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## Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

### 1. Who has become the first woman President of the Astronomical Society of India (ASI)?

- A. Pramila Mehta
- B. Gautami Kapoor
- C. Radha Sharma
- D. G C Anupama**

- ✓ Dr. G C Anupama has become the first woman President of Astronomical Society of India (ASI), prime association of professional astronomers in the country. She succeeded R K Tyagi. Prior to this post, she was the Dean and Senior Professor at the Bengaluru based Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA). Dr. Anupama is also the India group head of an international team of scientists that is building a 'Thirty Meter Telescope' (TMT) at a cost of over \$1 billion in Hawaii, USA.
- ✓ TMT is an international project being funded by scientific organisations of Canada, China, India, Japan, and USA. She has presented many papers on Astrophysics (supernova) at international conferences and was also Project in Charge for the design and establishment of the Himalayan Telescope at the Hanle Observatory in Leh, Ladakh. The Leh telescope is the only one at the highest elevation in the world and has been providing valuable data for the scientific community.

### 2. What is the theme of the 2019 International Mother Language Day (IMLD)?

- A. Linguistic diversity and multilingualism count for sustainable development
- B. Indigenous Languages as a factor in development, peace and reconciliation**
- C. Towards Sustainable Futures through Multilingual Education
- D. Quality education, language(s) of instruction and learning outcomes
- ✓ The International Mother Language Day (IMLD) is observed every year on 21st of February to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and

multilingualism. Since 2019 is also the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL19), the theme of this year's IMLD is "Indigenous Languages as a factor in development, peace and reconciliation". At least 43% of the estimated 6000 languages spoken in the world are endangered.

- ✓ Only a few hundred languages have genuinely been given a place in education systems and the public domain. According to UN data, a language disappears every two weeks taking with it an entire cultural and intellectual heritage. UNESCO has been celebrating IMLD for nearly 20 years with the aim of preserving this linguistic diversity and promoting mother tongue-based multilingual education. Progress is being made in this direction with a growing understanding of its importance, particularly in early schooling.

### 3. In which of the following neighboring countries, the Festival of India has started?

- A. Nepal**
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bhutan
- ✓ In Nepal, a month-long 'Festival of India' has started in Kathmandu to familiarize the new generation of the country about the similarities between the two countries. The festival, organised by the Indian Embassy and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, is being held in Kathmandu and other major cities of Nepal from February 19th to March 21st.

### 4. Which city is the venue of the 2019 International Vision Zero Conference?

- A. Dehradun
- B. Mumbai**
- C. Shimla
- D. New Delhi
- ✓ In Maharashtra, the International Vision Zero Conference was held in Mumbai from 18th to 20th February 2019 to promote Occupational Safety and Health. The conference provides a forum for

promoting safety and health at work by exchanging knowledge, practices and experience. It is organized by the Directorate General Factory Advice and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), IIT Bombay together with the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) and with strong support of the ISSA Sections on Construction, Electricity, Mining, Transportation and Information. The concept of Vision Zero is based on four fundamental principles viz. life is non-negotiable, humans are fallible, tolerable limits are defined by human physical resistance, and people are entitled to safe transport and safe workplaces.

- ✓ The Vision is based on principles of Controlling Risks, Ensuring Safety and Health in Machines, Equipment and Workplaces and Skill Upgradation of Workforce.

5. Which state Police has inducted India's first humanoid robot officer?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Andhra Pradesh

- ✓ The Kerala State Police claimed to have created history by becoming one of the world's first and the very first police force in India to induct humanoid robots called 'KP-Bot'. KP-Bot is designed to provide round-the-clock service, involving public interface and front office administration and overcome human limitations to avoid, to the extent possible, human error. However, it does not replace any human resources. Rather, it would act as the first contact point and a data collection tool to help improve the overall quality of service and performance levels.

6. Which Indian politician has been conferred with 'Grand Cross of Order of Civil Merit' award in Spain recently?

- A. Sumitra Mahajan
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Sushma Swaraj

D. Venkaiah Naidu

- ✓ The Spain government has recently conferred Union External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj with a prestigious award 'Grand Cross of Order of Civil Merit'. The award was conferred in recognition of India's support in evacuating 71 Spanish nationals through Operation Maitri from Nepal in April 2015 during the disastrous earthquake, which killed nearly 9,000 people and injured as many as 22,000 people.

7. Which state government has launched KALIA Chhatra Bruti scholarship?

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

- ✓ Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has recently launched KALIA Chhatra Bruti Scholarship at the Secretariat for the children of the KALIA Scheme beneficiaries, who are studying and aspiring for technical and professional education. The state government is implementing the KALIA (Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation) scheme for the benefit of the farmers. Under the scheme, named after Lord Jagannath, the government would provide financial assistance of Rs. 10,000 per family to small and marginal farmers as assistance for cultivation.
- ✓ Each family will get Rs 5,000 separately in the kharif and rabi seasons, for five cropping seasons between 2018-19 and 2021-22. The scheme is not linked to the amount of land owned. Besides, landless households would be provided Rs 12,500 to take up activities like goat rearing units, mini layer units, duckery units, fishery kits for fishermen and women, mushroom cultivation and beekeeping,.

