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WINMEEN'S

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Winmeen Current Affairs

1. Which city is the venue of the National Cardiology Conference 2019?

[A] Lucknow

[B] New Delhi

[C] Mumbai

[D] Chennai

- ✓ On April 5, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the National Cardiology Conference 2019 at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of medical sciences in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The 3-day conference will be organized by Dept of Cardiology in which leading national and international experts from Europe, USA, Japan, Singapore South Korea, Indonesia and Australia will deliberate on the latest topics of Interventional cardiology and cutting edge technology.
- ✓ The conference being held for the first time in Uttar Pradesh offers an opportunity to showcase newer innovations in Cardiology that can help deliver cost-effective cardiology care to patients.

2. The Nepal-India Franchise Investment Expo and Conclave will be held in which of the following cities?

[A] Hyderabad

[B] Kathmandu

[C] New Delhi

[D] Pune

- ✓ The Nepal-India Franchise Investment Expo and Conclave will be held in Kathmandu from 15th to 16th May, 2019.
- ✓ The event primarily focuses on building the relations between India and Nepal through entrepreneurship development. The conclave is organised by Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) in association with Embassy of India and Franchise India.
- ✓ The event is expected to introduce new investment opportunities to Nepalese market. According to Indian Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri the summit will help in bringing the leading Indian iconic brands to Nepal.

- ✓ Their entry would not only bring investment into Nepal but also technology transfers and business know how. According to organizers 250 businesspersons and investors will attend the conclave and more than 1000 prospective franchisees and investors are expected to visit the expo.

3. The scientists of which country have discovered a possible "death switch" mechanism in plant's immune system?

[A] China

[B] India

[C] Japan

[D] South Korea

- ✓ Chinese scientists have discovered a possible "death switch" mechanism in plant's immune system that triggers infected cells to self-destruct, thus limiting the spread of the disease and keeping other parts of the plant healthy. This is as per the findings published in the journal 'Science'.
- ✓ The discovery provides clues to cell death control and immunity for plants. The researchers hope further research can lead to a new generation of disease-resistant crops that use significantly less pesticide and are more environmentally friendly.
- ✓ The research was done by scientists from Tsinghua University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Genetics and Development Biology. The 'death switch' is usually harmless to the plant because it only affects diseased cells, which are a tiny portion of the entire plant.

4. The world's first 5G phone has recently released in which of the following countries?

[A] South Korea

[B] Malaysia

[C] United States

[D] Denmark

- ✓ On April 5, Telecom giant Samsung Electronics released the Galaxy S10 5G in South Korea. It is the world's first available smartphone with built-in fifth-generation communications.
- ✓ Earlier, South Korea became the first country to roll out a super-fast 5G mobile network nationwide,

which allows users to download entire movies almost instantaneously.

- ✓ Three South Korean carriers – SK Telecom, KT and LG Uplus – held launch events across Seoul for the Galaxy S10, whose base version costs 1.39 million won (\$1,200). Thus, commercializing 5G gives South Korea the chance to build around the technology, which is crucial for the future development of devices such as autonomous vehicles and the Internet of Things (IoT).

5. Who is the newly appointed Managing Director of LIC?

[A] Nishant Patil

[B] Vipin Anand Monday

[C] Varsha Sharma

[D] Puneet Jain

- ✓ Vipin Anand Monday has recently taken charge as the new Managing Director (MD) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). Prior to this, he was in charge of LIC's western zone, comprising of 23 divisions, covering the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and Union Territories of Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- ✓ During his service of more than 35 years, Anand has handled several important assignments in various capacities and departments. He was instrumental in setting up LIC's operations in Singapore and Bangladesh.

6. What is the theme of the 56th National Maritime Day (NMD-2019)?

[A] Indian Ocean-Safe Ocean

[B] Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity

[C] Indian Ocean-Save Aquatic Animals

[D] Indian Ocean-Clean Water, Clean Life

- ✓ The National Maritime Day (NMD) of India is celebrated every year on April 5 to spread awareness in supporting intercontinental commerce and the global economy. On this day, in 1919, navigation history was created when SS Loyalty, the first ship of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, journeyed to the United Kingdom.
- ✓ It was a crucial step for Indian shipping history when sea routes were controlled by the British. The

theme of the 56th edition of the NMD 2019 is "Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity".

- ✓ According to the Directorate General of Shipping, India now has 43 shipping companies owning 1,401 ships with a combined 12.69 million gross tonnage' as of December 2018.

7. Indian scientists at which organisation have discovered a new enzyme "Murein Endopeptidase" to break the bacterial cell wall?

[A] IIT Delhi

[B] CCMB

[C] DRDO

[D] BARC

- ✓ Scientists at the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB) have discovered a new enzyme 'Murein Endopeptidase' which helps in breaking cell walls of bacteria.
- ✓ This discovery offers a potential for a new drug delivery route to arrest the anti-bacterial resistance through existing antibiotic drugs. Hence, it opens up fresh ways to target microbes, leading to a new wave of antibiotic drugs.
- ✓ The man behind this discovery is Pavan Kumar Chodisetti, research student and his mentor Dr Manjula Reddy. Antibiotics are medicines used to prevent and treat bacterial infections. The findings have been published in the latest issue of Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences, USA

8. Which railway station has become the India's first-ever railway station to get green ISO certification?

[A] Delhi

[B] Hyderabad

[C] Guwahati

[D] Bhopal

- ✓ The Guwahati Railway Station has become the first station in India to obtain the ISO 14001: 2015 certification for implementation of environment management system by carrying out directives issued by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- ✓ The station also has amenities such as High-class reserve (VIP) lounge, waiting rooms, AC and non-AC retiring rooms, food courts and sanitation facilities. The certification will be reviewed in 2020 by NF

Railway, which mandates stricter environmental norms regarding waste disposal among others to be adhered to Railway Station.

- ✓ ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) is responsible for establishing standard in different areas of activities. There are many types of ISO certification and ISO-14001 is for environment management system as per international norms and was upgraded last in 2015. Hence the certificate is called ISO 14001:2015.

9. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has tied up with which IIT to collaborate on standardization and conformity assessment?

- [A] IIT Kanpur
- [B] IIT Delhi
- [C] IIT Bombay
- [D] IIT Madras

- ✓ The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has tied up with IIT Delhi to collaborate in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment. Under the MoU, the two have agreed to set-up a Centre of Excellence in the field of Standardisation, Testing and Conformity Assessment with the BIS branding at IIT-Delhi campus.
- ✓ Both have also agreed to appoint a Chair in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment.
- ✓ According to the MoU, IIT Delhi will provide infrastructure support for research and development projects of relevance to standardisation and BIS will provide financial support to IIT Delhi for projects. Initially, the MoU will remain in force for a period of five years and can be extended further.

10. Which country's space agency has successfully dropped an explosive on asteroid Ryugu to make crater?

- [A] China
- [B] France
- [C] Japan
- [D] Germany

- ✓ The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has said that its Hayabusa2 spacecraft has successfully blasted the surface of an asteroid Ryugu to make a crater on its surface.

- ✓ The move will pave the way for the collection of underground samples for possible clues to the origin of the solar system. For this, the Hayabusa2 dropped a "small carry-on impactor" made of copper onto the asteroid and the spacecraft safely evacuated and remained intact.
- ✓ Now, JAXA is analyzing data to examine if or how the impactor made a crater. The copper explosive is the size of a baseball weighing 2 kg. If successful, it would be the first time for a spacecraft to take such materials. The asteroid, named Ryugu after an undersea palace in a Japanese folktale, is about 300 million kilometers (180 million miles) from Earth.
- ✓ Earlier, Hayabusa2 successfully touched down on a tiny flat surface on the boulder-rich asteroid in February 2019, when the spacecraft also collected some surface dust and small debris.

Winmeen Current Affairs

1. Who clinched the 2019 men's singles Malaysia Open badminton tournament?

[A] Srikanth Kidambi

[B] Lin Dan

[C] Chen Long

[D] Sinisuka Ginting

- ✓ Chinese badminton ace Lin Dan clinched the 2019 men's singles Malaysia Open at Axiata Arena in Kuala Lumpur on April 7. After an electric performance, he beat countryman Chen Long 9-21, 21-7, 21-11. The title is Lin's first win this year, and also his first major success since taking the Malaysia Open in 2017.

2. Who has taken oath as the new Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court?

[A] Pawan Kalyan

[B] Rishi Bagree

[C] Pradeep Nandrajog

[D] Vidyasagar Rao

- ✓ Justice Pradeep Nandrajog has recently taken oath as the new Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court. He was administered the oath by Maharashtra Governor C Vidyasagar Rao at the Raj Bhavan. Justice Nandrajog was serving as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court since March 2017, following his transfer from the Delhi High Court.

3. Kushagra Rawat is associated to which sports?

[A] Cricket

[B] Wrestling

[C] Boxing

[D] Swimming

- ✓ Indian swimmer Kushagra Rawat made the 'B' time standard for the 2019 FINA World Championships and the 2020 Tokyo Olympics after clocking 08.07.99 in the 800m freestyle category at the Speedo Thailand Age Group Championships at Bangkok. The B timing for men's 800m freestyle for World Championship 2019 is 08:10.91 and Tokyo Olympics is 08:08.54.

- ✓ Not only in 800m freestyle, Kushagra has made the B standard for the World Championships in the 400m freestyle with a time of 03:56.10. The B standard qualifying time for the World Championships in 400m freestyle is 03.56.14.
- ✓ In the Olympics and World Championships, if the full quota of swimmers to take part in a particular event are not filled by those who crossed the A standard, those who achieved B standard will be called upon to compete.

4. India has recently evacuated peacekeeping CRPF contingent from which of the following African countries?

[A] Tunisia

[B] Libya

[C] Kenya

[D] Ethiopia

- ✓ India has recently evacuated its entire contingent of peacekeeping forces comprising 15 CRPF personnel from Tripoli after the situation suddenly worsened in Libya. Indian Ambassador in Tunisia has the concurrent charge of Libya.
- ✓ The military conflict in Libya escalated after the self-styled Libyan National Army (LNA), led by Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar, recently launched a surprise air strike in an area in Tripoli.
- ✓ On the other hand, UN-backed internationally recognized government headed by Fayeze al-Sarraj vowed a major counteroffensive. The move could potentially drag the country back into civil war.
- ✓ The United Nations has called for a two-hour truce to allow evacuations of civilians and the wounded. Libya has been torn by violence and political instability since long-time ruler Muammar Gaddafi was deposed and killed in 2011 uprising.

5. What is the theme of the 2019 World Health Day (WHD)?

[A] Depression: Let's Talk

[B] Universal Coverage: Everyone, Everywhere

[C] Food Safety

[D] Halt the rise: beat diabetes

- ✓ The World Health Day (WHD) is observed every year on 7th of April as a global health awareness day under the sponsorship of the World Health

Organization (WHO). The day also celebrated the establishment of WHO in 1948. The 2019 theme is "Universal Coverage: Everyone, Everywhere".

- ✓ Here, Universal Health means that all people across the globe have access, without any kind of discrimination, to comprehensive quality services, wherever they need them, without facing financial difficulties.

