DAILY NEWS DIARY

(DnD)

01.04.2020

For Prelims & Mains
Dear Student,

Warm Greetings.

➢ DnD aims to provide every day news analysis in sync with the UPSC pattern.
➢ It is targeted at UPSC – Prelims & Mains.
➢ Daily articles are provided in the form of Question and Answers
  - To have a bank of mains questions.
  - And interesting to read.
  - Providing precise information that can he carries straight to the exam, rather than over dumping.

Enjoy reading.

THE HINDU - TH
INDIAN EXPRESS - IE
BUSINESS LINE - BL
ECONOMIC TIMES - ET
TIMES OF INDIA - TOI

Essay Paper

Editorial

Q – Explain the Tablighi Jamaat conference in Nizamuddin and The Epidemic Diseases Act’s come into play nationwide?

INTRO = The Tablighi Jamaat conference in Nizamuddin, Delhi is the cause of the spread of cases from this one spot, which reportedly had several foreign nationals who later tested positive and 6 of who attended died, has emerged as a key milestone in India’s management of the epidemic. The conference was held on March 13, more than a week before the Sunday lockdown. Since then, people from the conference moved on, back home, and several, including Indonesian nationals who were present at Nizamuddin, have tested positive. While the State has deployed ‘hotspot’ containment strategies in ground zero in Delhi, it is the people who have spread out in the community that are absolutely crucial, over the next few days, to shaping one stretch of the course of the epidemic in India.

Some States have already expressed being thwarted, without co-operation from the participants, and their close contacts, leading to disastrous consequences. It is indeed a Herculean task, and may even be considered impossible, unless - Every public health emergency requires community recognition that this is an extraordinary set of circumstances requiring far-from-ordinary responses. A reasonable restriction on citizens’ rights may come into play on invoking provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act.
However, the strongest weapon that one can unleash against this pandemic is with every individual. It is time to insist that every individual respond responsibly during this time:
1) To inform authorities of relevant history of travel
2) And also contact history
3) Stay in quarantine even if asymptomatic, follow all other protocols.
4) Keeping health authorities in the loop could make the difference between life and death.
Thus, It is high time for people to believe that the enemy is the pandemic, and act responsibly.

GS 2
➢ International Relations
Q - Details of Indonesia’s declared state of emergency?
President Joko Widodo declared a state of emergency in Indonesia as COVID-19 deaths in the world’s fourth most populous country jumped again.
- However, he has resisted calls for a nationwide lockdown and has been heavily criticised for not imposing lockdowns in major cities, including the capital Jakarta, home to about 30 million people.
- Home to about 30 million people. He announced $1.5 billion in beefed-up social assistance and subsidies for low-income workers.
- Up until 31 March, 136 people died after contracting the virus, with 1,528 confirmed cases of infection.

➢ Social Justice
Q – Status of the use of Hydroxychloroquine in India?
The Union Health Ministry has revised the guidelines, allowing the use of Hydroxychloroquine.

In combination with Azithromycin under close monitoring for patients with severe disease and requiring ICU management as per the revised Guidelines on Clinical Management of COVID-19.
- Hydroxychloroquine was previously under testing and was allowed to be administered only to doctors and caregivers in direct contact with COVID-19 positive cases.
- However, cautioned that the medication is presently not recommended for children less than 12 years, pregnant and lactating women.
The revised guidelines are based on currently available information and would be reviewed from time to time as new evidence emerges, Health Ministry’s Revised National Clinical Management of COVID-19 stated.

Snippets
GS 2
➢ Social Justice
Govt. cuts interest rates on NSC (National Savings Certificate) & PPF (Public Provident Fund).
By up to 1.4% for the first quarter of 2020-21, in line with the moderation in bank deposit rates. Interest rates are paid quarterly, while the five-year term deposit will earn 6.7%, down from the current rate of 7.7%.

GS 3
➢ Economic Development
1. Core sector growth up 5.5% in Feb.
The highest growth in 11 months, mainly due to healthy expansion in output of coal, refinery products and electricity, according to government data.
2. Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association (Taipa) calls for boosting Telecom Network Capacity.

For which the States need to align their policies with the Centre's Right of Way (RoW) 2016 norms. With data traffic in the country surging by at least 30% in the past few days amid most people working from home, some cities like Hyderabad and Bengaluru have seen cellular network data consumption increase by 70% since the lockdown began," the association said in a statement.