8. Which of the following telescopes has recently helped to discover 300000 new galaxies?

- A. LOFAR
- B. Hubble

C. Spitzer Space

D. Euclid

- ✓ An international team of more than 200 astronomers from 18 countries has published the first phase of a major new radio sky survey at unprecedented sensitivity using the Low Frequency Array (LOFAR) telescope in the journal *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. The survey discovered 3,00,000 hidden galaxies using radio astronomy in a tiny corner of the northern hemisphere at low radio frequency.
- ✓ It is believed that these findings will help shed new light on some of the Universe's deepest secrets. This includes the physics of black holes as well as research into how galaxy clusters evolve. The LOFAR telescope is operated by ASTRON in The Netherlands and is considered to be the world's leading telescope of its type.
- ✓ It is made up of a network of radio antenna across seven countries, forming the equivalent of a 1,300-km diameter satellite dish. It is capable of detecting light source beyond the power of optical instruments. Radio astronomy allows scientists to detect radiation produced when massive celestial objects interact.

9. Space Policy Directive-4 (SPD-4), sometimes seen in news, is associated with which country?

A. France

B. **United States**

C. Germany

D. Russia

- ✓ President Donald Trump has recently signed an executive order 'Space Policy Directive-4 (SPD-4)' to establish its Space Force as a new military service within the Department of Air Force. The main goal of the Space Force is to secure and extend American dominance of the space domain.
- ✓ As per the order, the Space Force would be an armed branch of the military and include both combat and combat support functions to enable prompt and

sustained offensive and defensive space operations in all domains.

- ✓ The force will be organized, trained, and equipped to meet and protect the US national interests in the space, consistent with international laws. Currently, the Air Force is the US military branch that currently has responsibility for space.

10. The "Words in the Garden" festival on Gandhian philosophy is scheduled to be held in which of the following cities?

A. Shimla

B. Ahmedabad

C. **New Delhi**

D. Gandhi Nagar

- ✓ The 3rd edition of "Words in the Garden" festival 2019 is scheduled to be held on February 22 in New Delhi and will pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi with the theme -- 'Bapu ki Dilli'. The 3-day festival will celebrate the creativity, imagination and ideas that Delhi generates, sustains and embodies. Commemorating 150 years of Gandhi's birth anniversary, the event will feature plays, recitals, readings, discussions honoring the life and ideology of Bapu.
- ✓ Highlights include M K Raina's play "Stay Yet A While", poems, recitals, acts and music by Gandhi Ambedkar Circle of St Stephen's College, storytelling by Mahmood Farooqui on Gandhi's final journey and Madhup Mudgal's "Ashram Bhajanavali". The fest is free and open to all, and will see participation by stalwarts from the fields of literature, art, and social sciences among others. The fest is the brain child of renowned Hindi writer Ashok Vajpeyi.

## Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

1. Which Indian personality has been honored with the 2018 Seoul Peace Prize recently?

- A. Sushma Swaraj
  - B. Narendra Modi**
  - C. Manmohan Singh
  - D. Manohar Parrikar
- ✓ On 22nd February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been honored with the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize - 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth. The award credited 'Modinomics' for reducing social and economic disparity between the rich and the poor. The Peace Prize committee also credited him for his contribution toward regional and global peace through a proactive policy with countries around the world.
- ✓ The award was presented to him by the Seoul Peace Prize Foundation at a grand ceremony in Seoul. A short film on the life and achievements of Prime Minister Modi was also screened at the event. He dedicated the \$200,000 prize money to 'Namami Gange Programme', which is flagship programme of his government to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of River Ganga. Modi is the 14th recipient of the award and the past laureates included former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and renowned international relief organizations like Doctors Without Borders and Oxfam.

2. Which city is the venue of the 12th edition of Aero India show 2019?

- A. Bengaluru**
  - B. Kolkata
  - C. Chennai
  - D. Kochi
- ✓ The 12th edition of the country's biennial air show and aviation exhibition - Aero India 2019 – has been launched by Union Defence Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman at the Air Force Station Yelahanka in Bengaluru on 20th Feb. The chiefs of the three Armed Forces —Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa, Admiral Sunil Lanba and General Bipin Rawat — were in attendance at the show organised by the Ministry of Defence.

- ✓ The 5-day aero show is themed 'The Runway to a Billion Opportunities', to communicate India's value proposition in addressing the immense opportunities in the aerospace and aviation sectors in the country today. This year, there are 403 registered exhibitors, of which 238 are Indian companies and 165 foreign companies. Around 60 aircraft are on display, including Rafale jet, Boeing planes, Airbus A330, Super Hercules and HAL'S Light weight helicopter. The logo for Aero India 2019 is inspired by the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).

3. The 16th Russia-India-China (RIC) Foreign Ministerial Meeting is scheduled to be held in which of the following cities?

- A. Shanghai
  - B. Moscow
  - C. Wuzhen**
  - D. New Delhi
- ✓ The 16th meeting of the Russia-India-China (RIC) Foreign Ministers would be held at the Chinese city of Wuzhen in the eastern Zhejiang province on February 27. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will participate in the meeting together with the host Foreign Minister Wang Yi and the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.
- ✓ The Ministers are expected to exchange views on the global situation, regional developments of common concern, address global challenges such as terrorism and discuss trilateral exchanges and activities. The meeting assumes significance as it will be the first high-level interaction between India and China after the Pulwama terror attack carried out by Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in which 40 CRPF soldiers were killed on February 14.

