



JUNE

2019



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1. The 2019 Financial Literacy Week is an initiative of which of the following Indian organizations?

- A) RBI B) Ministry of Finance
C) SEBI D) IRDA

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will observe 2019 Financial Literacy Week across the country from 3rd to 7th of June. The theme this year is – “Farmers and how they benefit by being a part of the formal banking system”. The posters and leaflets will be used to spread awareness and spread the message of financial literacy among the farming community.
- ✓ The RBI has advised banks to display the posters and content in their rural bank branches, Financial Literacy Centres, ATMs and websites. It will also undertake a mass media campaign this month on Doordarshan and All India Radio to disseminate essential financial awareness messages to farmers.

2. Who is the head of the committee that recently submitted the Draft National Education Policy to the Union HRD Minister?

- A) Madhav Gadgil C) M Radhakrishnan
B) M G K Menon D) K Kasturirangan

- ✓ Former ISRO chief Dr. K Kasturirangan led Committee has recently submitted the draft National Educational Policy to HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank in New Delhi.
- ✓ The policy draft recommends incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum, constituting a National Education Commission and curbing arbitrary fees hikes by private schools.
- ✓ The expert panel also proposed massive transformation in Teacher Education by moving all teacher preparation and education programmes into large multidisciplinary universities or colleges.
- ✓ It added that the topics will include Indian contribution to mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, psychology, yoga, architecture, medicine, as well as governance, polity, society, and conservation course on Indian knowledge systems. The existing NEP was framed in 1986 and revised in 1992.

3. Who has become the first-ever spinner to bowl the first over in a World Cup?

- A) Dale Steyn B) Monty Panesar
C) Hashim Amla D) Imran Tahir

- ✓ Imran Tahir, the leg-spinner of South Africa, has scripted history by becoming the first-ever spinner to bowl the first over in a World Cup during the opening match of the 2019 World Cup against England at the Oval. Tahir (40 years and 64 days) also became the oldest South African to play in a World Cup match.
- ✓ Prior to this, New Zealand great Martin Crowe had surprised everyone in the 1992 cricket World Cup by bringing off-spinner Dipak Patel into the attack in the second over.

4. Which state government has decided to ban online food delivery without hygiene rating?

- A) Tamil Nadu B) Punjab
C) Gujarat D) Kerala

- ✓ The Punjab government has decided to make it mandatory for all online aggregators to ensure that food supplied by them have hygiene rating as per the guidelines of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- ✓ The online order and delivery mechanism of food supply has created a physical disconnect between the consumer and the food maker. Hence, the onus of ensuring the quality of food and the hygienic condition under which food is prepared, has shifted to the intermediate food delivery mechanism.
- ✓ Thus, keeping this in mind, the state government has decided that all the online food order-delivery companies shall ensure that FBO's registered or affiliated with them have their hygiene rating done from the FSSAI empanelled companies.

5. Which state government has recently banned Ads & sale of e-cigarettes?

- A) Uttar Pradesh B) Rajasthan
C) Karnataka D) Madhya Pradesh

- ✓ On the occasion of 2019 World No Tobacco Day on May 31, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has banned production, distribution, advertisement and sale of Electronic-cigarette in the state.
- ✓ The decision will be an important step to curb addiction among youths. According to the health department officials, both online or offline sale, storage, production, distribution and advertisement of e-cigarettes in the state has been banned.

6. Which state government of India has won the 2019 WHO award for tobacco control?

- A) Jharkhand B) Andhra Pradesh
C) Rajasthan D) Haryana

- ✓ The Medical & Health Department of Rajasthan government has won the prestigious 2019 World Health Organization (WHO) award in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.
- ✓ The department's Additional Chief Secretary, Rohit Kumar Singh, received the award at a function to mark 2019 World No Tobacco Day in New Delhi. The Health Department of the State is the only government body in India which is awarded for its Tobacco-Free Initiatives.
- ✓ Beside this, WHO has selected five organisations from the South-East Asian region for the prestigious award. Three other organizations in the South-East Asian region have been selected from Thailand and Indonesia, while the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute is also among the recipients of the award.
- ✓ Every year, WHO recognizes individuals or organizations in each of the six WHO Regions for their accomplishments in the area of tobacco control.

