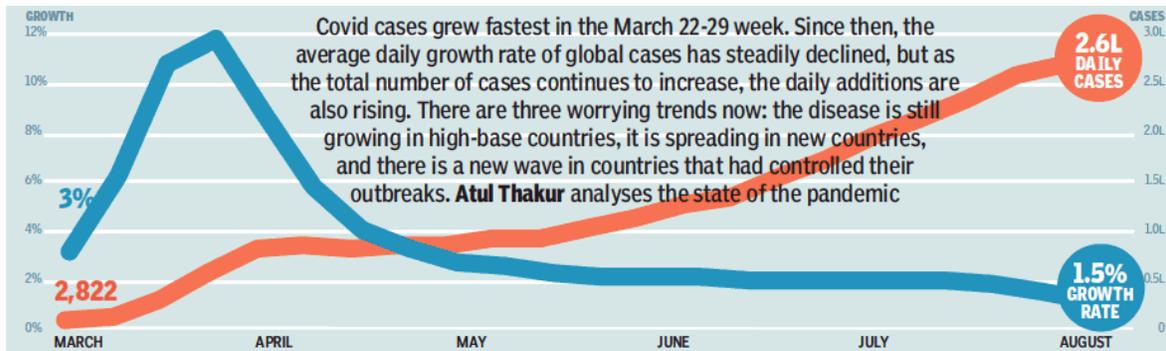
- ✓ Inputs and comments on the draft policy can be sent up to August 17.
- ✓ A similar draft policy was announced in 2018 with similar goals, but it didn't materialized much.
- ✓ The estimated size of the existing Indian defence industry is around ₹80,000 crore, with the public sector's share being almost 80% of it.
- ✓ The public sector, which includes DRDO and its 50 labs, four defence shipyards, five defence PSUs and 41 ordnance factories, also concurrently needs to be drastically overhauled.
- ✓ The draft DPEPP 2020 is envisaged as an "overarching document to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to defence production capabilities", in five years
- ✓ The draft DPEPP proposes to reduce dependence on imports and take forward "Make in India" initiatives through domestic design and development
- ✓ It also intends to promote export of defence products as part of the overall 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' policy.
- ✓ DRDO, for instance, will set up missions in select fields in consultation with the armed forces and other scientific and industrial establishments to develop futuristic weapon systems.
- ✓ These range from hypersonic, ballistic and cruise missiles to armoured vehicles, gas turbine engines, submarines, fifth-generation fighter jets, transport aircraft, robotics and airborne sensors.
- ✓ The draft policy brings out multiple strategies with the focus areas being procurement reforms, indigenisation and support to MSMEs/startups, optimisation of resource allocation, investment promotion, FDI and ease of doing business, innovation and R&D, DPSUs and ordnance factories, quality assurance and testing infrastructure and export promotion.

- ✓ The opportunities in the aerospace industry have been identified in the following segments — aircraft build work, aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), helicopters, engine manufacturing and MRO work, line replaceable units, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and upgrades and retrofits.
- ✓ A Project Management Unit will be set up for estimation of development and production lead time specifications and technologies involved.
- ✓ India is currently ranked among the top 3 importers of weapons in the entire world.

SPORTS

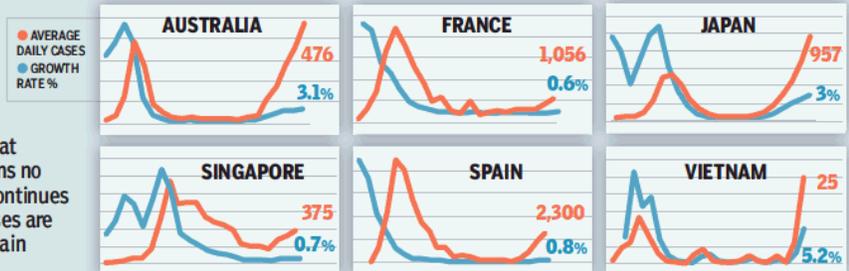
- **BCCI – has barred individuals above 60 from taking part in training camps of domestic teams.**
 - ✓ This was announced in the Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) meant for state associations released by the BCCI.
 - ✓ Individuals who are over the age of 60 years, viz support staff, umpires, ground staff and those individuals with underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, weakened immunity, should be considered vulnerable and are believed to have higher risk of severe Covid-19.
 - ✓ All such individuals should be discouraged from participating in camp activities unless suitable guidelines are issued by the government,” reads one of the guidelines from BCCI’s 100-page SoP.
 - ✓ The BCCI’s SoP potentially affects Arun Lal and Australian Dav Whatmore, who are coaches of Bengal and Baroda respectively, and also Sujan Mukherjee, the curator of Eden Gardens in Kolkata
 - ✓ Whatmore, 66, became the most expensive coach in India’s domestic cricket since when Baroda appointed him in April for an undisclosed fee which is believed to be more than a crore.
 - ✓ Lal, 65, guided Bengal to the Ranji Trophy final for the first time in 12 seasons in March, and won praise for his exceptional mentoring skills.
 - ✓ In the final, Bengal lost to Saurashtra, who were coached by former India pacer Karsan Ghavri, who is 69
 - ✓ However, the BCCI SoP doesn’t apply to the commentators contracted by it
- **The Centre for Sports Science (CSS) at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research (SRIHER) - has signed an MoU with the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, Patiala for developing and delivering joint academic programs in sports sciences.**
 - ✓ These six-month certificate courses will be offered as per the UGC guidelines
 - ✓ It will feature blended learning with online and face-to-face sessions of learning & assessments.
 - ✓ In the first leg, Sports Physiotherapy and Sports Nutrition courses are being launched online..