6. Global Cooling Coalition, which is in news recently, has recently launched in which of the following countries?

[A] Denmark

[B] Brazil

[C] Argentina

[D] Chile

- ✓ The first-ever global coalition on clean and efficient cooling was launched at the First Global Conference on Synergies between the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement, which concluded on April 3, 2019, in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ✓ The aim of Cool Coalition is to inspire ambition, identify solutions and mobilise action to accelerate progress towards clean and efficient cooling. It is a global effort led by UN Environment, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program, and Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL).
- ✓ It also includes government officials from Chile, Rwanda, Denmark as well as leaders from civil society, research and academia. As the world gets warmer, the demand for air conditioners is projected to grow and the greenhouse gas it emits will endanger the planet.
- ✓ Thus, the United Nations-backed 'Cool Coalition' comprising 23 members stated that clean, efficient cooling appliances and equipment can save up to \$2.9 trillion in energy use by 2050, and help avoid 0.4° Celsius warming of the planet.
- ✓ The Global Cool Coalition is a unified front that links action across the Kigali Amendment, Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

7. Which of the following Indian companies has won the 'Global Slag Company of the Year' award?

[A] RINL

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[B] Essar Steel

[C] Tata Steel

[D] Jindal Steel & Power

- ✓ Tata Steel has been named as the 'Global Slag Company of the Year' at the 14th Global Slag Conference and Exhibition 2019 in Aachen, Germany.
- ✓ It is one of the largest global annual slag events, attended by major steelmakers, steel mill service providers & associated companies.
- ✓ The award was presented to Tata Steel for its innovative practices in development of new applications for Steel by-products (Slag). The award demonstrates global recognition of Tata Steels commitment towards sustainability & circular economy principles.

8. Who has been named as female sportsperson of the year at the ESPN India Multi-Sport Awards 2018?

[A] Mary Kom

[B] Saina Nehwal

[C] Ekta Bhyan

[D] P V Sindhu

- ✓ Olympic silver medallist P.V. Sindhu and star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has been named as female and male sportsperson of the year in the ESPN India Multi-Sport Awards for their achievements in 2018.
- ✓ While Saina Nehwal won the award for the 'Comeback of the Year' after bagging the bronze at the 2018 Asian Games. Jaspal Rana, coach of the Indian shooting team, claimed the 'Coach of the Year' award after India picked up 16 medals in shooting at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.
- ✓ The Indian women's table tennis team took home the award for 'Team of the Year' after it clinched its first-ever gold medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

9. Which Indian Armed force has tied up with CSIR for joint research?

[A] Indian Army

[B] Indian Air Force

[C] Indian Navy

[D] Indian Coast Guard

- ✓ Indian Navy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to undertake joint

research and development of advanced technologies for the Indian Navy.

- ✓ This will be a collaborative arrangement between labs of CSIR, the Indian Navy and Indian industry. The MoU would facilitate joint R&D activities in diverse fields of Mechanical, Electronics, Communication, Computer Science, Propulsion systems, Metallurgy and Nanotechnology.

10. Who was appointed as Amicus curiae by the Kerala High Court on Kerala floods?

[A] Jacob P. Alex

[B] E P Jayarajan

[C] G Sudhakaran

[D] Kadakampally Surendran

- ✓ In a setback to the ruling Pinarayi Vijayan government, a 49-page report submitted by an Amicus curiae to the Kerala High Court (KHC) on April 3 recommended a judicial probe into the cause of the worst-ever floods to hit the state in August 2018 after it found that faulty dam management led to the flooding.
- ✓ In a report, amicus curiae Jacob P. Alex said that none of the 79 dams in the State were operated or used for the purpose of flood control and moderation, despite the obligation to utilise them for flood control as per the stipulations under the National Water Policy, National Disaster Management Authority guidelines on flood and RTIO (real-time integrated operation).
- ✓ It seemed that high reservoir storage and sudden release of water had resulted in worsening the floods. Various alerts (blue/orange/red) were issued not in accordance with the EAP (Emergency Action Plan) guidelines.
- ✓ No proper follow-up action and effective precautionary steps, especially for evacuating people and accommodating them in safe locations, were taken after the issue of red alert. Hence, this was a matter to be inquired into.

Winmeen Current Affairs

1. On which date, the 2019 World Homeopathy Day (WHD) is observed recently?

- [A] April 8
- [B] April 9
- [C] April 7
- [D] April 10

- ✓ The World Homeopathy Day (WHD) is observed every year on 10th of April to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of Homeopathy, Dr Christian Fredrich Samuel Hahnemann. On the occasion, the Central Council for Research in Homeopathy (CCRH) is organizing a two-day convention in New Delhi.
- ✓ The council will take stock of the challenges faced and formulate future strategies for the development of Homeopathy in the country. The theme of the convention is linking research with education and clinical practice. CCRH is an autonomous research organisation of Ministry of AYUSH.

2. Exercise African Lion 2019 has conducted between which of the following countries?

- [A] South Africa and UK
- [B] Tunisia and Russia
- [C] Morocco and United States
- [D] South Africa and India

- ✓ The joint military exercise "African Lion 2019" has conducted between Morocco and the US from March 16 to April 7 in the region of Agadir, Tifnit, Tan-Tan, Tata and Ben Guerir, with the participation of thousands of military personnel.
- ✓ The annual exercise involves various types of training including command, maneuvering, peace-keeping and aerial refueling.
- ✓ The drills also include training on counter-terrorism operations, land and air exercises as well as a tactical simulation.

3. Who has been appointed as new chief coach of India men's hockey team?

- [A] Herman Kruis
- [B] W V Raman

[C] Graham Reid

[D] Harendra Singh

- ✓ Graham Reid from Australia has been appointed as the new chief coach of the India men's hockey team till the end of 2020. As per industry standards, every international coach's contract is supposed to be for an Olympic cycle.
- ✓ But his tenure can be extended till 2022 FIH World Cup depending upon his performance. Hence, everything will depend on India's performances leading upto the Tokyo Olympics. Reid had a decorated playing career for the Australian national team and was part of the silver medal winning team at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.
- ✓ He also comes with a strong coaching experience, having worked with the Australian and the Netherlands national teams.

4. Nobel laureate Sydney Brenner, who passed away recently, was from which country?

- [A] United Kingdom
- [B] France
- [C] United States
- [D] South Africa

- ✓ Sydney Brenner (92), a South African-born biologist, has passed away in Singapore on April 5, 2019. He helped decipher the genetic code and his research on a roundworm sparked a new field of human disease research.
- ✓ Brenner shared the Nobel Prize in medicine in 2002 for his contribution to work unraveling how genes control cell division. He and two colleagues, John Sulston and Robert Horvitz, traced a transparent roundworm known as C.
- ✓ elegans to determine how cells divide and create something new. The findings on programmed cell death were key to understanding how cancers develop and laid the groundwork for making C. elegans a major model organism in research.