7. Who has become the first woman fighter pilot to fly Hawk jet?

- A) Avani Chaturvadi C) Bhawana Kanth
 B) Priya Singh **D) Mohana Singh**
- ✓ Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to fly by day a Hawk advanced

jet aircraft. She achieved the feat at the Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal. Lt Mohana's training involved flying both air-to-air combat and air-to-ground missions.

- ✓ She has undertaken many practice missions which involved firing of rockets, guns and dropping high calibre bombs and has also participated in various Air Force level flying exercises. She has a total of over 500 hours of incident-free flying, of which 380 hours are on the Hawk Mk 132 jet.
- ✓ She had, along with two other women pilots, Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvadi, joined the fighter stream in June 2016. Earlier, in May 2019, Flight Lt. Bhawana Kanth became the first daytime woman fighter pilot to fly a MiG-21 Bison.

8. Puerto Williams, which has become the world's southernmost city, is located in which of the following countries?

- A) Ecuador C) Peru
B) Chile D) Argentina

- ✓ Puerto Williams is the main settlement, port and naval base on Navarino Island in Chile. It faces the Beagle Channel. Recently, Puerto Williams has become the world's southernmost city after the Chilean authorities upgraded its status from hamlet to city.
- ✓ It took over the title from Ushuaia, the capital of the Argentine province of Tierra del Fuego. Puerto Williams is the port of entry and major hub for scientific activity linked to Antarctica and the islands south of Isla Grande de Tierra Del Fuego.

9. Who has become the Youngest Parliamentarian in the history of Indian Parliament?

- A) Ramya Haridas B) Jothimani S.
 C) Sumalatha Ambareesh **D) Chandrani Murmu**

- ✓ Chandrani Murmu (25) has created history by becoming the youngest Member of Parliament (MP), after elected to the 17th Lok Sabha from Keonjhar (Odisha) in the 2019 Indian general election as a member of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD).

- ✓ She defeated two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak by a margin of 66,203 votes. Ms. Murmu earned her B. Tech degree from a Bhubaneswar-based engineering college.
- ✓ Previously, the record of Youngest Parliamentarian was held by Dushyant Chautala, who represented Hisar Lok Sabha Constituency in Haryana in the 16th Lok Sabha.

10. Which city to host 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) in 2020?

- A) Agartala B) Bhubaneshwar
C) Lucknow D) Mohali

- ✓ The 10th edition of National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) is scheduled to be held in Agartala, Tripura on January and February 2020. The aim of the fest is to raise awareness about science and environment through films. This the second time the show will be held in a North Eastern city.
 - ✓ The film festival is being held with the objective of highlighting science, technology, innovation, energy, environment, agriculture and traditional knowledge in a simple way that would bring science closer to common people through simple ways of explanation.
 - ✓ The film festival would include films produced by UNICEF, UNESCO and filmmakers from different countries. It will also include entries from Tripura and other states.
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1. Who has been sworn-in as new PM of Australia?

- A) Scott Morrison B) Malcolm Turnbull
C) Peter Cosgrove D) Ken Wyatt

- ✓ Scott Morrison has been sworn-in as new Prime Minister of Australia, after retaining the position in the 2019 general election.
- ✓ Along with Deputy PM Michael McCormack, Mr. Morrison was sworn in by Queen Elizabeth's official representative, Governor – General Sir Peter Cosgrove, at a ceremony in the capital, Canberra.
- ✓ Mr. Morrison became Australia's 30th Prime Minister through an internal party vote in August 2018. The 46th Parliament of Australia is expected to open in the first week of July.

2. Which Indian writer has been announced as the 2019 winner of the \$100,000 Nine Dots Prize?

- A) Yawar Ahmad C) K Joshi
B) Annie Zaidi D) Meera Kumari

- ✓ Mumbai-based freelance writer, Annie Zaidi has been announced as the 2019 winner of the \$100,000 Nine Dots Prize for her essay 'Bread, Cement, Cactus'. Her essay is the combination of memoir and reportage to explore concepts of home and belonging rooted in her experience of contemporary life in India, where migration – within the country, especially from villages to cities – is high.
- ✓ The winner of the Nine Dots Prize is supported to develop their response into a full-length book, which is published by Cambridge University Press (CUP), and given the opportunity to spend a term at the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), Cambridge University.