- ✓ China has expressed shock over the incident, but reiterated its stand to block moves to list JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist by the UN's 1267 Sanctions Committee. The last RIC Foreign Ministerial Meeting had been held in New Delhi on 11 December in 2017.

#### 4. Who has been appointed as the first court-appointed ombudsman for the BCCI?

A. DK Jain

B. Anil Singh

C. Jitendra Kumar

D. Raveesh Gupta

- ✓ The Supreme Court has appointed former apex court judge Justice DK Jain as the first court-appointed ombudsman for the BCCI under the terms of newly approved constitution of the cricket board. The role of the ombudsman would be to resolve the disputes relating to the players within the state cricket associations as also financial issues.
- ✓ The ombudsman will have to hold hearings at the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) headquarters in Mumbai. It must be noted that Article 40, chapter nine of the BCCI constitution deals with the issue of appointment of ombudsman for the purpose of providing an independent dispute resolution mechanism. The types of disputes that come under the ambit of ombudsman pertain to members, associations and IPL franchisee.

#### 5. Which Indian personality has been elected as the new Vice-President of the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF)?

A. Mariamma Koshy

B. Asima Ali

C. Rajinder Singh

D. Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad

- ✓ Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad from India has been elected as the new Vice-President of the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) for a four-year term at the AHF Congress in Gifu, Japan. Beside him, Ms. Asima Ali has been elected unopposed as one of the executive board members of the AHF.

- ✓ Mushtaque Ahmad is currently serving as the President of Hockey India, while Ali of Hockey Jammu & Kashmir is the Vice-President of the national federation. The AHF Executive Board manages the affairs of the continental federation, implements the decisions of the AHF Congress, supervises over the AHF CEO and professional staff, as well as appoints the AHF Committees.

#### 6. Which state government has rolled out its flagship 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana' ?

A. Jharkhand

B. Rajasthan

C. Chhattisgarh

D. Madhya Pradesh

- ✓ The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Kamal Nath government has rolled out its flagship 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana' that guarantees 100 days of employment every year to urban youths from Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- ✓ Apart from this, they will also be given skill development training by the government. The purpose of the scheme is to empower the unemployed youth candidates. Only those youths, whose family's annual income is less than Rs 2 lakh and who are in the age group of 21-30 years, are eligible for the scheme.

#### 7. The 2019 edition of Medical Fair India (MFI) has kick started in which of the following cities?

A. New Delhi

B. Bhubaneswar

C. Ranchi

D. Pune

- ✓ On 21 Feb, the 2019 edition of Medical Fair India (MFI) was kick started in New Delhi in which global medical device manufacturers, healthcare experts industry bodies, think tanks and policy makers from over 25 countries are participating. The 3-day medical trade show 'MFI' is organised by Messe Dusseldorf India, a fully owned subsidiary of Messe

D sseldorf GmbH, the world's leading trade fair organiser and exhibitions service provider.

- ✓ The MFI is well known for its ability to detect trends and respond to new innovations. Therefore, each edition is unique as it explores new sub-segments and opportunities for diversification. It will act as a platform for healthcare experts and stakeholders to share and discuss tangible solutions to diverse healthcare bottlenecks, challenges and issues of concerns.

8. Param Shivay, sometimes seen in news, is associated with which field?

- A. Missile
- B. Satellite
- C. Super computer
- D. Rocket

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently launched the supercomputer 'Param of 833 teraflop capacity built at the IIT-BHU. It is built at the cost of Rs 32.5 crore under the National Super Computing Mission. About 40% of the total computer power will be used by the students of Navodaya Vidyalaya. The institute claims that relevant social issues faced by common people like irrigation schemes, traffic management, health, an affordable drug will also be taken care of with the help of this supercomputer centre.
- ✓ The 'Param Shivay' will include 1 peta byte secondary storage and appropriate open source system and application software suite using 223 processor nodes, 384 GB per node DDR4 RAM, parallel file system, including CPU and GPU. India's first supercomputer called PARAM 8000 was launched in 1991. At present, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) has Pratyush, National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) has Mihir and IISc has SERC-Cray as supercomputers in India.

9. The Integrated Large Scale Eri Farming has been launched in which north-eastern state of India under NERTPS?

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Nagaland
- C. Assam
- D. Tripura
- ✓ Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani has recently launched the Integrated Large Scale Eri Farming under North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. It's the centrally funded Scheme for Eri silk Farming that will initially cover five districts of the state, which are: Papumpare, East Kameng, Siang, East Siang and West Siang.
- ✓ The skill training will be imparted to eri silk farmers and weavers under the Samarth Scheme. Beside this, Government of India (GoI) will also provide financial assistance to 4000 beneficiaries under NERTPS. The purpose of the Samarth (Scheme For Capacity Building In Textile Sector) scheme is to skill the youth for gainful and sustainable employment in the textile sector.