COVID-19 PROGRESS – A REPORT



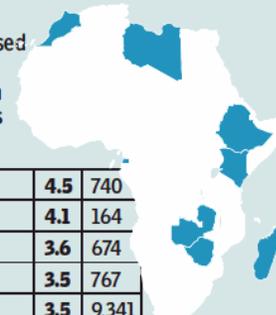
Surge in Australia, Japan, Vietnam

Recent outbreaks in these countries after periods of very low net addition of cases show that the threat is far from over. It seems no country can keep Covid out if it continues to grow elsewhere. In Europe, cases are again increasing in France and Spain



Africa next epicentre?

Starting from China, the pandemic coursed through Europe, Asia and the Americas. But in the past week, the highest growth rates have been reported from countries in Africa that have weak health systems



	RATE%	CASES		RATE%	CASES
E. GUINEA	6.7	250	VENEZUELA	4.5	740
ZIMBABWE	6.0	175	LEBANON	4.1	164
ZAMBIA	5.3	271	KENYA	3.6	674
LIBYA	5.2	153	MOROCCO	3.5	767
ETHIOPIA	5.1	758	COLOMBIA	3.5	9,341
			MADAGASCAR	3.5	344

CASES AND GROWTH RATE FIGURES ARE WEEKLY AVERAGES FROM MARCH 1-8 TO JULY 26-AUGUST 2

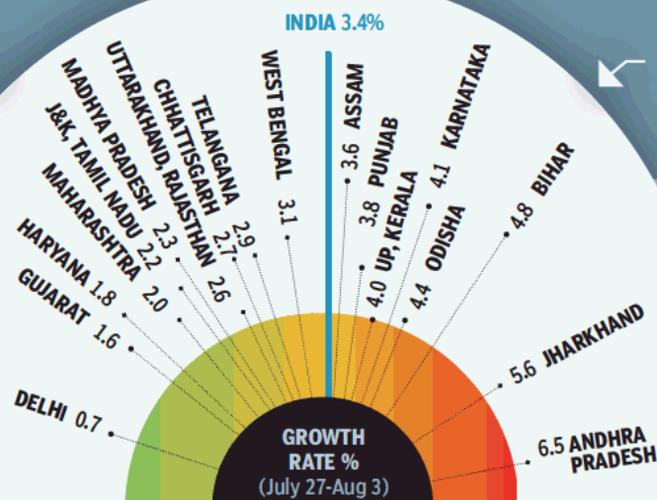
No respite in US, Brazil, India

While some countries are new targets and some others are seeing second waves, the countries that contribute the largest number of global cases continue to grow fast. Colombia, India, Philippines and Argentina are all growing at over 3% daily

	GROWTH RATE %	DAILY CASES
US	1.4	63,202
India	3.4	52,172
Brazil	1.8	44,766
South Africa	2.1	9,870
Colombia	3.5	9,341

12 large states improve

Their growth rates might have slowed down but as the international data shows, there is no room for complacency



Worrying surge in 9 large states

They are adding cases as fast as some of the fastest growing countries in Africa

Only 4 states/UTs have less than 1,000 cases each

Meghalaya	874
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	734
Sikkim	658
Mizoram	482

Graphics: Sajeev Kumarapuram
Source: ECDC, covid19india.org