

WINMEEN CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. Who has been appointed as the first female match referee by ICC?

- A] Mary Waldron C] Shivani Mishra
B] Jacqueline Williams D] **G S Lakshmi**

- ✓ India's G.S. Lakshmi has become the first-ever woman to be appointed to ICC's International Panel of Match Referees and will be eligible to officiate in international games with immediate effect.
- ✓ Lakshmi, 51, who first officiated as a match referee in domestic women's cricket in 2008-09, has overseen three women's ODI matches and three women's T20 International matches. Her compatriot Claire Polosak recently became the first female umpire to officiate in a men's One-Day International (ODI).
- ✓ In another major appointment, Australia's Eloise Sheridan has joined Polosak on the ICC Development Panel of Umpires, meaning the number of women on that panel is now up to eight. Lauren Agenbag, Kim Cotton, Shivani Mishra, Sue Redfern, Mary Waldron and Jacqueline Williams are the other women officials on that panel.

2. India has been chosen to co-chair Consultative Group (CG) of GFDRR in which fiscal year?

- A] 2021 C] 2022
B] 2023 D] **2020**

- ✓ India has been unanimously chosen as co-chair of the Consultative Group of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year 2020. The decision was taken during the meeting of GFDRR held in Geneva, Switzerland on the margins of the 6th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2019.
- ✓ This will give India an opportunity to work with the member countries and organizations with a focused contribution towards advancing the disaster risk reduction agenda during the course of the year.

- ✓ The GFDRR is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change. It is a grant-funding mechanism, managed by the World Bank, that supports disaster risk management projects worldwide.

3. Who has become the world's first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in a Light Sports Aircraft (LSA)?

- A] **Aarohi Pandit** C] Sarla Thakral
B] Durba Banerjee D] Avani Chaturvedi

- ✓ Captain Aarohi Pandit, a 23-year-old pilot from Mumbai, has become the world's first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in a Light Sports Aircraft (LSA).
- ✓ She completed the feat when she landed at Iqaluit Airport in Canada on 13 May, having flown there from Wick in the UK. Her journey was broken into five legs, with stops at Iceland and Greenland. It also made Pandit the first female pilot in the world to successfully complete a solo flight across the Greenland ice cap in an LSA.
- ✓ This is part of her ongoing year-long global circumnavigation flight which was launched by friend Keithair Misquitta on July 30. Both the friends began their trip for Women Empower (WE) Expedition in the tiny aircraft christened 'Mahi' in August 2018.
- ✓ 'Mahi' is a tiny, single-engine Sinus 912 weighing a little of 400 kg or nearly equivalent to a Bullet motorcycle, manufactured by Pipistrel of Slovenia, and is also the first LSA registered by Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) India.

4. In Madhya Pradesh, women will handle the entire work of counting votes in which of the following districts?

- A] Jabalpur C] Indore
B] **Harda** D] Burhanpur

- ✓ In Madhya Pradesh, women will handle the entire work of counting votes in Harda district of the state. As per reports, the initiative is probably the first of its kind. Harda district is a part of Betul parliamentary seat and the counting of votes of Timarni and Harda assembly segments will take place at Harda district headquarter.
- ✓ At present, 84 women are being trained for counting in Polytechnic College. Apart from the counting of votes, only women will be deployed for the security of the counting centre. More than 75 percent of voting has been recorded in Harda district, so the number of votes is also high.

5. The scientists at which lab created a new type of plastic 'PDK' that can be recycled forever?

A] Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

B] Los Alamos National Laboratory

C] Oak Ridge National Laboratory

D] Argonne National Laboratory

- ✓ A team of researchers at the US Department of Energy's (DOE) Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory has created a next-generation plastic, called Poly Di-Ketoamine (or PDK), that can be fully recycled into new materials of any colour, shape, or form, without loss of performance or quality.
- ✓ They have designed a recyclable plastic that, like a Lego playset, can be disassembled into its constituent parts at the molecular level. According to the journal Nature Chemistry, unlike conventional plastics, the monomers of PDK plastic could be recovered and freed from any compounded additives simply by dunking the material in a highly acidic solution.

6. France and which country have jointly launched a new initiative 'Christchurch Call' against online extremism?

A] United Kingdom C] New Zealand

B] Poland D] Germany

- ✓ At Paris summit, French President Emmanuel Macron and New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern launched an ambitious new initiative to eliminate terrorist and violent content online.
- ✓ The initiative, "Christchurch Call", was pushed by Ms Ardern after a white supremacist gunned down 51 people at two mosques in the New Zealand city in March. Participants will be asked to commit to pledges to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content on social media and other online platforms
- ✓ The political meeting will run in parallel to an initiative launched by Macron called 'Tech for Good' which will bring together 80 tech chiefs in Paris to find a way for new technologies to work for the common good.

7. National Vesak Week, which is in news recently, is associated to which of the following religions?

A] Christianity

C] Hinduism

B] Jainism

D] Buddhism

- ✓ On May 15, Sri Lanka has declared a National Vesak Week to mark the most significant event for Buddhists all over the world. The festival commemorates the birth, enlightenment (Buddhahood), and death (Parinirvāna) of Gautama Buddha in the Theravada or southern tradition.
- ✓ The Vesak Festival- 2019 will be held under tight security and people have been encouraged to organize celebrations at Buddhist temples and not in public places in the wake of Easter Sunday attacks last month.
- ✓ The state Vesak festival will be held in Galle under the patronage of the President Maithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe.

8. Who has been appointed head coach of the Indian men's senior football team?

A] Hakan Ericson

C] Igor Stimac

B] Albert Roca D] Lee Min-Sung

- ✓ Croatian World Cupper Igor Stimac has been appointed head coach of the Indian men's senior football team for a two-year term. The national team has been without a coach since the departure of Stephen Constantine in January, following the creditable show at the AFC Asian Cup.
- ✓ Stimac comes with an experience of over 18 years in coaching. As a coach, Stimac's major achievement was guiding Croatia to qualify for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil. As a player, he was part of the Croatia team that finished third in the 1998 World Cup.

9. *Lecanorchis taiwaniana*, which is in news recently, has discovered in which of the following Indian states?

A] Meghalaya C] Mizoram

B] Nagaland **D] Assam**

- ✓ In Assam, a type of orchid - *Lecanorchis taiwaniana* (parasitic bloom) - has coincidentally discovered by Assam's forest officer named Jatindra Sarma.
- ✓ The parasitic bloom is a variant of a Japanese orchid. It is found to have a maximum height of 40 cm and a blossoming period of five-six days.
- ✓ It is a Myco-heterotroph and is one of two types of parasitic plants that have abandoned photosynthesis. The discovery titled "New record for the flora in India" is recently published in Japanese Journal of Botany.

10. Teressa Island is located in which of the following union territories of India?

A] Lakshadweep C] Puducherry

B] Andaman & Nicobar D] Daman & Diu

- ✓ On May 9, the Indian Armed Forces carried out Exercise Bull Strike at Teressa Island in Andaman and Nicobar (A&N). The military drill was conducted to showcase joint operations capability of the armed forces.

- ✓ During the exercise, the army personnel got the chance to display their prowess by undertaking company level airborne operation at Teressa Island.
- ✓ Around 170 troops from three services – Army, Navy and the Air force undertook Para drop Ops in a Combat Free Fall & Static Line mode from the C-130 J. There were 149 Indian Army, 12 Indian Air Force and 9 Indian Navy soldiers who participated in several combat drills ahead of the jumps and during jumps.