



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – jUNE 8,

STATES

- **Weyan village of Bandipora district in Jammu & Kashmir - has become the first village in the country to record 100% inoculation of all people over 18 years for Covid-19.**
- ✓ This national record is attributed to the “J&K Model”, which includes a 10-point strategy to vaccinate entire eligible population at a faster pace
- ✓ As per the model, the administration reaches out to the people, instead of the people flooding the vaccination centres.
- ✓ Due to difficult terrain in the region, the vaccinators had to walk around 18km on foot to reach this village.
- ✓ Weyan village in north Kashmir is a village of nomads having no access to internet and without a well-defined route
- ✓ Weyan is 28km from Bandipora town and the first 10km of the journey is by road, up to a place called Athwato, while the remaining 18km is by foot, up the hills.
- ✓ The village had 362 residents, who are over 18 years, eligible for vaccination

NATIONAL

- **On June 7, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - announced free Covid-19 vaccination for those above 18 from June 21, during his second address to the nation this year and ninth since the pandemic struck.**
- ✓ The PM said the Centre will revert to procuring vaccine shots for distribution to states and UTs and announced a Centralised Covid-19 vaccine policy
- ✓ Further, 25% of domestic production by the vaccine firms will remain available to private hospitals, with their service charge capped at ₹150 per jab.
- ✓ The move to reverse the decision to allow states to procure 25% of the shots follows poor vaccination rate in May, when the policy came into effect
- ✓ Also, more than half a dozen chief ministers wrote to the PM calling for central procurement and free vaccination of all adult people.

- ✓ The new policy will see the Centre procure 75% of all vaccines made in India and distribute them to the states and UTs.

PVT HOSPS CAN BUY 25% OF ALL SHOTS

- Centre to buy 75% of Covid-19 jabs from vaccine-makers, including 25% of state quota, from June 21
- Pvt hospitals to continue to have access to 25% of all shots, can take max service charge

- of ₹150/dose over set price
- Trial of 3 more vaccines in advanced stage. 23cr+ doses administered in India so far. Research on nasal spray vax on
- Centre's free ration scheme for 80cr people extended till Diwali in view of the 2nd wave



“ States demanded vaccine decentralisation. Now they have started to realise the difficulty the work involves
States will be informed about the number of doses they will get a week before supply. There should not be differences and debates over vaccines
—PM MODI

- ✓ PM Modi recalled the Centre had launched a free vaccination drive for people above 45 from January 16, 2021
- ✓ PM Modi's last address was on April 20, in which urged the state governments to focus more on micro-containment zones instead of a lockdown
- ✓ Incidentally, June 21 is also observed as International Yoga Day
- **On June 7, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - announced extension of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) till Diwali this year**
- ✓ The extension entitles each beneficiary to 5kg of free foodgrain every month, bringing relief to the nearly 80 crore poor
- ✓ This is in addition to the monthly 5kg highly subsidised foodgrain they get under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)

FOODGRAIN RELIEF

Scheme	Allocation of foodgrain	Cost (subsidy)	
PMGKAY - I&II (April-Nov, 2020)	322.5 lakh tonnes	₹1.22 lakh cr	
PMGKAY - III & IV (May-Nov 2021)	280 lakh tonnes*	₹90,000 cr*	

*Projected figures. PMGKAY - PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna

- ✓ Last month, the government announced the third phase of PMGKAY only for May and June this year.
- ✓ Last year, the scheme was implemented from April to November 2020.
- ✓ Under the current third phase of PMGKAY, the Centre would allocate around 280 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice for seven months (May to November)