3. On which date, the 2019 edition of International Everest Day is observed recently?

- A) May 29 B) May 27
C) May 30 D) May 28

- ✓ The International Everest Day is observed every year on May 29 to mark the first successful climb to the world's highest peak Mount Everest.

- ✓ On this day in 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa reached the zenith of the mountain and became the first humans to achieve the feat in memory of the first summit of Mt.

- ✓ The day is celebrated with memorial events, processions, and special events in Kathmandu and the Everest region. Nepal decided to observe the day as International Everest Day since 2008, when the legendary climber Hillary passed away.

4. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers?

- A) Courage for Peace
B) Protecting Civilians, Protecting Peace
C) Law, Order, Peace
D) Peacekeeping Is a Global Partnership

- ✓ The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is observed every year on May 29 to pay tribute to the invaluable contribution by the uniformed and civilian personnel and to honour more than 3,800 peacekeepers who have lost their lives while rendering peacekeeping services.
- ✓ The 2019 theme is "Protecting Civilians, Protecting Peace". This is the date when in 1948 the first UN peacekeeping mission named the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), began operations in Palestine.
- ✓ Since then, more than one million men and women have served in 72 UN peacekeeping operations. India is the 4th largest troop contributor to the UN peacekeeping missions.
- ✓ UN peacekeeping has helped countries move from war to peace. At present, India contributes about 6,400 peacekeepers to various missions across the world.

5. Gian Chand, the veteran Freedom Fighter has passed away. He was from which state?

- A) Himachal Pradesh B) Bihar
C) Punjab D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ Gian Chand (93), the veteran freedom fighter, has passed away at his native village in Ramgarh of Chamba district, Himachal Pradesh on May 27, 2019. Born on 26th October 1926, Chand was a member of Azad Hind Fauj led by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

6. Which of the following AMCs has become the first Indian fund house to introduce WhatsApp transaction platform?

A) SBI Mutual Fund

B) Motilal Oswal AMC

C) Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund

D) Reliance Mutual Fund

- ✓ Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company (AMC) has launched its WhatsApp transaction platform for new as well as existing investors. It is the first of its kind initiative by any fund house in India to do mutual fund transactions through the popular cross-platform messaging app.
- ✓ Investors can use WhatsApp to invest in any scheme from Motilal Oswal AMC. This feature is not a part of WhatsApp Pay and is different from using it as a payment channel.

7. Ivo Karlovic, who has become the Oldest Man to win a match at French Open, is from which country?

A) Germany C) Croatia

B) France D) Spain

- ✓ Ivo Karlovic (40) of Croatia has become the oldest man to win a match at the French Open since 1973, after he defeated the 37-year-old Feliciano Lopez of Spain in a first-round duel of the 2019 French Open Tennis Tournament at Roland Garros.
- ✓ Karlovic is also the oldest to win a Grand Slam match since 1978. The record for women is held by Elizabeth Ryan, who was 42 when she won the 1934 women's doubles with Simone Mathieu.

8. Which state government has decided to set up India's first 'Blockchain District'?

A) Karnataka

C) Andhra Pradesh

B) Jharkhand

D) Telangana

- ✓ The Telangana government has decided to set up the India's first 'Blockchain district' in Hyderabad to create an ecosystem for all the start-ups and institutes working in the space.
- ✓ Though the Blockchain technology encompasses all domains, the district would focus on banking, financial services and insurance; pharma and healthcare; logistics and supply chain; and the government sectors.
- ✓ The district would have a co-working space, an international liaisoning office, a T-Hub-like incubator to mentor early-stage start-ups in the Blockchain space and a supporting R&D institute to promote innovation.