5. Isaak Hayik, who has become the world's oldest soccer player, is from which country?

- [A] Israel
- [B] UAE
- [C] Saudi Arabia

[D] Iran

- ✓ Isaaq Hayik has set a new world record as the oldest person to play in a professional soccer match at the age of 73. He broke the record after playing as a goalkeeper for Israeli team Ironi Or Yehuda against Maccabi Ramat Gan on April 5, 2019.
- ✓ Hayik was officially recognised in an award ceremony attended by representatives from the Guinness World Record organisation. The previous record was held by Robert Carmona of Uruguay, who in 2015 played a professional match with Uruguay's Pan de Azucar at the age of 53.

6. Which international organisation has released its latest report on "South Asia Economic Focus, Exports Wanted"?

- [A] IMF
- [B] ADB
- [C] World Bank
- [D] AIIB

- ✓ As per latest report on "South Asia Economic Focus, Exports Wanted" by World Bank (WB), India's GDP growth is expected to accelerate moderately to 7.5% in FY 20 (2019-20) and will be driven by continued investment strengthening, particularly private-improved export performance and resilient consumption.
- ✓ As per report, Credit growth will benefit from relatively more accommodative monetary policy amid benign inflationary conditions. Support from delayed fiscal consolidation will partially offset the effects of political uncertainty on economic activity around elections in May 2019. The real GDP growth is estimated at 7.2% in financial year FY 19 (2018-19).

7. Which country is the highest recipient of remittances in 2018, as per World Bank (WB)'s latest report "Migration and Development Brief"?

- [A] Philippines
- [B] India
- [C] China
- [D] Mexico

- ✓ The World Bank (WB) has recently released its latest edition of Migration and Development Brief. In it, India has retained its position as the world's top

recipient of remittances with its diaspora sending a whopping \$79 billion back home in 2018.

- ✓ India was followed by China (\$67 billion), Mexico (\$36 billion), the Philippines (\$34 billion), and Egypt (\$29 billion). Over the last three years, India has registered a significant flow of remittances from \$62.7 billion in 2016 to \$65.3 billion 2017.
- ✓ According to the report, remittances to low-and middle-income countries reached a record high of \$529 billion in 2018, an increase of 9.6% over the previous record high of \$483 billion in 2017. Global remittances, which include flows to high-income countries, reached \$ 689 billion in 2018, up from \$633 billion in 2017.

8. On which date, the International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Rwanda Genocide is observed recently?

- [A] April 7
- [B] April 9
- [C] April 8
- [D] April 6

- ✓ The International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Rwandan genocide is observed every year on 7th of April in memory of the victims of the genocide in Rwanda.
- ✓ The 1994 genocide is considered the hallmark example of violence that was ignored by the international community. In 1994, around 800,000 Tutsis were slaughtered in Rwanda in a hundred-day campaign. Hence, the United Nations established the day to remember members of the Tutsi community, an African ethnic group, which were killed or injured in the atrocities.
- ✓ The Day of Reflection offered an opportunity to consider the factors that had led to such mass atrocity and to renew the collective pledge of "never again".

9. The scientists at which US University have found that cold plasma can kill 99.9% of airborne viruses?

- [A] Clemson University
- [B] University of Michigan
- [C] Stanford University
- [D] Yale University

- ✓ Scientists from University of Michigan in the United States have found that dangerous airborne viruses can be rendered harmless on-the-fly when exposed to 'cold plasma' - a stream of energetic, charged fragments of air molecules.
- ✓ The researchers have measured the virus-killing speed and effectiveness of non thermal plasmas - the ionised, or charged, particles that form around electrical discharges such as sparks.
- ✓ A non thermal plasma reactor was able to inactivate or remove from the air stream 99.9% of a test virus. The researchers hope to one day harness this capability to replace the surgical mask.

10. RBI has recently tweaked LCR norms to boost liquidity. What does 'LCR' stands for?

[A] Liquidity Coverage Ratio

[B] Liquidity Carbon Ratio

[C] Liquidity Commodity Ratio

[D] Liquidity Calculative Ratio

- ✓ In a bid to further improve the cash position of banks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently tweaked Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) norms to provide an additional 2% window to lenders.
- ✓ The move will harmonise the liquidity requirements of banks and release additional money for lending. The LCR indicates the proportion of highly liquid assets held by banks to ensure their ability to meet short-term obligations.
- ✓ In a statement on 'Developmental and Regulatory Policies' the RBI has extended the timeline for linking floating interest rates on personal, home, auto and MSEs loans to external benchmarks.

Winmeen Current Affairs

1. Which institute has been ranked as the 'Best Educational Institution' in the 2019 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)?

[A] IIT-Bombay

[B] IIT-Madras

[C] IIT-Roorkee

[D] IIT-Kharagpur

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-Madras) has been ranked as the top institute in the overall category in the latest edition of National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2019 and is followed by Indian Institute of Science (IISc), IIT Delhi, IIT-Bombay, IIT-Kharagpur, IIT Kanpur, JNU, IIT-Roorkee, IIT-Guwahati and BHU.
- ✓ The NIRF is a Ministry of HRD initiative and released annually. On the other hand, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore secured the top spot in the management college ranking followed by IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Calcutta.
- ✓ The National Law School of Indian in Bengaluru grabbed the top spot under the law category while Indian Institute of Technology was ranked first in the Architecture category.
- ✓ All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, followed by Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh and Christian Medical College, Vellore were ranked as the top three medical colleges.

2. Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), which is in news recently, is associated to which of the following countries?

[A] Iran

[B] Syria

[C] Tunisia

[D] Israel

- ✓ The United States has recently designated Iran's elite military force, Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) in accordance with section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 (INA).