- ✓ This entails an additional expenditure of approximately ₹90,000 crore for the government.
- ✓ During last year, the Centre had allocated 322.5 lakh tonnes of foodgrain to states under the first two phases of PMGKAY and incurred an additional expenditure of ₹1.22 lakh crore.
- **The health ministry - has issued an evidence-based treatment plan for Covid-19 patients**
 - ✓ As per the new plan, many medicines that are commonly used during the course of the pandemic have been dropped.
 - ✓ Antiviral favipiravir, India's largest selling drug in April, doesn't find mention in the document released on the website of the directorate general of health services (DGHS).
 - ✓ The other antiviral remdesivir has been recommended for limited use — only on the prescription by a “senior doctor” — as it is an “experimental drug with a potential to harm”.
 - ✓ The hospitals should provide the medicines and not ask patient's relatives to procure it from the retail market, as per the new guidelines
 - ✓ The guidelines only mention four medicines as necessary for severe Covid patients - oxygen, steroids, tocilizumab (not all but based on certain blood parameters) and anticoagulants for patients with comorbidities like diabetes, hypertension, etc.
 - ✓ The guidelines make it clear that medicines are meant only for those moderate or severe Covid-19 patients who need hospitalisation.
 - ✓ For people with mild Covid, only medicines to reduce fever and cough are advised.
 - ✓ Common antibiotics such as azithromycin, doxycycline and ivermectin, the antiparasitic drug for filariasis are missing from the list.
 - ✓ Pharmacy best-sellers zinc supplement and vitamins A, B, C and D are also not mentioned.
 - ✓ Previous protocols by the Union and state government always mentioned 15-30 day course of zinc and vitamin C and D.
- **On June 7, the Union government - published draft rules framed by the Supreme Court e-Committee for live-streaming of proceedings in all high courts and trial courts**
 - ✓ In this regard, the government sought responses from stakeholders and the general public.
 - ✓ Once the scheme rolls out, the cameras will focus on covering at least five angles – towards judges, lawyers, litigants, accused and witnesses.
 - ✓ However, no person/entity other than the court will be able to livestream the proceedings, or record/share it.

- ✓ Any violations in this regard will be punishable under the contempt of court law, besides under the Indian Copyright Act, 1957; Information Technology Act, 2000; and other provisions of law.

INCHING CLOSER TO REALITY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Supreme Court e-Committee headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud framed draft rules for live streaming of proceedings in all high courts and trial courts 	<p>Violators will be punishable under the contempt of court law, besides copyright and Information Technology laws</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Centre has now sought responses from stakeholders and the general public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There will be no live telecast for matrimonial matters and cases involving sexual offences, including PocsO Act cases, among others
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No one other than the court will be able to live stream the proceedings, or record it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chief justices of HCs can allow or deny live streaming of any case

- ✓ The SC e-Committee is headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud
 - ✓ It held extensive deliberations with HC judges Justices Rajiv Shakdher (Delhi), Satish C Sharma (MP, now in Karnataka), Arvind Kumar (Karnataka), T S Shivagnanam (Madras) and Nitin Jamdar (Bombay) to frame the draft rules
 - ✓ A three-judge SC bench on September 26, 2018, in 'Swapnil Tripathi' case had agreed for live telecast of court proceedings and laid down guidelines for its phased launch.
 - ✓ It had allowed a time-lagged live telecast, with the stop button entrusted to the judges.
 - ✓ Justices A M Khanwilkar and Chandrachud were part of the bench that had given separate but concurring judgments.
 - ✓ Recently, CJI N V Ramana had said he was actively considering live telecast of SC proceedings.
 - ✓ The e-Committee laid down detailed procedures for live streaming from each district court complex with a time lag of 10 minutes
 - ✓ This time lag was basically to give judges control over eliminating untoward incidents from reaching people
- **The National Institute of Virology, Pune - has detected a new Covid-19 variant — B.1.1.28.2 — through genome sequencing of samples from international travellers from the United Kingdom and Brazil to India.**
- ✓ The new variant is likely to cause severe symptoms.
 - ✓ The B.1.1.28.2 variant induced body weight loss, viral replication in the respiratory tract, lung lesions and caused severe lung pathology in infected Syrian hamster model.
 - ✓ Genome sequencing labs are looking at mutants which have significant potential of severely affecting disease transmission.

- ✓ Presently, 10 national labs under INSACOG (Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genome Sequencing Consortia) have sequenced around 30,000 samples.
- ✓ The government plans to ramp up genome sequencing and recently added 18 more labs to the consortium
- **The Ministry of Education – has recently launched “YUVA- Prime Minister’s Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors”**