9. Which state government has launched Aroma Mission to boost medical plants?

A) Tripura

B) Nagaland

C) Meghalaya

D) Mizoram

- ✓ Conrad K Sangma, the Chief Minister of Meghalaya, has launched Rs 18-crore Aroma Mission at Byrwa in Ri-Bhoi district with an aim to strengthen the livelihood condition of farmers and create employment opportunities in the state. The move will boost the cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs).
- ✓ As part of the mission, a Memorandum of Agreement was also signed between the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) and Meghalaya Basin Development Authority (MBDA) for a collaborative work on medicinal and aromatic plants.
- ✓ The CIMAP is a frontier plant research laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The chief minister also called for preserving forest cover while announcing the government's plan to plant one million trees on World Environment Day on

June 5 in different parts of the state especially in catchment areas.

10. Which of the following countries is / are member states of BIMSTEC?

A) Mauritius B) Indonesia

C) Thailand D) Kyrgyzstan

- ✓ India has invited the leaders of the BIMSTEC Member States for the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 30, 2019.
- ✓ Beside this, the invitations have also been sent to the President of Kyrgyzstan Sooronbay Jeenbekov who is the current Chair of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, the Chief Guest at this 2019 Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD).
- ✓ The invitations are in line with the Government's focus on its 'Neighbourhood First' policy. The BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) member states are: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan including India.
- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind will administer the Oath of Office and Secrecy to Modi for the second term and other members of Union Council of Ministers at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan.

1. Who has been appointed as the new National Security Advisor?

A) Rajiv Mathur B) Dineshwar Sharma

C) Ajit Doval D) Rajiv Jain

- ✓ Ajit Doval, a 1968-batch IPS officer & a former Intelligence Bureau (IB) chief, has been reappointed as the National Security Adviser (NSA) for a five-year tenure. He has also been given a cabinet rank in recognition of his contribution in the national security domain. This is for the first time that an NSA has been given a cabinet rank.
- ✓ He had played a key role during the Balakot air strike after the Pulwama terror attack and the cross-border surgical strike. He also drew praise for his role during the 73-day stand-off between India and China at Doklam — situated at a tri-junction between India, China and Bhutan.
- ✓ He was also India's main negotiator with the hijackers of Indian Airlines plane IC-814 taken to Kandahar in 1999. Doval worked as an intelligence officer for over 33 years during which he served in the North East, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab.

2. Which football team has won the 2019 Champions League trophy?

A) FC Barcelona C) Tottenham Hotspur

B) Real Madrid **D) Liverpool FC**

- ✓ In Football, Liverpool FC won the Champions League for the sixth time at Madrid on June 1, 2019. In the final, Liverpool beat Tottenham Hotspur with a 2-nil after game defining moments at the start and end of the game.
- ✓ Mohamed Salah put Liverpool in front after just two minutes when he converted a penalty following a handball by Moussa Sissoko. Then, with three minutes left, substitute Divock Origi drove low and powerfully past Tottenham keeper Hugo Lloris to ensure that Jurgen Klopp won his first trophy as Liverpool manager.

3. Ruma Guha Thakurta, who passed away recently, was the veteran actress of which regional cinema?

A) Bengali B) Odia

C) Telugu D) Kannada

- ✓ Ruma Guha Thakurta (84), the veteran Bengali actress & singer, has passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal. She was best known for her roles in Satyajit Ray-directed films such as Ganashatru (1989) and Abhijan (1962). Ruma founded the Calcutta Youth Choir, a song and dance troupe, in 1958.

4. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Milk Day?

A) Drink Move Be Strong

B) Drink Milk: Today & Everyday

C) Drink Milk, Be Strong

D) Raise a Glass

- ✓ The World Milk Day is observed every year on 1st of June to provide an opportunity to focus attention on milk and to publicise activities connected with milk and the milk industry.
- ✓ In 2001, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) selected June 1st as World Milk Day, which celebrates the important contributions of the dairy sector to sustainability, economic development, livelihoods and nutrition. The 2019 theme is "Drink Milk: Today & Everyday".

5. Which Indian-origin personality has been appointed UN-Women Deputy Executive Director?

A) Anita Bhatia B) Pramila Jain

C) Kiran Sharma D) Varsha Khanna

- ✓ Indian-origin Anita Bhatia has been the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships.
- ✓ The key appointment comes less than a week after UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed Indian Army officer Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar as his new Force Commander of the UN Mission in South Sudan.

