

Winmeen Daily Current Affairs

1. GSAT-31, which is in news recently, is launched from which of the following places?

[A] French Guiana

[B] Sriharikota

[C] Florida

[D] Moscow

- ✓ India's latest communication satellite GSAT-31 was successfully launched by European launch services provider- Arianespace's rocket from Kourou Launch Base in French Guiana on February 6, 2019. The Ariane-5 vehicle (Flight VA247) also carried Saudi Geostationary Satellite 1/Hellas Sat 4 along with GSAT-31.
- ✓ After a 42-min flight, GSAT-31 separated from the Ariane-5 in an elliptical Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) with a perigee (nearest point to Earth) of 250 km and an apogee (farthest point to Earth) of 35,850 km, inclined at an angle of 3.0 degree to the equator.
- ✓ After separation from Ariane-5, the two solar arrays of GSAT-31 were automatically deployed in quick succession and ISRO's Master Control Facility at Hassan in Karnataka took over the command and control of GSAT-31 and found its health parameters normal.
- ✓ The GSAT-31 is a high power communication satellite with Ku-band and will provide communication services to Indian mainland and islands. It has an operational life of over 15 years & will offer seamless services by replacing the ageing INSAT-4CR satellite. GSAT-31 is India's 40th communication satellite.

2. Ladu Kishore Swain, who passed away recently, was the current MP from which Lok Sabha constituency of Odisha?

[A] Aska

[B] Keonjhar

[C] Jagatsinghpur

[D] Sundargarh

- ✓ Ladu Kishore Swain (71), the senior Biju Janata Dal (BJD) leader, has passed away in Bhubaneswar on 5 February 2019. He was elected to the 16th Lok Sabha in May 2014 from Aska constituency of Odisha.

3. Who is the head of the committee which is constituted by the Maharashtra to review welfare schemes for tribals?

[A] Vivek Pandit

[B] Vasanttrao More

[C] A T Nana Patil

[D] Sudhakar Wagh

- ✓ The Maharashtra government has set up a 17-member committee to review various schemes being implemented for the welfare of tribals in the state.
- ✓ The committee will be headed by former MLA and Shramjeevi Sanghatna president Vivek Pandit. The panel will undertake the study of various works done for providing employment opportunities, minimum wages and proper livelihood to tribals.
- ✓ As per a recent government order, the committee will suggest measures to ensure that children in tribal regions were not deprived of education. The committee will hold its meetings every three months and submit its recommendations to the government.

4. What is the theme of the 30th National Road Safety Week (NRSW-2019)?

[A] Your Security, Safeguards your Family- Be warned on the Roads

[B] Road Security a Goal, Not an Intermission

[C] Sadak Suraksha-Jeevan Raksha

[D] Walk for Road Security

- ✓ On 4th February, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched the 30th National Road Safety Week (NRSW-2019) in New Delhi to raise public awareness about traffic rules and ultimately to reduce casualties due to road accidents. The 2019 theme is "Sadak Suraksha-Jeevan Raksha".
- ✓ In an event at Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti in Rajghat, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari also flagged off a motor car rally to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ The motor rally will cover around 7250 km and will travel through those places in India, Bangladesh and Myanmar which are historically associated with Gandhiji. The conclusion of the rally will take place at Yangon in Myanmar on the 24th February 2019.

5. Which union ministry has launched Shehri Samridhi Utsav?

- [A] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Urban Development
- [D] Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs**

- ✓ On 5th February, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched Shehri Samridhi Utsav to extend the outreach of DAY-NULM (Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission) to the most vulnerable.
- ✓ The event will also showcase its initiatives and facilitate access of Self-Help Group (SHG) members to the other government schemes. Through Shehri Samridhi Utsav, SHG members across cities are being linked to national government schemes viz.
- ✓ Swachhh Bharat Mission (U), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (U), Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

(PMUY), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana (PMJJY) and National Nutrition Mission (NNM). The major highlight of Utsav is the National Exhibition cum sale of SHG products and National Street Food Festival being organized in New Delhi.

6. Which of the following PSEs has been declared winner under Miniratna Category by Ministry of MSME for exemplary work amongst CPSEs for promotion of SC/ST entrepreneurs?