- ✓ The move, which takes effect on April 15, is part of an effort to put maximum pressure on Iran to end its support for terrorist plots and militant activity that destabilizes the Middle East.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Iran has also designated U.S. military bases and their military forces as terrorist bases and terrorist forces in the region.
- ✓ The IRGC is in charge of Iran's ballistic missile and nuclear programs. It was formed after the 1979 Islamic revolution with a mission to defend the clerical regime.

3. Who has won the 2019 women's singles Monterrey Open tennis tournament?

[A] Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova

[B] Angelique Kerber

[C] Garbine Muguruza

[D] Victoria Azarenka

- ✓ On 7th April 2019, Garbine Muguruza of Spain has successfully defended her Monterrey Open title when Victoria Azarenka retired injured from her first WTA singles final in three years.
- ✓ Muguruza was leading the match between the two former world number ones 6-1 3-1 when Azarenka decided she was unable to continue because of an injury to her right leg.
- ✓ The Monterrey Open is a professional women's tennis tournament played on outdoor hard courts. The event is affiliated with the Women's Tennis Association (WTA), and is part of the International tournaments on the WTA Tour.

4. Who is the current chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?

[A] Piyush Dattatraya

[B] Salvi Swatanter Kumar

[C] Madan B Lokur

[D] Adarsh Kumar Goel

- ✓ A bench headed by National Green Tribunal (NGT) Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel has constituted a committee to look into the alleged erosion of Yamuna floodplain due to movement of heavy vehicles in Haryana's Sonapat district.
- ✓ The directions came when the green panel was hearing a plea which said that the policy of

permitting heavy vehicles in the embankments of the river is “destructing the ecology”.

- ✓ The committee will comprise Principal Secretary of the Haryana Irrigation and Water Resources Department, Member Secretary of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board and Director of the Mines and Geology Department.
- ✓ The tribunal said the committee would submit a joint report within one month by e-mail so that matter can be taken up before the monsoon.

5. Which of the following cities has become the world's first city to implement 24x7 pollution charge zone?

[A] London

[B] Paris

[C] Berlin

[D] New York

- ✓ London has become the world's first city to implement a special Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) that would charge an entry fee for older vehicles if they do not meet the emission standards. The move aims to reduce toxic air pollution and protect public health. ,
- ✓ The ULEZ will be operational for 24 hours and 7 days a week. It will help address London's toxic air health crisis that currently leads to thousands of premature deaths annually, and increases the risk of asthma, cancer and dementia.
- ✓ As part of the efforts to combat air pollution, London's famous red bus fleet is also being upgraded. By October 2020, all of 9,200 vehicles will meet or exceed ULEZ standards, as per the statement from Khan's mayoral office.

6. Exercise 'Bold Kurukshetra-2019' was held between India and which of the following countries?

[A] Nepal

[B] Singapore

[C] Indonesia

[D] Sri Lanka

- ✓ The joint military exercise titled “Bold Kurukshetra-2019” was held between the Indian Army and Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) at Babina Cantonment in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh from April 8 to 11.

- ✓ The purpose of the exercise was to develop military technology, enhance the maritime security and bolster the nations' fight against terrorism.

7. The 2019 MENA World Economic Forum was held in which of the following countries?

[A] Egypt

[B] South Africa

[C] Jordan

[D] Zimbabwe

- ✓ The World Economic Forum (WEF) in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) 2019 was held at the Dead Sea in Jordan on April 6 to 7.
- ✓ The 17th WEF meeting in the region called for united efforts to address the most pressing challenges of the area.
- ✓ It was themed on three major visions: generating job opportunities, empowering Arab women and promoting the most intriguing startups that have joined the region's industry over the past years.
- ✓ Over 1,000 government, business and civil society leaders from more than 50 countries participated in the summit.

8. The Bombay Stock Exchange has recently tied up with which bank to give boost to startups platform?

[A] ICICI Bank

[B] HDFC Bank

[C] SBI

[D] Axis Bank

- ✓ The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank to spread awareness about the benefits of listing on BSE Startups platform.
- ✓ The MoU will also extend value-added support for eligible startups, along with BSE for the listing. The move will offer banking and lending solutions to eligible startups already listed or due-to-list on BSE startup platform.
- ✓ Moreover, the ability to access capital via BSE's startup platform in turn will enable startups to access growth capital and enhance tradability of an otherwise illiquid/ high-risk investment asset class.
- ✓ The exchange had launched the startup platform in December 2018, with an aim to encourage

entrepreneurs to get listed and raise equity capital for their growth and expansion. HDFC Bank has 43 million customers, 5,000 branches and 13,160 ATMs across 2,727 Indian towns and cities.

9. Under which article of the constitution, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has prohibited display/exhibit any biopic/publicity material during Model Code of Conduct (MCC) period?

[A] Article 323

[B] Article 324

[C] Article 325

[D] Article 326

- ✓ As per Article 324 of the constitution, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has recently issued an order prohibiting display in electronic media including cinematograph of any biopic or publicity material in the nature of biography/hagiography sub-serving the purposes of any political entity or any individual entity connected to it.
- ✓ Hence, ECI banned screening of "PM Narendra Modi", a biopic on the Prime Minister, till the national elections are over. Earlier, on 10th March 2019, ECI announced General Elections to 17th Lok Sabha 2019 and from the date of announcement of the elections, the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into operation.
- ✓ The Lok Sabha elections will begin on April 11 and will be held over seven phases followed by counting of votes on May 23.

10. Which IIT has tied up with General Electric (GE) to set up India's first Cold Spray SMART Lab?

[A] IIT-Madras

[B] IIT Delhi

[C] IIT-Guwahati

[D] IIT Kanpur

- ✓ IIT-Madras has recently collaborated with American conglomerate General Electric (GE) to set up India's first 'Cold Spray' SMART (Surface Modification and Additive Research Technologies) Laboratory, which will develop advanced services technology for aircraft engine components.
- ✓ This is the first of its kind High-Pressure Cold Spray (HPCS) facility that is being installed in any

academic institute in India. The laboratory consists of a state-of-the-art HPCS equipment has been imported from the famous company Plasma Giken of Japan.

