

## UPSC Daily Current Affairs | Prelim Bits 17-12-2020

### Mucormycosis

- Covid-19 has triggered Mucormycosis or black fungus in some patients.
- Mucormycosis is a serious but rare fungal infection caused by a group of molds called mucormycetes which exist in the environment.
- Symptoms include face numbness, one-side nose obstruction, swelling in the eye or cheeks, and black dry crusts in the nose.
- Early detection can prevent loss of eyesight, nose or jaw, and 50% mortality in cases where it affects the brain.
- It mainly affects people who have health problems or take medicines that lower the body's ability to fight germs and sickness.

### Red List of Indian Grasshoppers

- The Grasshopper Specialist Group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is initiating the Red List Assessment of grasshoppers in India for the first time.
- So far, none of the Indian grasshopper species has been listed in the Red Data Book.
- The assessment would be initiated in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR) on the border between Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka.
- This assessment will include 30 endemic species of the NBR along with the new species of grasshopper 'Tettilobus trishula' or 'Shiva's pygmy trishula' discovered in the Eravikulam National Park, Kerala.
- **Red List of Threatened Species**, founded in 1964, is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of biological species.

### NFHS-5

- The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) report is released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- This report analysed domestic violence under three categories:
  1. Married women between 18 and 49 years who have ever experienced Spousal violence (both physical and sexual violence)
  2. Physical violence during pregnancy
  3. Young women aged between 18 and 29 years who experienced sexual

violence by age 18

- According to the latest NFHS-5 (2019-2020) report, gender-based violence across most Indian states declined in the past 5 years.

### **PM's Special Scholarship Scheme**

- This scheme aims to build the capacities of the youths of J&K and Ladakh by Educating, Enabling and Empowering them to compete in the normal course.
- It is implemented by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).
- Under the scheme, these youths are supported by way of scholarship in two parts namely the academic fee & maintenance allowance.
- The academic fee is paid to the institution where the student is provided admission after on-line counselling process conducted by the AICTE.
- This academic fee covers tuition fee and other components as per the ceiling fixed for various professional, medical and other UG courses.
- In order to meet expenditure towards hostel accommodation, mess expenses, books & stationery etc., a fixed amount of Rs.1.00 Lakh is provided to the beneficiary.

### **Golden Peacock Environment Management Award**

- Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) received this award for 2020.
- This award acknowledges organisations with significant achievements in the field of Environment Management.
- This award was instituted in 1998 by World Environment Foundation (WEF), as one among the Golden Peacock Awards at national level.

### **Golden Peacock Awards**

- These awards were instituted by the Institute of Directors, India in 1991.
- [“Institute of Directors” is registered as a Society, under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, in India.]
- These annual awards are given at the national and global level.
- All institutions whether public, private, non-profit, government, business, manufacturing and service sector are eligible to apply.

**Source: The Indian Express, The Hindu, PIB, Down To Earth**