10. Which Defence PSU has launched Atmospheric Water Generator at Aero India 2019?

- A. BDL
- B. BEML
- C. HAL
- D. BEL
- ✓ At Aero India show 2019, Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has launched its new product "Atmospheric Water Generator (AWG)" to meet the ever-increasing need for drinking water worldwide. The AWG employs a novel technology to extract water from the humidity present in the atmosphere and purify it. It uses heat exchange for condensing the atmospheric moisture to produce pure, safe and clean potable water.
- ✓ The AWG comes with a Mineralisation Unit, which is used to add minerals which are required to make the water potable. The AWG is configurable in static and mobile (vehicular) versions and is available in 30 litres/day, 100 litres/day, 500 litres/day and 1,000 litres/day capacities The Atmospheric Water

Generator can be used to provide drinking water in community centres and public places like health care centres, schools, colleges, offices, railway stations, bus stands, airports, sea ports, off-shore oil rigs, military establishments, remote field areas and remote establishments and residential complexes. It is manufactured by BEL in collaboration with CSIR-IICT and MAITHRI, a start-up company based in Hyderabad

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## 1. Which city is the venue of the ET Global Business Summit 2019?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Jaipur
- D. Nagpur

- ✓ In New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 5th edition of the Economic Times (ET) Global Business Summit 2019 on Feb 23 to offer insights into the direction of future policy. The two-day summit hosted business leaders and technology entrepreneurs from some of the most talked about and disruptive companies across the globe including Nathan Blecharczyk, co-founder of AirBnB, Martin Eberhard co-founder of Tesla, Sebastian Thrun CEO of KittyHawk and many more.
- ✓ The summit is a flagship initiative of the Times Group that envisions to bring together visionaries, thought leaders, heads of state, policy makers, academicians and corporate heads cohesively driving a singular agenda for Scripting Economic Change, by connecting the building blocks of Economics for India and the globe.

## 2. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has recently decided to keep which country on grey list for failing to curb terror funding?

- A. Iraq
- B. North Korea
- C. Iran
- D. Pakistan

- ✓ International terror financing watchdog, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to keep Pakistan on its grey list, despite India's push to blacklist it in the aftermath of Pulwama terror attack. The decision was recently taken at the end of week-long meetings by the FATF in Paris. The Paris-based FATF stated that Pakistan has made only limited progress in curbing money laundering and terrorism financing. It failed to show a proper

understanding of the risks posed by terror outfits like Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Jamat-ud-Dawa and others. Pakistan has until October 2019 to either comply with the demands made by FATF members or it could be blacklisted.

- ✓ The FATF has asked Pakistan to swiftly complete its action plan that includes showing sanctions were being applied in cases of money laundering and terrorism financing. It also has to demonstrate better cooperation between authorities, identify illegal money flows, and enhance support for prosecutors, among other measures. Terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad had claimed responsibility for the Pulwama attack. Iran and North Korea are currently blacklisted.

## 3. Who has been sworn-in as the first Lokayukta of Nagaland?

- A. K M Munshi
- B. Uma Nath Singh
- C. Raghuvver Singh
- D. Ravi Malhotra

- ✓ Justice Uma Nath Singh, the former Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court, has been sworn-in as the first Lokayukta of Nagaland and will hold the office for a term of 5 years or till he attains the age of 70. Governor PB Acharya administered the oath to Justice Singh him at a function held at Raj Bhavan in Kohima on 22nd Feb 2019. The Lokayukta is an anti-corruption ombudsman organization in the Indian states.
- ✓ Once appointed, Lokayukta cannot be dismissed nor transferred by the government, and can only be removed by passing an impeachment motion by the state assembly. Maharashtra was the first state to introduce the institution of Lokayukta through The Lokayukta and Upa-Lokayuktas Act in 1971. This was followed by similar acts that were enacted by the states of Odisha, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and the union territory of Delhi.

4. Which IIT has tied up with Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) to address public health issues?

- A. IIT-Bombay
- B. IIT-Indore
- C. IIT-Kanpur
- D. IIT-Madras

- ✓ IIT-Madras has entered into an agreement with Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) to address public health issues and predict adverse pregnancy outcomes using technology. The aim of the pact is to bring physician-scientists, biologists, engineers and data scientists together to solve public health problems related to maternal and child health.
- ✓ The objective is to apply advanced analytical approach for prediction of adverse pregnancy outcomes, evaluate maternal and childhood consequences of exposure to environmental pollutants, among others. The THSTI is an autonomous institute of Department of Biotechnology (DBT). DBT is a department under Ministry of Science and Technology.

5. Kodi Ramakrishna, who passed away recently, was the well-known film director of which regional cinema?

- A. Telugu
- B. Tamil
- C. Malayalam
- D. Odia

- ✓ Kodi Ramakrishna (69), the veteran Telugu film director, has passed away in Hyderabad on Feb 22. Born at Palakollu in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh, Ramakrishna made his debut in 1992 with romantic comedy 'Intlo Ramaiah-Veedhilo Krishnaiah' starring Chiranjeevi. He was known for championing the use of visual effects (VFX) to enhance cinematic experience in Telugu cinema.
- ✓ His films like 'Ammoru' and 'Arundhati' were praised for their VFX work. Some of his other popular films include Gudachari No 1, Muddula

Krishnaiah, Pelli Pelli Pandiri and Rikshavodu. In 2016, Ramakrishna also commenced work on a biopic on Sathya Sai Baba, and it features Malayalam actor Sreejith Vijay in the titular role. The project still remains incomplete.

6. Which news agency has launched the world's first female AI news anchor 'Xin Xiaomeng'?

- A. Central News Agency
- B. Kyodo
- C. Xinhua
- D. Yonhap

- ✓ China's state-run news agency, Xinhua has launched the world's first female AI news anchor 'Xin Xiaomeng' to read alongside its male AI news presenters. She was developed jointly by Xinhua and search engine company Sogou Inc.
- ✓ Xiaomeng is expected to make a debut in March during the upcoming meetings of the country's national legislature and top political advisory body. Earlier, in 2018, China became the first country in the world to develop the first of its kind AI 'journalist', a male news presenter by the name of Qui Hao.