- ✓ The project is funded under 'Uchchatar Avishkar Yojana' (UAY) of the Government of India, which is intended to boost collaboration between academia and private sector.
- ✓ The Union Ministry of Human Resources Development (HRD) was the key investor along with the Department of Science and Technology (DST), IIT Madras and GE. The Cold Spray is an emerging technology for advanced manufacturing and services and will be utilised to co-develop processes for aero-engine applications.
- ✓ This smart technology has application temperatures that are much lower than other thermal-spray and welding processes, which means the distortion and stresses associated with those repair techniques are avoided; leading to longer asset life.

Winmeen Current Affairs

1. Which Indian education technology startup has won the \$25,000 Next Billion Edtech Prize 2019?

[A] Simplilearn

[B] Dost Education

[C] College Dekho

[D] EduKart

- ✓ India's education technology startup 'Dost Education' has bagged a \$25,000 Next Billion Edtech Prize 2019 for its ability to empower parents to take charge of their child's early education by creating short, friendly audio content that is sent to them via their mobile phones.
- ✓ Besides India's Dost, two other winners also receive \$25,000 each included Ubongo from Tanzania and PraxiLabs from Egypt. The prize, which is run by UK-based Varkey Foundation, recognises the most innovative technology destined to have a radical impact on education in low income and emerging world countries.

2. T-90 tanks, sometimes seen in news, is associated to which of the following countries?

[A] France

[B] United States

[C] Russia

[D] Germany

- ✓ In a major boost for the Indian Army, the Government of India (GoI) has recently cleared the procurement of 464 T-90 tanks from Russia in a deal worth over Rs 13,500 crore. Under the new deal, the T-90 tanks would be provided to the Armoured Corps of the force which will use them for deployment along the border with Pakistan.
- ✓ The contract will also include a Make-in-India element for integration at the Heavy Vehicles Factory in Avadi near Chennai. The T-90 would be equipped with thermal imaging night sights to allow the tank commander to strike enemy locations during night battles.
- ✓ The new inductions will also strengthen the Army's fire-power along the land border stretch with Pakistan -- from Jammu in the north till the western

flank in Gujarat. The new deal would increase the number of T-90s in the Army to close to 2,000 along with the remaining T-72 and T-55s.

3. Which India's flagship programme has won the 2019 Public Water Agency of the Year at the Global Water Summit (GWS)?

[A] Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana

[B] Smart Cities Mission

[C] Standup India

[D] Namami Gange

- ✓ India's flagship programme, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) (or Namami Gange) was awarded the distinction of "Public Water Agency of the Year" by Global Water Intelligence at the Global Water Summit (GWS) in London on April 9.
- ✓ The GWS was the major business conference for the water industry worldwide. The coveted awards recognize excellence across the entire international water industry and reward those initiatives in the water, wastewater, and desalination sectors which bring remarkable improvements in the lives of people.
- ✓ The Namami Gange programme an integrated conservation mission with a budget of Rs 20,000 crore to accomplish the objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of the Ganga.
- ✓ The project covers 8 states and seeks to fully connect all 1,632 Gram Panchayats along the Ganga to a sanitation system by 2022. Its mission aims at providing comprehensive and sustainable solutions for major pollution hot spots along the stretch of 97 towns and 4,465 villages on the Ganga stem.

4. The Supreme Court (SC) has imposed a fine of Rs 20 lakh on which state government for banning satirical film Bhubishyoter Bhoot?

[A] Assam

[B] West Bengal

[C] Jharkhand

[D] Odisha

- ✓ On April 11, the Supreme Court (SC) imposed a fine of Rs 20 lakh on the West Bengal government for

imposing a 'virtual' ban on the public screening of the satirical film *Bhobishyoter Bhoot* in the state.

- ✓ A bench headed by Justice D Y Chandrachud said the fine amount shall be given to producers and cinema hall owners as compensation for violation of their right to freedom of speech and expression.
- ✓ The court was hearing a plea by the film producer which alleged the movie was taken down from a majority of theatres at the behest of the state authorities. The film, directed by Anik Dutta, was released on February 15.
- ✓ Its story revolves around a group of ghosts, including a politician, who assemble at a refugee camp and try to be relevant in contemporary times. The film was allegedly withdrawn from single-screen theatres and multiplexes a day after its release.

5. Who has been selected for the 2018 Saraswati Samman?

[A] Siva Reddy

[B] Vijay Tendulkar

[C] Shamsur Rahman Faruqi

[D] Indira Parthasarathy Ramanujar

- ✓ Telugu poet K Siva Reddy has been selected for the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2018 for his collection of poetry titled *Pakkaki Ottigilite* (Turning Aside While Lying Down).
- ✓ It is the highest recognition in the field of Indian literature and carries a cash purse of Rs 15 lakh, apart from a citation and a plaque.
- ✓ *Pakkaki Ottigilite*, published in 2016, is an anthology of 104 poems in blank verse. It captures the responses of the poet over the years to social change, the evolution of his own self and his dynamic relationship with the world.
- ✓ The award, instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991, is given annually for an outstanding literary work written in any Indian language and published during the last 10 years.

6. Which Indian Cricketer has been named as the Wisden's Leading Cricketer in the World for 2018?

[A] K L Rahul

[B] M S Dhoni

[C] Virat Kohli

[D] Rohit Sharma

- ✓ Indian captain Virat Kohli has been named as the Leading Cricketer of the year for an unprecedented third year in a row by the 2019 edition of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack. Kohli was picked as one of the Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year, along with Tammy Beaumont, Jos Buttler, Sam Curran and Rory Burns.
- ✓ The Indian skipper is only the third cricketer ever to have won the award more than three times after Don Bradman (10 times) and Jack Hobbs (8 times). India's Smriti Mandhana has been named as the women's Leading Cricketer in the World for 2018 while Afghanistan spinner Rashid Khan was named the Leading Twenty20 Cricketer for the second consecutive year.
- ✓ Wisden has been listing out Cricketers of the Year since 1889 and it is considered as one of the more prestigious awards in the sport.

