



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 2,

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) – is setting up an exclusive website and mobile app to file complaints related to disposal of biomedical wastes like PPEs and masks**
- ✓ The soon-to-be-launched portal and app has been tested exclusively for remote monitoring of proper collection and disposal of biomedical waste.
- ✓ The portal will also have a provision for the public to file complaints.
- ✓ Accordingly, the general public can take photos of the waste dumped on the roadside and file complaints in the web portal.
- ✓ Immediately, the concerned district officer will respond and take action.
- ✓ TNPCB is probably the first pollution control board in the entire country to launch such a facility.
- ✓ The 25,000 healthcare facilities, local bodies and common biomedical waste treatment and disposal facilities (CBMWTF) will use the web portal and the app to enter the quantity of biomedical waste generated and incinerated.
- ✓ Using the app, every stage in the disposal will be monitored to ensure no discrepancy, spillage or pilferage

STATES

- **Telangana – to use drones to deliver Covid-19 vaccines to various primary health centres (PHCs) soon**



- ✓ The move is part of a project that could pave the way for more use of technology in healthcare delivery to remote areas
- ✓ In this regard, the state government had received a one-year conditional exemption for the state's 'Medicine from the Sky (MFTS)' project from the ministry of civil aviation for conducting experimental delivery within visual range.
- ✓ The trials are expected to begin in early May with eight startups flying drones from the Vikarabad Area hospital grounds to pre-selected targets within visual range.
- ✓ The eight selected startups would be divided into four batches of two each
- ✓ Each batch would perform the sorties for six days to complete the 24-day trial.
- ✓ Further, before starting the programme, a week-long 'recce' will be conducted on-ground to all the startups
- ✓ Each drone would carry a combination of dummy vials and regular vaccines during the course of the trials and the performance would be recorded in detail.

NATIONAL

- **On May 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - visited the 17th century Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib in Delhi on the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Teg Bahadur and offered prayers**



- ✓ Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib was built by Sikhs at the site where the ninth guru was beheaded by the Mughals in 1675.
- ✓ The Centre has planned year-long activities to mark the 400th Prakash Parb (birth anniversary) of the 9th Sikh Guru.
- ✓ On the death anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur in December last year, PM Modi had visited Gurdwara Rakabganj and paid tributes as well.
- ✓ In view of the coronavirus crisis, the Punjab government will celebrate the 400th birth anniversary of the ninth Sikh Guru Tegh Bahadur from April 28 virtually, as announced by Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh
- ✓ People were requested to pray for the welfare of all from their homes on "Guru Purab" on May 1

- **The Ministry of Road Transport – has introduced an option of nomination of successor to the vehicle owners during registration or by updating details**
- ✓ The move is expected to solve the issues faced by people while trying to transfer ownership in case of death of the original buyer.
- ✓ The road transport ministry has notified the changes in the Motor Vehicle Rules providing this option for nomination
- ✓ The owner can put the name of the nominee while applying for registration and can also add it later through an online application.
- ✓ Currently, transfer of vehicle in case of the original owner's death is a cumbersome process and not uniform across the country.
- ✓ At present, the nominee has to submit the necessary documents such as death certificate, registration certificate and his proof within 30 days with the registering authority.

- **The first lot of 1.5 lakh doses of Russian Covid-19 vaccine, Sputnik V – reached Hyderabad from Russia on May 1**