7. Who has become the first Indian woman to win the Future for Nature 2019 Award?

- A. Neeta Desai
- B. Divya Karnad
- C. Roshni Mukherjee
- D. Manpreet Singh

- ✓ Dr Divya Karnad, who teaches at Asoka University, has bagged the prestigious Global Future For Nature Award 2019 for her work on marine conservation. With the feat, she has become the first woman and the second Indian to receive the honour, the only other Indian being Dr Charudutt Mishra. The Future For Nature Award is an international award that celebrates tangible achievements in protecting wild animal and planet species.

8. Which country has conducted a naval military exercise 'Velayat 97' from Persian Gulf to Indian Ocean?

- A. Turkey
- B. Iran**
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Oman

- ✓ An Iranian naval force has started a massive three-day drill, codenamed "Velayat 97", across two million square kilometers of sea between the Straits of Hormuz and the Indian Ocean, including a sensitive global shipping route. The drill will showcase Iran's submarines, warships, helicopters and drones. It is being held from the Strait of Hormuz to the southeastern coasts of Makran, the Sea of Oman and the northern parts of the Indian Ocean, down to the 10-degrees latitude.
- ✓ The naval exercise comes at a time of tensions with the US, after Washington condemned Iran at the summit in Warsaw. In addition Iran has upped tensions with Saudi Arabia after a terror attack in southeastern Iran, which Tehran blamed partly on Riyadh. Iran has also recently condemned the United Arab Emirates, Israel and the US. Sending its navy to the Strait of Hormuz, a major chokepoint for the world's oil, is provocative.
- ✓ The Strait of Hormuz is an international transit route where American forces routinely pass and which has seen tense encounters between them and Iranian forces in the past.

9. Who has become the brand ambassador of the Swasth Immunised India campaign?

- A. Alia Bhatt
- B. Aishwarya Rai
- C. Kareena Kapoor**
- D. Deepika Padukone

- ✓ Acclaimed actress Kareena Kapoor Khan has become the brand ambassador of the Swasth Immunised India campaign to spread awareness among parents about child vaccination to help prevent the future generation from life-threatening diseases.

- ✓ The nation-wide vaccination and immunisation campaign has been launched by Serum Institute of India (SII) in association with Network18. The primary aim of the campaign is to raise awareness about the importance and benefits of vaccine administration, advocating its acceptance and building a strong immunization outreach in the country. Working alongside the government, the campaign will strive to reach full immunization coverage through continuous education and awareness.

10. Who is the head of the CBDT panel to help bring down tax litigation?

- A. Sanjeev Sharma**
- B. Mohit Kumar
- C. Varun Jain
- D. K S Das

- ✓ The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has formed a four-member committee to look into the matter of taxation related pain points and submit its final report and recommendations by mid-March 2019. Its recommendations could include applying a filter for tax officer before a notice is issued and setting a time limit for concluding an investigation. The committee is head by income tax commissioner Sanjeev Sharma.

## Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

## 1. Who has been honoured with AHF's Player of the Year award 2018?

- A. Rupinder Pal Singh
- B. P R Sreejesh
- C. Lalremsiami
- D. **Manpreet Singh**

- ✓ Indian Hockey Captain Manpreet Singh has been honoured with the 2018 Player of the Year award by the Asian Hockey Federation while women's team striker Lalremsiami bagged the Rising Player of The Year prize. Manpreet led the Indian team to an unbeaten streak at the Asian Champions Trophy in Muscat where the team was declared joint winners with Pakistan. He also contributed to the team's silver medal win at the FIH Champions Trophy in Breda and continues to remain instrumental in the Indian midfield.
- ✓ The 18-year-old Lalremsiami put up an impressive performance as a striker at the 2018 World Cup. She was also a part of the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires where the under-18 team won a silver medal. The Indian men's team was awarded the 2018 Best Performance of The Year for being the only Asian side to have reached the top eight at the World Cup in Bhubaneswar.

## 2. Which state government has launched the boat ambulance service for remote areas?

- A. **Odisha**
- B. Jharkhand
- C. West Bengal
- D. Andhra Pradesh

- ✓ The Odisha government has launched a boat ambulance service to ferry patients to hospitals in remote areas. The service includes six boat ambulances and 60 jetties with walkway. The operational cost of the ambulances is estimated to be around Rs 90 lakh per annum. This new facility is hope for residents who live in far-flung areas and river-locked pockets of the state. The floating

ambulances will cater to the needs of people in areas where the '108' ambulance service has failed to make headway, due to lack of proper road route. The first boat ambulance was launched at Batighar in the Kendrapara district. The total project cost Rs 5.40 crore.

## 3. Who has been elected new president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)?

- A. I D Nanavati
- B. **Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh**
- C. Satyapal Singh
- D. Deshwal Birendra Lakra

- ✓ Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh has been elected third time unopposed as the President of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The elections of the office bearers and executive committee members of WFI for the next four-year term (2019-2023) were held at the Constitution Club of India (CCI). Along with Brij Bhushan, I.D. Nanavati has been elected as the Senior Vice President, V.N.Prasood as the Secretary General and Satyapal Singh Deshwal as the Treasurer. Singh, who is also a Member of Parliament (MP) from the Kaiserganj constituency of Uttar Pradesh, was the chef-de-mission of the Indian contingent for the Asian Games 2018 held in Jakarta and Palembang.