- ✓ YUVA stands for “Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors”
- ✓ It is an Author Mentorship programme to train young and budding authors aged below 30 years, thereby promoting reading, writing and book culture in India.
- ✓ The scheme is in line with PM’s vision of encouraging young writers to write about India’s freedom struggle, as mentioned in PM’s Mann ki Baat in January 2021.
- ✓ YUVA is a part of India@75 Project which seeks to bring perspectives of young generation of writers on various freedom-related themes
- ✓ The scheme will be implemented by “National Book Trust of India” under Ministry of Education.
- ✓ Further, the books written under this scheme will be published by National Book Trust.
- ✓ Under the YUVA scheme, a total of 75 authors will be selected by an All-India Contest and the winners will be announced on August 15, 2021.
- ✓ The published books will be launched in January 2022 on the occasion of National Youth Day.
- **The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) – has proposed to start the fourth nationwide sero-survey for Covid-19 in June 2021**
- ✓ The survey will assess the impact of the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic and spell out plan measures for the future

- ✓ It will feature an expanded coverage of population above six years of age apart from covering healthcare workers in district hospitals.
 - ✓ The last serological survey, between December 17 and January 8, was conducted in population above 10 years of age.
 - ✓ The findings showed 21.4% of the country's adult population (18 years and above) suffered Covid-19 by mid-December, whereas sero-prevalence among children aged 10-18 years was 25.3%.
 - ✓ Among healthcare workers, sero prevalence was 25.7%, with 26.6% in doctors and nurses.
 - ✓ The fourth sero-survey will be conducted in the same 70 districts where the first three surveys were done.
 - ✓ A sero-prevalence survey is based on detection of presence of antibodies developed after the infection
 - ✓ It will help to assess how many people have been exposed to the infection
 - ✓ Moreover, the findings are statistically extrapolated to estimate the spread of an infection as many cases of such infection go unrecorded.
- **The apex body of broadcasters, Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) – has been renamed as “Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation” (IBDF) to bring digital OTT platforms under its purview**
- ✓ To regulate the OTT broadcasters, IBDF is planning to form a new wholly-owned subsidiary which will handle all issues related to digital media.
 - ✓ A self-regulatory body called ‘Digital Media Content Regulatory Council (DMCRC)’ will also be established for digital OTT platforms.
 - ✓ IBF is a unified representative body of television broadcasters, established in 1999, with the membership of about 250 Indian television channels
 - ✓ It is the parent organisation of Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC), established in up 2011, to examine content-related complaints.

HIGH COURT VERDICT

- **The Madras high court - has suggested a ban on health professionals from attempting to medically ‘cure or change’ the sexual orientation of LGBTQA+ individuals to heterosexual or the gender identity of transgender people to cisgender.**
- ✓ The acronym for LGBTQA+ is “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Asexual, & Allies.”
 - ✓ The court also directed National Medical Commission, Indian Psychiatric Society and Rehabilitation Council of India to take action on such health professionals
 - ✓ The proposed ‘action’ includes withdrawal of licence to practice against professionals involved in any form or method of conversion “therapy” to LGBTQA+ community members.

- ✓ Justice N Anand Venkatesh pronounced several guidelines covering issues of transgender and transsexuals



- ✓ It ranges from providing gender-neutral restrooms for gender-nonconforming students and help to change name/gender on academic records for transgender people, besides suggesting separate jails for transsexuals.
 - ✓ Justice Anand Venkatesh had chosen to undergo 'psycho-education' under qualified counsellors to understand same-sex relationship issues, before writing the 125-page verdict.
 - ✓ The case relates to a Madurai-based lesbian couple, aged 23 and 20, who chose to live as married couple.
 - ✓ Justice Anand also suggested that the Union and the state governments effect changes in curricula of schools and universities to educate students on understanding the LGBTQIA+ community.
 - ✓ The court has also directed the Union government to devise policies to eliminate prejudices against LGBTQIA+ people
 - ✓ It urged the government to organize sensitization programmes for the judiciary, police, public servants, health professionals and parents of LGBTQIA+ people.
 - ✓ Justice Anand Venkatesh asked the Union government to enlist Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) including community-based groups which have sufficient expertise in handling the issues faced by the LGBTQIA+ community.
- **On June 7, the Madras high court - has asked state and central governments to take steps to conserve the rich temple heritage of Tamil Nadu.**
- ✓ A division bench consisting of Justice R Mahadevan and Justice P D Audikesavalu laid down an exhaustive set of guidelines covering things ranging from spiritual to scientific upkeep of temples, idols, assets and staff
 - ✓ The bench said the state should constitute a 17-member Heritage Commission within two months
 - ✓ No structural alteration or repair of any monument, temple, idol, sculpture or murals notified either under the Central Act or the State Act should take place without the sanction of the commission.

