

## **UPSC Daily Current Affairs | Prelim Bits 06-05-2021**

### **AYUSH-64**

- AYUSH-64 is a poly herbal formulation that has been found to help in the treatment of asymptomatic, mild and moderate COVID-19 infection.
- It was developed by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), a research institution under the Ministry of Ayush.
- Originally developed in 1980 for treatment of Malaria, this drug has notable antiviral, immune-modulator and antipyretic properties. It may also be taken as prophylactic medicine.
- But as a side effect of Ayush-64, loose motions can occur in some patients, which can be self-limiting and does not require any medical intervention.

### **BEAM Committee**

- The Central Government had constituted the 'BVLOS Experiment Assessment and Monitoring (BEAM) Committee' to invite Expression of Interest (EOI) to undertake BVLOS experimental flights of drones.
- For this, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issued an EOI notice.
- The BEAM Committee has selected 20 consortia ('Selected Consortia') for the experimental flights.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted conditional exemption from Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules, 2021 to 20 entities to conduct Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) experimental flights of drones.
- These exemptions are subject to complete adherence to the requirements stated in the said EOI notice and the directions/ exemptions issued (or to be issued in future) by the BEAM Committee.
- This conditional exemption shall be valid for period of one year, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

### **Section 142 of the Social Security Code**

- Section 142 of the Social Security Code, 2020 has been notified by Ministry of Labour & Employment covering applicability of Aadhaar.
- It will enable Labour Ministry to collect Aadhaar details for the database of beneficiaries under various social security schemes.
- National Data Base for Unorganised Workers (NDUW) is at an advanced

stage of development by National Informatics Centre.

- The portal is aimed at **collection of data for unorganised workers** including migrant workers for the purpose of giving benefits of the various schemes of the Government.
- An inter-state migrant worker can register himself on the portal on the basis of submission of Aadhar alone.

### **SARS-COV2 in Asiatic Lions**

- Eight Asiatic Lions housed in the Nehru Zoological Park (NZP), Hyderabad were infected with SARS-COV2.
- The samples from the lions were shared with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology - Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered Species (CCMB-LaCONES) Hyderabad.
- To know more about Asiatic Lions, [click here](#).

### **Operation Samudra Setu II**

- Under this Indian Navy operation, seven Indian Naval ships (INS) have been deployed for shipment of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) -filled cryogenic containers from various countries to India.
- [Seven INS viz. Kolkata, Kochi, Talwar, Tabar, Trikand, Jalashwa and Airavat]
- In 2020, [Operation Samudra Setu](#) was launched by the Navy and around 4000 Indian citizens stranded in neighbouring countries, amidst COVID 19 outbreak, were successfully repatriated back to India.

### **Vande Bharat Mission**

- The Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) that started repatriating Indians stranded abroad due to Covid-19 and the resultant lockdowns has turned out to be one of the largest evacuations of civilians by a country.
- It has surpassed the large-scale airlift of 1,10,000 people in 1990 at the onset of the Gulf War.
- National carrier Air India, which carried out the bulk of air transfers under the mission, was supported by its budget carrier Air India Express.
- Air India Express (AIE) lifted agricultural products, mainly fruits and vegetables, to West Asian countries, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.
- Under the mission, the entire cost of travel will be borne by the passengers. The mission gave priority to Indian citizens with “compelling reasons to return.
- “Transport bubbles”, temporary arrangements between two countries aimed

at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended due to the pandemic, are in place.

- Reciprocal in nature, airlines from both countries enjoy similar benefits. Such arrangements had been established with many countries.

### **Purchasing Managers' Index**

- The seasonally adjusted IHS Markit India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) was at 55.5 in April 2022, little changed from March's reading of 55.4.
- In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion while a score below 50 denotes contraction.
- It is a survey-based measure that questions people about changes in their perception about key business variables as compared with the previous month.
- **Purpose** - To provide information about current and future business conditions to company decision makers, analysts, and investors.
- To know more about Purchasing Managers' Index, [click here](#).

**Source: PIB, The Hindu**