## 4. Which of the following Indian railway lines will be the world's highest railway line?

- A. Chandigarh-Manali-Leh railway line
- B. Kanpur-Shimla-Leh railway line
- C. Delhi-Shimla-Leh railway line
- D. **New Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line**

- ✓ The New Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line will be the world's highest railway line, which will consists of total 30 stations. It will lie along the Indo-China border & is expected to be completed by the year 2022. This new rail line will not only increase tourism but, will also help the armed forces. And also, the journey from Delhi-Leh will be completed

in half time. The estimated cost of the project is pegged at Rs 83,360 crore.

- ✓ Once complete, the 465-km railway line will be the world's highest railway track. At its highest point, the track would be at a height of 5,360 m above sea level. The 52% of the total 465 km length will pass through tunnels. The longest tunnel will be 27 km long. The total length of the tunnels is expected to be around 244 km. The project will also have almost 400 small bridges, 124 major bridges and about 74 tunnels.
- ✓ Once completed, trains on this line will run at a speed of 75 Kmph, which will reduce the time required to travel between New Delhi and Leh from 40 hours to just 20 hours. Leh is the most important town in Ladakh region of J&K State having approximately 1.5 lakhs population. It has a high footfall of Indian & Foreign tourists each year.

#### 5. Which international organisation is organising the 4th Global Digital Health Partnership Summit 2019?

- A. WHO
- B. FAO
- C. UNESCO
- D. UNICEF

- ✓ Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), J P Nadda has inaugurated the 4th edition of Global Digital Health Partnership Summit in New Delhi on 25th February 2019. The global intergovernmental meeting on digital health is hosted by the MoHFW in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP).
- ✓ The GDHP is an international collaboration of governments, government agencies and multinational organisations dedicated to improving the health and well-being of their citizens through the best use of evidence-based digital technologies. The vision of the GDHP is to support governments and health system reformers to improve the health and well-being of their citizens through the best use of evidence-based digital technologies.

#### 6. National War Memorial, sometimes seen in news, is located in which of the following cities?

- A. Ahmedabad
- B. New Delhi
- C. Mumbai
- D. Lucknow

- ✓ On 25th February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the National War Memorial to the nation in the vicinity of the India Gate in New Delhi to honour Indian Armed Forces. The Memorial is a fitting tribute to our soldiers who laid down their lives defending the nation, post-independence. It also commemorates the soldiers who participated and made the supreme sacrifice in Peace Keeping Missions, and Counter Insurgency Operations.
- ✓ The layout of the National War Memorial comprises four concentric circles, namely, the 'Amar Chakra' (or Circle of Immortality), the 'Veerta Chakra' (or Circle of Bravery), the 'Tyag Chakra' (or Circle of Sacrifice), and the 'Rakshak Chakra' (or Circle of Protection). The National War Memorial complex includes a central obelisk, an eternal flame, and six bronze murals depicting famous battles fought by Indian Army, Air Force and Navy. The Memorial represents the culmination of the collective aspiration of a grateful nation to pay a fitting tribute to the martyrs. The Chief Architect of the National War Memorial is Ar. Yogesh Chandrahasan of Chennai-based WeBe Design Lab.

#### 7. PM KISAN scheme has officially been launched from which of the following districts of Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Prayagraj
- B. Bareilly
- C. Gorakhpur
- D. Jhansi

- ✓ On 25th February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has officially launched PM-KISAN (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana) scheme from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh. The scheme was announced in the interim Budget 2019-20 on 1st February 2019. It is a Central Sector scheme with

100% funding from Government of India. Under the Scheme, Rs 6,000 will be given per year to small and marginal farmer families having combined land holding/ownership of upto 2 hectares. The amount will be given in three installments of Rs.2000 each.

- ✓ The amount will be transferred directly to the bank account of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer. DBT will ensure transparency in the entire process and will save time for the farmers. The Scheme was introduced to augment the income of the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs).
- ✓ It is estimated to benefit more than 12 crore small and marginal farmers. The aim of the scheme is to supplement the financial needs of the SMFs in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income at the end of the each crop cycle. This would also protect them from falling in the clutches of moneylenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities.

8. 'Period. End of Sentence' has won the Best Documentary Short Subject award at the Oscar 2019. The short film is produced by which Indian producer?

- A. Krishan Kumar
- B. A R Murugadoss
- C. K Balachander
- D. Guneet Monga

- ✓ 'Period. End of Sentence', a documentary that tackles the stigma around menstruation in rural India, has won the Oscar in the Documentary Short Subject category at the 91st Academy Awards in Los Angeles. The film has been co-produced by Indian producer Guneet Monga and directed by Award-winning Iranian filmmaker Rayka Zehtabchi.
- ✓ The film is about women in India fighting against the deeply rooted stigma of menstruation and delving upon the work of real life 'Pad Man' Arunachalam Muruganathan. The documentary feature is set in Hapur village outside Delhi, where

women lead a quiet revolution as they fight against the deeply rooted stigma of menstruation.