- ✓ Within eight weeks, the state should also constitute district-level committees, comprising qualified staphathis, experts in history, architecture, murals and conservation besides representative from HR&CE department.
- ✓ The committees shall identify all idols in temples which fall within the definition of “ancient monument” or “antique”
- ✓ It must prepare a list of such monuments, take photographs and computerize the same.
- ✓ The HR&CE department must ensure all temples have strong rooms, which are efficiently secured with latest scientific technology and under 24x7 video surveillance with alarm.
- ✓ All the existing ICON Centres must be brought under 24x7 video surveillance with alarm.
- ✓ It then asked the department to file a report within eight weeks listing out the number of temples without trustees and the steps taken by the department to appoint trustees.
- ✓ A special tribunal shall be formed to deal with matters relating to religious institutions that come under the provisions of the HR&CE Act
- ✓ It will hear disputes on religious affairs, culture, tradition, heritage, inams and recovery of rent, validity of lease, illegal encroachment and other temple and mutts land issues.
- ✓ They will be headed by a retired district judge as chairman with two or more members from the rank of the retired subordinate judicial officers
- ✓ On its part, the Union government shall implement the Ancient Monuments Act in letter and spirit
- ✓ Accordingly, all religious structures more than 100 years old, including temples, temples' tanks, mutts, temple chariots, jewels, art, artefacts, and sacred groves, including private denomination temples, to be declared as ‘national monuments’ with immediate effect.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **On June 7, Jeff Bezos - said that he would be on board when his rocket company, Blue Origin, conducts its first human spaceflight next month.**
- ✓ His brother Mark Bezos would join him on the flight.
- ✓ Blue Origin, the rocket company founded by Bezos in 2000, is also auctioning off a passenger seat on the New Shepard, a suborbital spacecraft that is set to take off July 20.
- ✓ For this passenger seat, the bidding has reached almost \$3 million with nearly 6,000 participants from 143 countries.
- ✓ The flight will carry six passengers on a short trip to the edge of outer space on July 20, the 52nd anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.
- ✓ Blue Origin’s tourist rocket is named after Alan Shepard, the first American to go to space, in the year 1961.
- ✓ It has undergone 15 test flights, none of which had passengers aboard.

DEFENCE

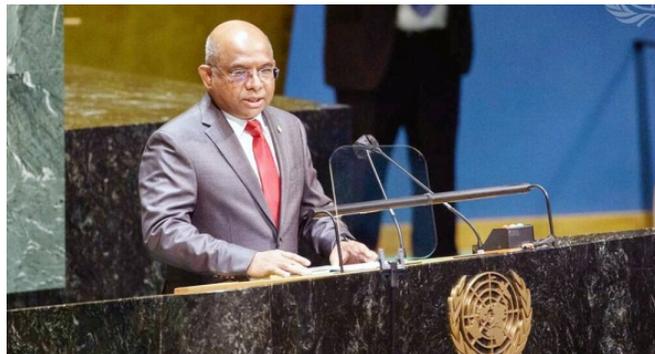
- **National Security Advisor (NSA), Ajit Doval - has recently dedicated Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel 'Sajag' to the nation for safeguarding its maritime interests.**



- ✓ The Offshore Patrol Vessel, Sajag has been constructed by Goa Shipyard Limited
- ✓ It is a small naval vessel designed for coastal defence, immigration law-enforcement, border protection, search and rescue operations.
- ✓ They are widely used in border protection roles such as anti-piracy, anti-smuggling, fisheries patrols, and immigration law enforcement.
- ✓ Sajag is the third in a series of five offshore patrol vessels indigenously designed in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Make in India' vision.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Maldives' foreign minister Abdulla Shahid - will be the new President of the UN General Assembly for the 76th session**



- ✓ He won the election after securing nearly three fourth of the votes polled.
- ✓ After the votes were counted, 143 had voted in favour of Shahid with 48 against and zero abstentions.
- ✓ Maldives put forward their candidature for the President's job back in December 2018, naming Abdulla Shahid.
- ✓ In November 2020, foreign secretary Harsh Shringla visited Male and went public with India's support.

- ✓ Former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had also indicated support to Shahid.
- ✓ In January 2021, former Afghan foreign minister Zalmay Rassoul suddenly became the rival candidate, necessitating the elections.