6. Which High Court has recently declared Animals as legal persons?

A) Delhi High Court B) Madras High Court

C) Bombay High Court D) Punjab & Haryana HC

- ✓ The Punjab and Haryana High Court has recently ruled that all animals are legal persons entitled to legal rights like human beings in Haryana. The verdict comes nearly a year after Uttarakhand High Court passed a similar order to protect and promote greater welfare of animals.
- ✓ Both the orders were written by Justice Rajiv Sharma, who was transferred from Uttarakhand to the Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh in 2018.
- ✓ The order was passed in a case where the Punjab and Haryana High Court was informed that 29 cows were packed in a cruel manner while being transported from Uttar Pradesh to Haryana. The Court has also directed that animal-driven carts are given the 'Right of Way'.

7. NGTS-4b, which is in news recently, is associated to which of the following planets?

A) Neptune C) Uranus

B) Jupiter D) Mars

- ✓ The researchers at the University of Warwick in the UK have discovered a rogue exoplanet - NGTS-4b - with its own atmosphere in the Neptunian Desert.
- ✓ The Neptunian Desert is the region close to stars where no Neptune-sized planets are found. This area receives strong irradiation from the star, meaning the planets do not retain their gaseous atmosphere as they evaporate leaving just a rocky core. However, NGTS-4b still has its atmosphere of gas.
- ✓ NGTS-4b, nick-named 'The Forbidden Planet' is smaller than Neptune but three times the size of Earth. The exoplanet has a mass of 20 Earth masses, a radius 20% smaller than Neptune, and temperature of 1000 degrees Celsius.

- ✓ It is the first exoplanet of its kind to have been found in the Neptunian Desert. The NGTS telescopes are situated at the European Southern Observatory's Paranal Observatory in the heart of the Atacama Desert, Chile.

8. Who has been appointed as new Goa's brand ambassador to promote yoga?

A) Balkrishna C) Namrata Menon

B) Ramdev D) Jaggi Vasudev

- ✓ Namrata Menon, the Panaji-based Yoga instructor and fitness expert, has been appointed as the Goa's brand ambassador to promote the ancient system of physical and mental practices in the coastal state.
- ✓ The objective of this initiative is to increase awareness about the benefits of yoga and encourage people to inculcate a healthy lifestyle.

9. Which President of India has been bestowed with Mexico's highest civilian award?

A) Pranab Mukherjee B) A P J Abdul Kalam

C) Ram Nath Kovind D) Pratibha Patil

- ✓ On 1st June 2019, Ex-President Pratibha Patil has been conferred the "Orden Mexicana Del Aguila Azteca" (Order of the Aztec Eagle) in the MCCIA Bhavan, Pune.
- ✓ It is the highest civilian award of Mexico given to foreigners in recognition of their outstanding services to strengthening the bilateral ties between Mexico and other countries and outstanding services to the Mexican nation or humanity.
- ✓ Patil, India's first woman President (2007-2012), became only the 2nd Indian head of state to get the award. Earlier, the late President S Radhakrishna had been conferred this honour.

10. Who took charge as the Union Minister in the newly formed Ministry of Jal Shakti?

A) Giriraj Singh

B) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

C) Mahendra Nath Pandey

D) Pralhad Joshi

- ✓ The Government of India has formed a new 'Jal Shakti' Ministry by merging the ministries of Water Resources and Drinking Water and Sanitation with Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at its helm.
 - ✓ The ambit of the Ministry will encompass issues ranging from international and inter-states water disputes, the Namami Gange project, the flagship initiative to clean the Ganges, its tributaries and sub-tributaries and provide clean drinking water.
 - ✓ Rattan Lal Kataria will be the Minister of State in the newly formed ministry. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Shekhawat defeated Vaibhav Gehlot, the son of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, from Jodhpur by a margin of 2.74 lakh votes.
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1. Which city hosted the 14th summit of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation?