- ✓ For generations, these women did not have access to sanitary pads, which lead to health issues and girls dropping out from schools. When a sanitary pad vending machine is installed in the village, the women learn to manufacture and market their own pads, empowering their community. They name their brand "FLY".

9. Which movie has been crowned Best Picture at the 91st Academy Awards?

- A. Bohemian Rhapsody
- B. The Favourite
- C. Green Book
- D. Roma

- ✓ An American biographical comedy-drama film "Green Book" has won the Best Picture at 91st Academy Awards at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles on 25th February 2019. Green Book also won best supporting actor for Mahershala Ali and best original screenplay.

- ✓ In it, British actress Olivia Colman won the best actress award for "The Favourite" for her performance as Queen Anne in the period comedy-drama. Rami Malek won the best actor for a biographical film "Bohemian Rhapsody". Filmmaker Alfonso Cuaron won Best Director Oscar for 'Roma', which is an American and Mexican drama.

- ✓ 'Roma' also won Oscars in the Best Foreign Language Film and Best Cinematography category. Pop diva Lady Gaga got the Best Original Song Academy Award for "Shallow" from her feature debut "A Star is Born". Marvel's Black Panther too won 3 Oscars – Best Original Music, Best Costume Design and Best Production Design.

10. Which Indian personality is the WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Hepatitis in South-East Asia Region?

- A. Amitabh Bachchan
- B. Sachin Tendulkar
- C. Virat Kohli

D. Kapil Dev

- ✓ On 24th February 2019, Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey rolled out “National Action Plan – Viral Hepatitis” to eliminate viral hepatitis at Mumbai in presence of Amitabh Bachchan, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Hepatitis in South-East Asia Region.
- ✓ The aim of the programme is to combat hepatitis and achieve countrywide elimination of Hepatitis C by 2030. The programme is also in line with the country's global commitment towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.3. India has affirmed this commitment at the 69th World Health Assembly.
- ✓ Viral hepatitis is a global public health problem that kills nearly 2.72 lakh people annually. It is an inflammatory condition of the liver caused by five known hepatitis viruses — A, B, C, D and E. Of these, B and C are known to cause 96% mortality.
- ✓ India is one of the few countries to roll out management of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C in a public health approach and offer free diagnostics and drugs lifelong to its beneficiaries.

## 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

## Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

1. 'Sampriti 2019' is the joint military exercise of India and which country?

- A. Bhutan
- B. Myanmar
- C. Iran
- D. **Bangladesh**

✓ The Indo-Bangladesh joint military exercise 'Sampriti-2019' is scheduled to be held at Tangail in Bangladesh from 02 March to 15 March 2019. It will be the 8th edition of the exercise which is hosted alternately by both countries. The 14-day exercise is aimed to strengthen and broaden the aspects of inter-operability and co-operation between the Armies of both countries. The exercise will involve tactical-level operations in a counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism environment under the UN mandate.

2. Who has been elected as the new President of Nigeria?

- A. Goodluck Jonathan
- B. Yemi Osinbajo
- C. **Muhammadu Buhari**
- D. Ibrahim Babangida

✓ Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, a member of the governing All Progressives Congress (APC) party, has been re-elected for a second four year term. The 76-year-old Buhari defeated his main rival, former Vice President Atiku Abubakar with a margin of around 4 million votes. Buhari has been lauded for his progress against the insurgent group Boko Haram, which has killed more than 10,000 and displaced millions.

3. Which state government has launched the PRANAM Commission to protect parents of government employees?

- A. Odisha
- B. **Assam**
- C. Nagaland

D. Goa

- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has recently launched the PRANAM Commission for protection of parents of state government employees. The Commission will look after the issues concerning a PRANAM (Parents Responsibility and Norms for Accountability and Monitoring) Bill to protect elderly parents of government employees in their times of need.
- ✓ PRANAM Bill, which was approved by the state cabinet in 2018, makes it mandatory for state government employees to look after their parents and unmarried Divyang siblings who do not have their own sources of income. As per the Bill, if the PRANAM Commission gets a complaint that parents of a state government employee is being ignored, and then 10 or 15% of the employee's salary will be deducted by the government and paid to the parents or differently-abled siblings.

4. Who has become the first-ever bowler in T20I history to pick 4 wickets in 4 balls?

- A. Lasith Malinga
- B. **Rashid Khan**
- C. Jasprit Bumrah
- D. Kuldeep Yadav

- ✓ Leg-spinner Rashid Khan claimed a hat-trick and became the first-ever bowler to bag four wickets in four deliveries in Twenty20 Internationals (T20I) on February 17, 2019. Rashid's impressive bowling performance in the third and final T20I also helped Afghanistan sweep the T20I series by a margin of 3-0 against Ireland in Dehradun.
- ✓ With this feat, Rashid also became the 7th bowler in the T20I history to bag a hat-trick and in the process also completed his second five-wicket haul in the format. Overall, Khan became the 2nd bowler in the history of the sport to do so in international cricket after Sri Lankan veteran Lasith Malinga pick up 4 wickets in 4 balls. Malinga achieved the milestone during the 2007 Cricket World Cup against South Africa.