OBITUARY

- **Reputed artist S Elayaraja (43 years), renowned for his realistic paintings - died on June 7 at a private hospital in Chennai due to Covid-related complications.**



- ✓ Elayaraja was born in April 1979 at a small village near Kumbakonam in Thanjavur district
- ✓ Elayaraja had a liking for portraits from his early days
- ✓ He went to pursue Bachelor of Fine Arts from Government College of Arts and Crafts, Kumbakonam, and masters from Government College of Fine arts, Chennai.
- ✓ His realistic paintings often elicit a sense of wonder and often are mistaken for photographs.
- ✓ Elayaraja had interests in other artistic fields from his college days and has assisted writer director Ra Parthiban in a 2002-released movie too.
- ✓ His talent won him a state award, a fellowship from the Lalit Kala Akademi and opportunities to participate in many international art exhibitions.
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin joined several others in expressing the condolences in twitter.

SPORTS

- **Indian judoka Sushila Devi - has provisionally qualified for the Tokyo Olympics by claiming the continental quota**
- ✓ However, her participation in the Games will be confirmed only after the final list of qualifiers is released on June 28.
- ✓ Sushila lost her first round at the World Judo Championship in Budapest, Hungary on June 6 in the 48kg category
- ✓ She currently has 989 points, which puts her at seventh spot in the Asian list.

- ✓ The continental quotas are allotted based on a judoka's ranking in the region, according to which Asia has 10 quota slots.

NEW COVID GUIDELINES - REPORT

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE COVID

These Tips Are Based On The Health Ministry's New Guidelines

No Symptoms But Positive Test

- > Isolate at home
- > Take 6-minute walk test
- > Use mask around others, maintain physical distance and hand hygiene

Mild Symptoms

- > Isolate at home
- > Take 6-minute walk test
- > Use mask around others, maintain physical distance and hand hygiene
- > Every 4 hours, monitor for temperature, pulse, BP, SpO2, breathlessness and other discomfort or weakness
- > Take fever and cough medicines if you need them
- > A budesonide inhaler (asthma inhaler) may be prescribed for patients who develop a cough



Symptoms By Severity Of Illness

Symptoms	Mild illness	Moderate illness	Severe illness
Fever	Yes	High	Very high
Cough	Yes	Yes	High
Sore throat	Yes	Maybe	Maybe
Body or head ache	Yes	Yes	High
Weakness	Yes	Yes	High
Diarrhoea	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nausea	Maybe	Maybe	Maybe
Loss of smell and/ or taste	Maybe	Maybe	Maybe
Breathlessness	No	High	Very high
Breaths per minute)	Less than 25	24-30	More than 30
SpO2 level	Above 94%	90%-93%	Below 90%

Moderate/Severe Symptoms

- > Moderately-ill patients should be moved to a hospital
- > Severely-ill patients need ICU care



6-Minute Walk Test

With a pulse-oximeter attached to a finger, walk continuously for 6 minutes. If oxygen saturation falls below 94%, or the reading varies by 3-5 percentage points, or you feel breathless and dizzy, admission to a hospital for observation may be needed. Repeat the test every 6-8 hours



Lab Tests You Might Need

- > CBC, blood glucose, urine, LFT, KFT, CRP, S Ferritin, D-Dimer, LDH, CPK
- > CRP and D-Dimer may need to be repeated every 48-72 hours, and CBC, KFT, LFT every 24-48 hours
- > Chest X-rays at least 48 hours apart
- > A high-resolution CT scan of the chest should be done only when a case of moderate Covid worsens, or if the treating physician considers it necessary, to see the nature and extent of lung involvement in a Covid infection



DO NOT TAKE THESE MEDICINES UNLESS YOUR DOC PRESCRIBES

Remdesivir

Remdesivir is not meant for home use and should only be administered at a hospital. Patients with moderate or severe symptoms who need supplemental oxygen are given remdesivir

Steroids

Steroids, such as dexamethasone, are meant for only severe or critical cases in hospitals, so do not self-medicate

Anticoagulants

These drugs reduce clotting, but they are only given in moderate or severe cases, on a doctor's prescription

Tocilizumab

An immunosuppressant meant for only severe or critical cases. It is given when a patient shows no improvement 24-48 hours after steroids