- A) Baghdad B) Damascus
C) Tehran D) Mecca

- ✓ In a strong reaction, the Government of India has recently rejected the reference of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in its final communique at the 14th Islamic summit in Mecca, Saudi Arabia on May 31.
- ✓ The Union Ministry of External Affairs has stated that the OIC has no locus standi in matters relating to the state of Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral part of India. It is reiterated that OIC should refrain from making such unwarranted references.
- ✓ Earlier, at the 2019 Mecca Summit, the OIC reiterated its support for the legitimate rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and also appointed a special envoy for the state.
- ✓ The OIC is an international organization consisting of 57 member states & 53 of them Muslim-majority nations. Pakistan has been behind such anti-India references in the OIC communiqués / resolutions.

2. On which date, the 2019 edition of International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed?

- A) June 4 C) June 2
B) June 3 D) June 5

- ✓ The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed every year on June 4 to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse. This day affirms the UN's commitment to protect the rights of children.

3. Who has been sworn-in as the new president of El Salvador?

- A) Nayib Bukele B) Mauricio Funes
C) Alfredo Cristiani D) Antonio Saca

- ✓ Conservative businessman Nayib Bukele has been sworn-in as the new President of El Salvador. His presidency breaks three decades of bipartisanship between the conservative Nationalist Republican

Alliance (ARENA) and the outgoing Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

- ✓ Hence, Bukele is the first candidate to win the presidency since the end of the Salvadoran Civil War who didn't represent either of the major two parties.

4. The Aapki Beti scheme is associated to which of the following state governments?

- A) Uttar Pradesh B) Chhattisgarh
C) Madhya Pradesh D) Rajasthan

- ✓ The Rajasthan government has recently increased the financial assistance given to school girls under the 'Aapki Beti' scheme and ex-gratia payment to the families of polling personnel who die during election duty.
- ✓ Under the Aapki Beti scheme, girls living under the Below Poverty Line and whose mother or father or both have died get annual financial assistance in the state. The amount has been increased to 2,100 from Rs 1,100 for the girls studying in class 1 to 8 and for the girls in class 9 to 12, the financial aid has been increased to Rs 2,500 from Rs 1,500.
- ✓ Similarly, the government has also increased ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of an official killed on election duty to Rs 20 lakh from Rs 15 lakh.

5. Which state government has recently passed resolution to increase reservation for OBCs to 27%?

- A) UP B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Haryana D) Rajasthan

- ✓ In Madhya Pradesh, the state Cabinet has passed a resolution to increase reservation quota for Other Backward Classes (OBC) from existing 14% to 27%. The matter will now be taken up in the monsoon session of the state Assembly.
- ✓ If implemented, Madhya Pradesh will become the only state in the country to have a 27% quota for OBCs. Earlier, the Madhya Pradesh government passed an Ordinance on March 9 to implement the quota. However, the Madhya Pradesh High Court had stayed the Ordinance on March 19.

6. Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra, who passed away recently, was associated to which field?

- A) Sports B) Science
C) Journalism D) Chef

- ✓ Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra (71), the celebrated chef and culinary revivalist has passed away on June 4 in New Delhi. He earned epithets like 'Czar of Indian Cuisine' and 'Taste Maker to the Nation', and was popularly known as Jiggs Kalra. Kalra was the first Asian to be inducted in the International Food and Beverage Gourmet Hall of Fame.

7. Which Indian personality has been elected external auditor of WHO?

- A) Aruna Sundararajan C) Pramod Kumar Misra
B) Rajiv Mehrishi D) Pradeep Kumar Sinha

- ✓ Rajiv Mehrishi, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has been elected as external auditor of the World Health Organization (WHO) for four years from 2020 to 2023. He was elected at the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 2019.
- ✓ This is the 2nd major international audit assignment for the CAG this year following his selection for the post of External Auditor of FAO in Rome earlier this year in March 2019.
- ✓ Currently, Mehrishi is also on the Board of Auditors of the United Nations and Vice-Chair of the UN Panel of External Auditors.

8. Enoplotrupes tawangensis, which is in news recently, is a new species of which of the following beetles?

- A) Hispine beetle C) Dung beetle
B) Lady beetle D) Mountain pine beetle

- ✓ Enoplotrupes tawangensis is a new species of dung beetle that has been discovered in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh. The species is shining dark blue in colour and, measuring up to 27 mm, is relatively bigger than most of the dung beetles.
- ✓ The specimens were first collected and studied by two scientists from the Zoological Survey of India:

Kailash Chandra and Devanshu Gupta. From India, approximately 65,000 species of insects are known, of them, more than 22,000 species are beetle.