5. Which state government has recently declared Monkeys as vermin?

- A. Tripura
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. West Bengal

- ✓ The Himachal Pradesh government has again declared Monkeys as vermin for the next one year in 11 districts' 91 tehsils and sub-tehsils of state. Monkeys were declared as a vermin species because have been adversely affecting crops and causing harm to humans. Hence, this allows state forest authorities and people to carry out extermination (hunting/poaching) of monkeys on a large scale.
- ✓ Vermin are wild mammals and birds that are harmful to crops, farm animals or that carry disease. As per Section 62 of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) 1972, States can send a list of wild animals to the Centre requesting it to declare them vermin for selective slaughter.
- ✓ The Central Government may by notification, declare any wild animal other than those specified in Schedule I and part 11 of Schedule H of the law to be vermin for any area for a given period of time. As long as the notification is in force such wild animal shall be included in Schedule V of the law, depriving them of any protection under that law.

6. Who acquired 1st position in the national level competition at the National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF-2019)?

- A. Shweta Umre
- B. M S Anjanakshi
- C. Mamta Kumari
- D. Neha Arusia

- ✓ On 27th Feb, Prime Minister Narendra Modi conferred the National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF-2019) awards to the winners at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. The winners from the national level competition were Shweta Umre from Maharashtra (1st Position), Anjanakshi M.S from

Karnataka (IInd position) and Mamta Kumari from Bihar (IIIrd position).

- ✓ The 2019 fest was jointly organized by National Service Scheme (NSS) and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), under the aegis of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. Youth in the age bracket of 18-25 years were invited to participate in the District, State and National level Youth Parliaments. The fest was based on the theme of 'Be the Voice of New India' and 'Find solutions and Contribute to Policy'. It provided a chance to the youth to brainstorm about new India and to find ways and chalk out plans to realize our resolves before 2022.

7. Titanwala Museum, sometimes seen in news, is located in which of the following states?

- A. Haryana
- B. Chhattisgarh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan

- ✓ In Rajasthan, Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani has recently inaugurated the 'Titanwala Museum' in Bagru that showcases the Chhipa community's hand-block printing. The museum will be open from Monday to Sunday between 9 am and 6 pm.
- ✓ The Bagru hand-block printing is one of the traditional techniques of printing with natural colour followed by the chippas of a remote place of Rajasthan. It uses vegetable dye colors such as indigo/dabu (a mixture of mud resist dabu and indigo dip dyeing techniques) and harda (which is a yellow base color). The art of block printing is a labor intensive process which requires lot of skillfulness, time and tolerance power of artisan.
- ✓ The wooden blocks of teak-wood are used for printing the design which are soaked in oil overnight and then washed before put to use. These collections of block are considered to be the wealth of Chhipa's that they have collected over a period of time. The cloth to be printed is soaked in the solution of clay and other chemicals to make the fabric

soften and then dried before used for printing. Neat stamping is foremost to get the appealing prints. After printing, cloth is left for drying in sun for final touch-up. Different types of motifs used in Bagru printing are Aath Kaliya, Chopad, and Kamal.

#### 8. What is the theme of 2019 World Day of Social Justice?

- A. Preventing conflict and sustaining peace through decent work
  - B. Promote global justice & poverty eradication
  - C. **If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice**
  - D. A Just Transition – environmentally sustainable economies and societies
- ✓ The World Day of Social Justice is observed every year on February 20 to recognize the need to promote efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion and unemployment. The day focuses on the plight of social injustice throughout the world and presses for improvements and solutions. The 2019 theme is “If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice”.

#### 9. Which semiconductor company has launched India's first indigenous semiconductor chips for 4G/LTE and 5G NR modems?

- A. **Signal Chip**
  - B. Ineda Systems
  - C. Saankhya Labs
  - D. Terminus Circuits
- ✓ Bengaluru-based Semiconductor Company “SignalChip” has launched India's first indigenous semiconductor chips for 4G /LTE and 5G NR modems in New Delhi. The SCBM34XX and SCRF34XX/45XX series of chips, code-named ‘Agumbe’, are the result of over 8 years of relentless and deep R&D by Signalchip engineers. The RF sections cover all LTE/5G-NR bands upto 6GHz.
- ✓ These chips also support positioning using India's own satellite navigation system, NAVIC. The Agumbe series builds up on SCRF1401: India's first RF transceiver chip for high performance wireless

standards like 3G/4G and WiFi, created by Signalchip in 2015. The combined multi-standard system-on-chip (SoC) can serve as a base station chipset for a wide range of form factors from low-cost indoor small cells to high performance base stations.

- ✓ These are optimally designed to support evolving network architectures like Open RAN/CRAN with flexible interface configurations. Through the IPs created for this device, the company now has the potential to design products for multiple related fields and is currently forging ahead with additional chipsets for advanced 5G NR features.

#### 10. Which country has scored highest-ever T20 International Score?

- A. **Afghanistan**
  - B. India
  - C. Australia
  - D. England
- ✓ The Afghanistan cricket team has created history by posting the highest-ever T20 international score at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Dehradun, Uttarakhand on 23rd Feb 2019. They posted 278 runs from their 20 overs in the second T20I against Ireland.
- ✓ Here, Afghan batsman Hazratullah Zazai scored the 2nd highest individual score (162 runs off 62 balls) in T20Is, behind Australian cricketer Aaron Finch's 172. His innings also included a record 16 sixes and his first-wicket partnership with Usman Ghani was also a record for any wicket in a T20I, with 236 runs scored. With this feat, Afghanistan broke Australia's record score of 263/3 which they achieved back in 2016 against Sri Lanka.