

## Daily Current affairs for State PSC Exams 14.08.2020

### India ranks first in number of organic farmers

- India ranks first in the number of organic farmers and ninth in terms of area under organic farming.
- Sikkim became the first state in the world to become fully organic and other States including Tripura and Uttarakhand have set similar targets.
- With the simultaneous thrust given by the Agri-export Policy 2018, India can emerge as a major player in global organic markets.
- The major organic exports from India have been **flax seeds, sesame, soybean, tea, medicinal plants, rice, and pulses**, which were instrumental in driving an **increase of nearly 50% in organic exports in 2018-19**, touching Rs 5151 crore.
- Two dedicated programs namely **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North East Region (MOVCD)** and **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)** were **launched in 2015 to encourage chemical-free farming**.

### India's population to cross 152 crores in next 16 years

- **India's population could increase by 10 per cent** in the next 16 years from the **current mark of about 138 crores**, a technical group on population projections constituted by the **Ministry of Health** in 2014 has predicted.
- The report submitted by group states: **“The population of India is expected to increase from 121.1 crore to 152.2 crore during the period 2011-2036 – an increase of 25.7 per cent in 25 years at the rate of 1.0 per cent annually.** Consequently, the density of the population will increase from 368 to 463 persons per square kilometre.”
- Note: The last official government data on population, from the 2011 Census, had pegged it at 121.1 crore, but various United Nations agencies estimate that the figure has gone up to Rs 138 crore.
- A recent study in *The Lancet* journal had predicted that India's population would peak in 2048 at 160 crore.

### Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation launched

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** launched the **Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO)** through an online webinar.
- The NIIO puts in place dedicated structures for the end users to **interact with academia and industry** towards **fostering innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence**.
- The **Indian Navy** has also signed **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Uttar Pradesh Expressway Industrial Development Authority, Raksha Shakti University of Gujarat, Maker Village in Kochi and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers**.
- **‘SWAVLAMBAN’**, a compendium of Indian Navy's Indigenisation perspective plans, was also released on the occasion.
- Recently the **Draft Defence Acquisition Policy 2020 (DAP 20)** has been rolled out by the **Defence Ministry** which envisaged

establishment of Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation by the Service Headquarters.

### WHO advised 140 tests per day per million population

- **Health Ministry** announced that World Health Organisation, WHO has advised **140 tests per day per million population**.
- The Ministry also informed that with **focused Centre led efforts and effective implementation by States and Union Territories, 34 of them** have exceeded this requirement. For this, **Real-Time RT PCR, TrueNat and CBNAAT** based testing labs are also used.
- WHO in its Guidance Note on “**Public Health Criteria to Adjust Public Health and Social Measures in the Context of COVID-19**” has advised comprehensive surveillance for suspected cases.

### Former Chief Justice of Bangladesh charged for Money Laundering

- **Justice S.K. Sinha**, former **Chief Justice of Bangladesh** booked under the **money laundering case** filed by the **Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)**.
- The ACC had filed the case against Justice Sinha and others in July last year for a fraudulent loan transaction and money laundering of 4 crore Taka from Farmers Bank in 2016.
- **Justice Sinha** was appointed as **Chief Justice of Bangladesh** in 2015. He had resigned amid controversy about a **judgement of the Supreme Court** which struck down the law giving power to parliament to remove justices of the Supreme Court.

### Mumbai, the first Indian city to have ‘female icons’ on traffic signals

- **Mumbai** has become first Indian city to have women symbols on traffic signals and signage that symbolizes gesture towards gender equality in public spaces.
- It has been installed by **Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC)**
- The symbol display female icons sporting triangular frock, a shift from the default representation of men.
- The symbols can be spotted at 240 signals on 120 posts situated in 12 different road crossings near Mumbai’s Dadar area.

### GK Menon, Sports journalist passed away in Mumbai

- Renowned sports journalist **GK Menon (93 years)** passed away in suburban Mumbai.
- He worked as a freelancer with the Indian Express and The Times of India in 1990s
- He played cricket at club level and was an active member of **Shivaji Park Gymkhana, Dadar (Mumbai)**
- He was manager of Bombay University team in 1952-53 which won **Rohinton Baria Trophy** by beating Delhi
- Test players like **Chandu Patankar, Ramnath Kenny, Naren Tamhane** and **GR Sunderam** emerge out of this team.