7. Which country has recently sent a team of experts to re-measure height of Mount Everest?

[A] India

[B] China

[C] Nepal

[D] Bhutan

- ✓ The Nepal government has recently sent a 4-member team of experts to re-measure the height of Mount Everest. Chief Survey Officer Khim Lal Gautam and Survey Officer Rabin Karki will ascend Mount Everest.
- ✓ After reaching the summit, they will use a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) that will send readings about its height to their two colleagues who will remain at base camp.
- ✓ The Survey Department in Kathmandu will be conducted four sets of surveys: Precise levelling, Trigonometric levelling, Gravity survey and GNSS survey. It is for the first time, Nepal has sent its own team to conduct a survey of the world's highest mountain.
- ✓ The aim of the government is to measure the exact height of Mount Everest amid debates that there might have been a change in its height due to various

reasons including the devastating earthquake of 2015.

- ✓ Survey of India had measured the height as 8848 meter in 1954 and it has been adopted as authentic height by the Government of Nepal till date.

8. The scientists at which US university have developed a new pin-sized sensor that can detect dangerous chemicals?

- [A] Duke University
- [B] Yale university
- [C] Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- [D] **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

- ✓ The scientists at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the US have developed a novel sensor that can be used in smartphone-sized devices to detect dangerous chemicals based on a unique fingerprint of absorbed and emitted light.
- ✓ Devices called spectrometers are light-splitting instruments that have long been both bulky and expensive, preventing their use outside the lab.
- ✓ However, researchers have now developed a spectrometer so small and simple that it could integrate with the camera of a typical cellphone without sacrificing accuracy.
- ✓ The device also has an advanced capability called hyperspectral imaging, which collects information about each individual pixel in an image to identify materials or detect specific objects amidst a complicated background.
- ✓ Hyperspectral sensing could be used to detect seams of valuable minerals within rock faces or to identify specific plants in a highly vegetated area.

9. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court?

- [A] **Vikram Nath**
- [B] Praveen Kumar
- [C] N V Ramana
- [D] K S Das

- ✓ Justice Vikram Nath, seniormost judge of the Allahabad High Court, has been appointed Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. He succeeded acting CJ Justice Chagari Praveen Kumar.

- ✓ A collegium of Supreme Court comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi and judges S A Bobde and N V Ramana recommended the name of Justice Nath as the chief justice of the AP High Court.
- ✓ The new high court for Andhra Pradesh was created on 1st January 2019, following the bifurcation of a combined high court for AP and Telangana, which had been operating from Hyderabad since June 2, 2014, when the two Telugu states got separated.

10. What is the theme of the 2019 National Safe Motherhood Day (NSMD)?

- [A] End Maternal Mortality
- [B] For safe childbirth, let's visit health centres
- [C] Respectful Maternity Care
- [D] **Midwives for Mothers**

- ✓ The National Safe Motherhood Day (NSMD) is observed every year on 11th of April to raise awareness about the proper healthcare of women and maternity facilities to pregnant and lactating women.
- ✓ This day also raise awareness for the prevention of child marriages that may be an indirect cause of maternal deaths. The 2019 theme is "Midwives for Mothers". India is the first country in the world to have officially declared a National Safe Motherhood Day.

Winmeen Current Affairs

1. As per which section of the RTI Act, the Government of India (GoI) cannot refuse information if disclosure in public interest overshadows certain 'protected interests'?

- [A] Section 7(2)
 [B] Section 6(2)
 [C] Section 8(2)
 [D] Section 9(2)

- ✓ Supreme Court Justice K M Joseph has recently delivered a separate judgment in the Rafale case. He countered the claim made by the Government of India (GoI) for privilege over Rafale purchase documents under the Official Secrets Act (OSA), which affected national security and relations with France.
- ✓ He stated that the Right to Information (RTI) Act supersedes the OSA. By referring to Section 8(2) of the RTI Act, Justice Joseph said the government cannot refuse information if disclosure in public interest overshadows certain 'protected interests'.
- ✓ Hence, the separate judgment also offers a scathing critique on journalistic bias. The judge said "controlling business interests and political allegiances" have eroded journalistic responsibility.
- ✓ The RTI Act confers on ordinary citizens the 'priceless right' to demand information even in matters affecting national security and relations with a foreign state.

2. Which Indian personality has been chosen for Russia's highest civilian award "Order of St Andrew the Apostle"?

- [A] Mary Kom
 [B] Narendra Modi
 [C] Amitabh Bachchan
 [D] Azim Premji

- ✓ On April 12, the Russia government announced its decision to confer the Order of St Andrew the Apostle - the highest state decoration of the country on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The decoration is being given to Mr Modi for his exceptional services in promoting special and privileged strategic partnership between the

Russian Federation and India and friendly relations between the Russian and Indian people.

- ✓ The Order was established in 1698 by Tsar Peter the Great, in honour of Saint Andrew, the first apostle of Jesus and patron saint of Russia.
- ✓ This is the 7th international award conferred on Mr Modi since he became the premier in 2014. The others are the Zayed Medal of the UAE (2019), the Seoul Peace Prize, UN Champions of the Earth Award, Grand Collar of the State of Palestine (all in 2018), Amir Abdullah Khan Award of Afghanistan and King Abdullaziz Sash of Saudi Arabia (both in 2016). Four of the awards are from Islamic states.