- [A] SAIL
- [B] AAI
- [C] NFDC**
- [D] IRCTC

- ✓ The National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) has been selected as winner under the Miniratna Category by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- ✓ This has been done as part of endeavor by Ministry of MSME to felicitate select Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) to recognize their exemplary work towards promotion of SC/ST entrepreneurs.
- ✓ As per data uploaded on Sambandh Portal, the performance parameters for the felicitation were procurement from SC/ST entrepreneurs, number of vendor development programmes for SC/ST and number of SC/ST entrepreneurs benefitting.
- ✓ The NFDC, incorporated in the year 1975, was formed by the Government of India (GoI) with the primary objective of planning and promoting an organised, efficient and integrated development of the Indian film industry.

7. Sentinelese Tribe, which is in news recently, is located in which of the following islands?

- [A] South Sentinel Island
- [B] Kondul Island

[C] Bompuka

[D] North Sentinel Island

- ✓ The North Sentinel Island (NSI) is home to the Sentinelese tribe, which have consistently refused any interaction with the outside world. They are hostile to outsiders and have killed people who approached or landed on the island. Sentinelese people are believed to be the only pre-Neolithic people in the world.
- ✓ This means they have a culture that existed in the middle period of Stone Age. Their use of metals is not specifically known with many believe that they don't use metals for purposes other than in weapons. The tribe is in news recently because the Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Gangaram Ahir gave information about the tribe in a written reply to question in the Lok Sabha.
- ✓ The tribe is on the verge of extinction as per 2011 census; there are a number of laws/regulations to protect them. These are being strictly implemented and enforced by the UT Administration. These Laws/Regulation include 1) A & N Islands (PAT) Regulation 1956, 2) Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, 3) Restrictions under Foreigner (Restricted Area) Orders, 1963, 4) Visa Manual Conditions/Passport Act 1920, and 5) Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ✓ The NSI is one of the Andaman Islands, an archipelago in the Bay of Bengal which also includes South Sentinel Island.

8. The joint HADR Exercise 'RAHAT-2019' will be conducted in which of the following states?

[A] Madhya Pradesh

[B] Jharkhand

[C] Rajasthan

[D] Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ In Rajasthan, the joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise 'RAHAT-2019' will be conducted by Jaipur based Sapta Shakti Command on behalf of Indian Army from 11th February.
- ✓ The 2-day exercise will be conducted simultaneously in three places viz. Jaipur in the form of a table top exercise and at Kota and Alwar on-ground capability and coordination.
- ✓ The Joint exercise in coordination with NDMA is being conducted to synergise efforts for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. Representatives from Armed Forces, National Disaster Management Response Mechanism (NDMRM), SDMA Rajasthan and DLMAs will be participating in the exercise.

9. Which high court has ruled against negative marking in competitive examinations?

[A] Delhi High Court

[B] Calcutta High Court

[C] Madras High Court

[D] Bombay High Court

- ✓ In a huge relief to a number of students who fail to qualify to enter into prestigious institutions like IITs due to negative marking, the Madras High Court ruled against negative marking in competitive examinations saying they are bad in law.
- ✓ The Court stated that the practice of awarding negative marks will eradicate intelligent guessing in competitive exams.
- ✓ The judgment was passed while disposing of a writ petition filed in 2013 by an IIT JEE aspirant S. Nelson Prabhakar (a Scheduled Caste student), who failed to clear the Mains due to negative marking.

10. Dakshayani, which is in news recently, is a/an _____?

[A] Space Center

[B] Novel

[C] Animal

[D] Religious tradition

- ✓ Dakshayani, an 88-year-old captive she-elephant in Kerala, has died at a care centre at nearby Pappanamcode in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on 5th February 2019.
- ✓ She was the oldest captive elephant in Asia and Guinness record holder. She was also called the 'Gaja Muthassi' (grandmother of elephants). In 2016, she was conferred the "Gaja Muthassi" (elephant granny) title and entered the Guinness book of records.
- ✓ The Postal department had also brought out a postal cover on the elephant. Dakshayani had been a resident at the Chengallur Mahadeva temple in Thiruvananthapuram for the last 70 years and was owned by Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB).