

Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

1. Who has been conferred the International Gandhi Peace Prize for 2018?

- A. Yohei Sasakawa
- B. Desmond Tutu
- C. Chandi Prasad Bhatt
- D. John Hume

- ✓ On 26th Feb 2019, President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the International Gandhi Peace Prize for 2015, 16, 17 and 18 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan. For 2018, Japan's Yohei Sasakawa was given the prize for his contribution in Leprosy Eradication in India and across the world. Ekal Abhiyan Trust was conferred the award for 2017 for its contribution in providing Education for Rural and Tribal Children in remote areas pan India, Rural Empowerment, Gender and Social Equality.
- ✓ For 2015, Vivekananda Kendra (Kanyakumari) was given the award for its contribution in Rural Development, Education and Development of natural resources. For 2016, the award was presented jointly to Akshaya Patra Foundation for its contribution in providing mid-day meals to millions of children across India and Sulabh International for its contribution in improving the condition of sanitation in India and emancipation of manual scavengers. The award comprises a cash award of Rs. 1 crore, a citation in a scroll, a plaque and a traditional handicraft item.

2. The first-ever Skill Saathi Youth Conclave has launched in which of the following cities?

- A. Kochi
 - B. Bhubaneswar
 - C. Hyderabad
 - D. Shimla
- ✓ The first-ever Skill Saathi Youth Conclave has inaugurated by Union Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan at Rail Auditorium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The program aims to create a mass movement around skill development in the

state and inspire youth to make the most of various skill development opportunities in the country.

- ✓ The conclave was aired live across 427 locations in Odisha, where more than 2 lakh candidates were mobilized for career counseling under Skill Saathi initiative. The initiative provides information on vocational training programs under Skill India mission, conduct psychometric test and provide face-to-face counselling interventions to guide aspirants to make the right choice of based on their interest and aptitude.

3. Which Indian Grandmaster has lifted the 2019 Cannes International Open trophy?

- A. Krishnan Sasikiran
- B. Parimarjan Negi
- C. Pentala Harikrishna
- D. Abhijeet Gupta

- ✓ In Chess, Indian Grandmaster Abhijeet Gupta lifted the 2019 Cannes International Open trophy with 7.5 points. He took an easy draw with Pier Luigi Basso of Italy in the ninth and final round. It was a clear point lead over nearest rivals Nikita Maiorov of Belarus, Nasuta Grzegorz of Poland and Yuri Solodovnichecko of Ukraine.

4. Bandipur Tiger Reserve, which is in news recently, is located in which of the following states?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Karnataka
- C. Odisha
- D. Telangana

- ✓ The horrific forest fire has recently broken out in the Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR) in Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka. The fire is estimated to have gutted 2,000 hectares of the forest. Hundreds of forest department officials along with local volunteers have been trying to douse the fire.
- ✓ However, strong winds and dry grass have aided the fire to spread towards the roads on National Highway 67. As a result, NH 67 (which connects Ooty

to Mysore) had to be closed for vehicles. There have been reports of loss of wildlife, but nothing has been confirmed so far. The Bandipur reserve is one of the first national parks in India and has the highest tiger density anywhere in the world.

- ✓ It has also been declared as an important area for elephant conservation. The reserve covers an area of 87,400 hectares and along with the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary and the Nagarhole National Park form one of India's ecologically diverse regions. It is home to vulnerable species like elephants, gaurs, tigers and Indian rock pythons.

5. Which Indian politician has authored the book "India in Distress"?

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Arvind Kejriwal
- C. Mamata Banerjee
- D. Sonia Gandhi

- ✓ The book titled "India in Distress" has been authored by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, which is scheduled to be launch in the National Capital on February 27.
- ✓ Banerjee has so far published 87 books. Among the seven books that Banerjee has penned this time, there are ones for children, of poems in Bengali, Urdu and English and a couple of books on politics - in Hindi and Bengali.

6. Afghanistan has launched new export route to India through which of the following ports?

- A. Abadan
- B. Chabahar
- C. Bandar
- D. Khorramshahr

- ✓ The landlocked & war-torn nation, Afghanistan has recently launched new export route to India through the strategic Chabahar Port of Iran to boost regional connectivity. According to officials, the first shipment of 57 tonnes consists of dried fruits, textiles, carpets and mineral products in 23

trucks products were dispatched from western Afghan city of Zaranj to Chabahar port.

- ✓ The consignment will be shipped to the Indian city of Mumbai. The Iranian port provides easy access to the sea to Afghanistan and India has helped developed this route to allow both countries to engage in trade bypassing Pakistan.

7. Recently, India has been invited to 46th session of foreign ministers OIC. In this context, which of the following is not a correct statement?

- A. India is a member of OIC
- B. Official languages are Arabic, English, and French
- C. India is neither a member nor an observer
- D. Headquarters at Jeddah
- ✓ India has been invited to attend a meeting of foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Abu Dhabi, UAE on the 1st and 2nd March of 2019. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will be the Guest of Honour and address the inaugural plenary of the 46th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of OIC at the invitation of UAE Foreign Minister.
- ✓ This is the first time that a leader of the non-Muslim country has been invited to the OIC conference. The move will boost relations with West Asian and Muslim-majority nations. New Delhi sees the invitation as a milestone in the comprehensive strategic partnership with the UAE. It is also a welcome recognition of the presence of 185 million Muslims in India and of India's contribution to the Islamic world. The official languages of the OIC are Arabic, English, and French.

8. Which country has recently introduced its new currency 'RTGS dollar'?

- A. Turkey
- B. Morocco
- C. Zimbabwe
- D. Sierra Leone
- ✓ Zimbabwe has recently introduced its new currency, dubbed as Real Time Gross Settlement

(RTGS) dollar, after the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) announced measures to try and resolve a chronic monetary crisis. The new currency replaces electronic bank savings called digital dollars and the bond notes, and was named after the RTGS system that banks use to transfer money between each other.

- ✓ The currency was launched at an initial rate of 2.5 RTGS dollars per US dollar. The RTGS dollar is supposed to bring together bond notes and debit card and mobile money payments to make sure that they are all worth the same.

- ✓ Bihar has become the first state in India which has raised its own dog squad to detect liquor consignment.
- ✓ All these dogs were imparted nine-month training at Hyderabad-based Integrated Intelligence Training Academy before being inducted in the Bihar Police. The total strength of the Bihar Police's dog squad stands at 68. On each dog, the state police spent around Rs 1.71 lakh and two handlers have been deputed. Notably, Bihar had banned liquor in the state in 2016.

9. What is the theme of the 2019 IAA World Congress?

- A. Brand Dharma
- B. Brand Fashion
- C. Brand Innovation
- D. Brand Evaluation

- ✓ In Kerala, the International Advertising Association (IAA) hosted the 44th edition of IAA World Congress 2019 at the Grand Hyatt Lulu International Convention Centre in Kochi from February 20 to 22. The theme of the IAA World Congress was 'Brand Dharma' which enlightened the delegates about the basic principles a brand has to follow to connect with its customers and society at large.
- ✓ Around 2,000 delegates from India and abroad participated in the event. The New York-based IAA has a presence in 55 countries, and consists of advertisers, advertising agencies and the media. The World Congress is held every alternate year in various destinations around the world.

10. Which of the following states has become the India's first state to have raised a special dog squad to detect liquor consignment?

- A. Assam
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Punjab
- D. Bihar