3. Which international agency has recently published a State of World Population 2019 report?

- [A] UNESCO
 [B] UNIDA
 [C] UNICEF
 [D] UNFPA

- ✓ The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has recently released a State of World Population 2019 report. The report stated that India's population grew at an average annual rate of 1.2% between 2010 and 2019 to 1.36 billion, which is more than double the annual growth rate of China.
- ✓ According to the report, in India, total fertility rate per woman was 5.6 in 1969, dropping to 3.7 in 1994 and 2.3 in 2019. India also recorded an improvement in life expectancy at birth. The life expectancy at birth in 1969 was 47 years, growing to 60 years in 1994 and 69 years in 2019.
- ✓ As per India's population composition in 2019, 27% of the population was in the age bracket of 0-14 years and 10-24 years each, 67% in the 15-64 age bracket and 6% was of the age 65 and above.
- ✓ The report noted that Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in the country dropped from 488 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1994 to 174 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2015.

4. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre was held in which of the following years?

- [A] 1916
 [B] 1918

[C] 1917

[D] 1919

- ✓ On 13th April 2019, the nation paid homage to the martyrs of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre on the centenary of the incident. On this day in 1919, hundreds of innocent Indians were killed by troops under British Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer, during a peaceful meeting on Baisakhi at the park in Amritsar, Punjab.
- ✓ Here, the civilians had assembled for a peaceful protest to condemn the arrest and deportation of two national leaders, Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew.
- ✓ The massacre is one of the darkest chapters of India's freedom struggle against the British occupation. The official death toll by the British government was put at 379, but Indian figures put the toll at closer to 1,000.
- ✓ Even after 100 years, the British government has only regretted the massacre but stopped short of apologizing for the killing of so many innocent people.

5. Which mobile wallet provider has tied up with MMTC-PAMP India to launch gold buying feature?

[A] Google Pay

[B] Paytm

[C] MobiKwik

[D] PhonePe

- ✓ To make Google Pay more useful for Indian customers, Google has partnered with MMTC-PAMP India to introduce buying and selling of gold through the app.
- ✓ Through this partnership with India's only London Bullion Market Association (LBMA)-accredited gold refinery, Google Pay users will be able to buy 99.99% 24-karat gold. Google Pay users can now purchase gold for any value, which will be stored on behalf of the user in secure vaults by MMTC-PAMP.
- ✓ Users can buy and sell this gold any time at the latest price, refreshed every few minutes on the Google Pay app. Other mobile wallet providers such as Paytm, MobiKwik and PhonePe too provide the facility of buying gold from their wallet apps.

6. The scientists at which university have discovered chain-melted state of matter?

[A] University of Central Florida

[B] University of Edinburgh

[C] University of California

[D] University of Michigan

- ✓ The scientists at University of Edinburgh have discovered a new state of physical matter - which allows atoms to exist as both solid and liquid at the same time.
- ✓ Until now, atoms in physical matter were understood to exist typically in one of three states — solid, liquid or gas. An international team of physicists have found that some elements can take on the properties of both solid and liquid states, when subjected to extreme conditions.
- ✓ They used Artificial Intelligence (AI) to simulate what would happen if potassium was subject to huge pressure -- between about 200,000 and 400,000 times atmospheric pressure -- and heat -- between 400 to 800 Kelvin (260 to 980 degrees Fahrenheit).
- ✓ The study found that under these conditions potassium atoms entered what is known as a chain-melted state, where one of the two lattices -- the "guest" part -- dissolved into liquid, while the "host" part remained solid.
- ✓ They found that more than half a dozen other elements, including sodium and bismuth, were able to reach the state if they were put into the right environments.

7. Who has become the first-ever captain to win 100 matches in IPL history?

[A] Kane Williamson

[B] Keiron Pollard

[C] MS Dhoni

[D] Aaron Finch

- ✓ Mahendra Singh Dhoni has become the first-ever captain to register 100 wins in Indian Premier League (IPL) history after Chennai Super Kings (CSK) defeated Rajasthan Royals by 4 wickets at the Sawai Man Singh stadium in Jaipur on 11th April 2019.

- ✓ MS Dhoni is the most experienced captain in the Indian Premier League. He has led Chennai Super Kings in 152 matches.
- ✓ In 2016, Dhoni led Rising Pune Supergiant in 14 matches. Overall, MS Dhoni has played 182 matches in the IPL and scored 4172 runs at an average of 41.30 with 21 fifties (19 for CSK and 2 for RPS) and 121 dismissals as wicketkeeper.

8. Humo luzonensis, which is in news recently, has discovered in which of the following countries?

- [A] Maldives
- [B] South Africa
- [C] Philippines
- [D] Australia

- ✓ Scientists have recently discovered new species of ancient human excavations in Philippines. This newly identified species named Humo Luzonensis after Luzon Island, where bones and teeth from individuals of this species were excavated from Callao Cave.
- ✓ The small size of the bones suggests this archaic human would have been shorter than 4ft tall – possibly even shorter than another ancient species - Homo floresiensis.
- ✓ The specimens of H. luzonensis were dated to 50,000 and 67,000 years old (Late Pleistocene period), which suggests that the species was alive at the same time as several other hominins belonging to the genus Homo, including Homo sapiens, Neanderthals, Denisovans and Homo floresiensis.
- ✓ Thus, this discovery claims finding to be the earliest direct evidence human presence in Philippines.

9. Which of the following countries will be the Guest of Honour country at the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (ADIBF 2019)?

- [A] Russia
- [B] Bangladesh
- [C] China
- [D] India

- ✓ India will be the Guest of Honour country at the 29th Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (ADIBF 2019), which is scheduled to be held from April 24th to 30th. The fair aims to highlight the UAE's rich heritage,

showcasing its authenticity and modernity, as well as its cultural and literary output.

- ✓ India's participation in the fair is expected to attract significant increase in the number of visitors with various events and activities which will be held throughout the entire duration of ADIBF.
- ✓ The Indian Pavilion will host Indian writers, authors and literary scholars who will serve as ambassadors for the literature and art of their country.

10. Who has been appointed as new Secretary of Defence Finance?

- [A] Sumeet Jerath
- [B] Gargi Kaul
- [C] Raj Kumar Goyal,
- [D] Prem Kumar Kataria

- ✓ Gargi Kaul, a 1984-batch officer of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS), has been appointed as new Secretary of Defence Finance.