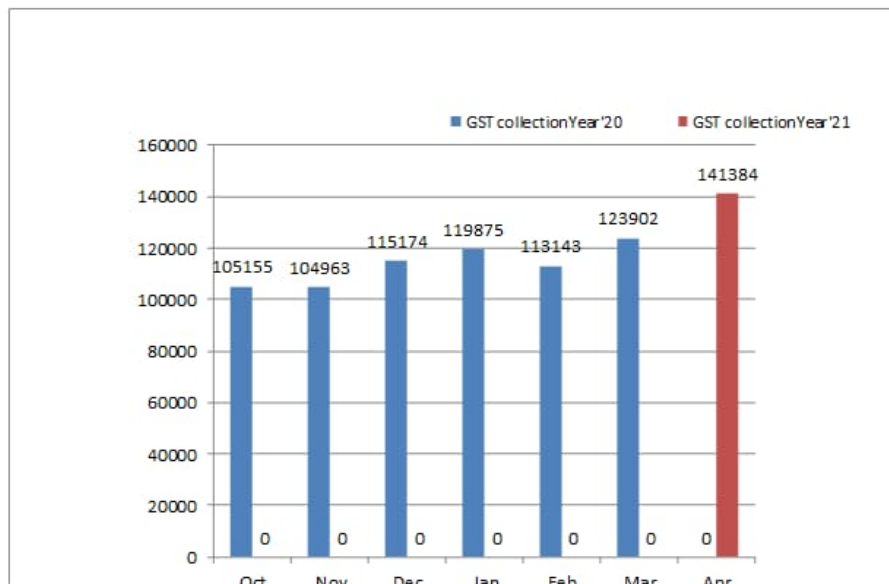
- ✓ The consignment will be delivered to Dr Reddy's Laboratories, which has tied up with the Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) to produce Sputnik V in India.
- ✓ The vaccines are needed to be tested now, unless exempted, which might take another two weeks for rollout
- ✓ The testing must be done at the Central Drugs Laboratory at Kasauli in Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Another 30 lakh doses of the vaccine are due to arrive in India later this month.
- ✓ Sputnik V is the third vaccine approved in India after Covishield and Covaxin, the indigenous vaccine manufactured by Bharat Biotech.
- ✓ The vaccine was developed by Gamaleya National Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology in Russia
- ✓ On April 12, the vaccine was accorded regulatory approval by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for restricted emergency use.
- ✓ Sputnik V can be stored at a temperature range of 2 to 8 degrees Celsius, the same as Covishield and Covaxin

- ✓ The vaccine is administered in two doses at 21 days apart
- ✓ Like Covishield developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca, Sputnik V is also based on human adenoviral vectors.
- ✓ In August 2020, the Russian President Vladimir Putin announced Sputnik V as the “world’s first Covid-19 vaccine”.

ECONOMY

- **The GST collections in April – touched a record high of over ₹1.41 lakh crore, after crossing the ₹1 lakh crore mark for the seventh month in a row**

Monthly gross GST revenues during the October'20 to Mar'20 and April'2021



- ✓ The goods and services tax (GST) collections, which directly reflect the state of economic activity, are 14% higher in April than ₹1.23 lakh crore collected in March.
- ✓ In April last year, the revenue had dropped to a record low of ₹32,172 crore, after the government imposed a nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of coronavirus.
- ✓ As economic activity opened up, GST collections started crossing the ₹1 lakh crore mark since October last year.
- ✓ The gross GST revenue collected in the month of April 2021 is at a record high of ₹1,41,384 crore
- ✓ This includes CGST ₹27,837 crore, SGST ₹35,621 crore, IGST ₹68,481 crore and cess ₹9,445 crore
- ✓ The cess collections include ₹981 crore collected on import of goods.
- ✓ The IGST includes ₹29,599 crore collected on import of goods.
- ✓ During April, revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 21% higher than in March.

SPORTS

➤ **India gymnast Pranati Nayak – qualified through the continental quota for the Tokyo Olympics**



- ✓ The 26-year-old from West Bengal will be the country's only gymnast participating in the next Olympics
- ✓ Pranati is the second reserve behind Sri Lanka's Elpitiya Badalge Dona Milka Geh for the Asian quota
- ✓ She became eligible to compete from the zone following the cancellation of the 9th Senior Asian Championships, which was scheduled to be held from May 29-June 1 in Hangzhou, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ Earlier, Pranati claimed a bronze in vault at the Asian Artistic Gymnastic Championships in 2019