9. The 2nd edition of World Bicycle Day is observed on which date?

- A) June 3 B) June 5 C) June 2 D) June 4

- ✓ The 2nd edition of World Bicycle Day is observed by United Nations on 3rd June to encourage a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation.
- ✓ The day is now being associated with promoting a healthy lifestyle for those with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. The bicycle is a symbol of sustainable transportation and conveys a positive message to foster sustainable consumption and production, and has a positive impact on climate.

10. Which of the following countries are the members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD)?

- A) India, Russia, South Korea & China
B) India, US, Japan & Australia
C) India, Indonesia, Myanmar & Thailand
D) India, Nepal, Bhutan & Bangladesh

- ✓ In Bangkok, the 2019 edition of Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) was attended by senior officials of India, US, Japan and Australia to hold consultations on their collective efforts for a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region and to reaffirm their shared commitment to preserving and promoting the rules-based order in the region. The four countries underscored their intent to continue regular consultations on Indo-Pacific engagement and initiatives together and with other interested countries and institutions. The consultations were part of the Quad an informal strategic grouping consisting of India, US, Australia and Japan. China has been trying to expand its military presence in the Indo-Pacific which is a biogeographic region. China claims almost all of the South China Sea whereas Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have also counter claims over it.

1. Exercise 'Kharga Prahar-2019' has recently carried out by the Indian Army in which of the following states?

- A) Jammu & Kashmir B) Haryana
C) Punjab D) Uttarkhand

- ✓ The Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) has jointly carried out a week-long special training exercise "Kharga Prahar-2019" in the plains of Punjab. The exercise, which began on May 27, was undertaken by various units and formations of Army's Kharga Corps.
- ✓ The exercise setting also incorporated aspects of joint training wherein para drops from Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft were carried out and simulated battlefield air strikes were conducted in support of ground forces. Ambala-based 2-Corps, popularly called as Kharga Corps, possesses 50% of the Indian Army's offensive capabilities and has the mandate to launch offensive attack, in case any conflict or war breaks out with neighbouring Pak.
- ✓ In 1971, while positioned in West, it helped in division of Pakistan. The elite force was deployed somewhere in the desert sector during the Kargil conflict. The Kharga Corps has been stationed at Ambala since 1985.

2. Who has been chosen for the 2019 J C Daniel Award?

- A) Aranmula Ponnammamma C) Srikumaran Thampi
B) Jose Prakash D) Sheela

- ✓ Sheela, the veteran Malayalam actress-director, has been chosen for the prestigious J C Daniel Award for her contributions to the film world. She is only the second woman to get it, after Aranmula Ponnammamma in 2005.
- ✓ The award comprising a cash prize of Rs 5 Lakh, a citation and plaque will be given away at a function here on 27th July 2019. It is the Kerala's highest award in Malayalam cinema. The award is named after J C Daniel, who made the first silent movie in Mollywood.
- ✓ Sheela is popularly called as Sheelamma by her admirers. She had debuted in the tinsel town through the M.G. Ramachandran-starrer Tamil movie 'Paasam' during early 1960s.

- ✓ She was the first recipient of the 'Best Actress' award instituted by the Kerala government through the 1969 movie 'Kallichellamma'. In 2005, she won the National Film Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the Malayalam film 'Akale'.

- ✓ Sheela also holds the Guinness World Record for acting in the largest number of films opposite the same hero- late Prem Nazir- in nearly 130 films.

3. Dinyar Contractor, who passed away recently, was associated to which field?

- A) Arts B) Sports
C) Photography D) Film Industry

- ✓ Dinyar Contractor (79), the veteran actor and theatre legend, has passed away in Mumbai on June 5. He was best known for his comic roles in films and was awarded a Padma Shri in 2019.

4. Which Indian-American personality has been chosen for the USIBC Global Leadership Awards 2019?

- A) Jay Chandrasekhar B) Anand Chandrasekaran
C) Sundar Pichai D) Ashok Amritraj

- ✓ In United States, Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq President Adena Friedman have been chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019 by business advocacy group USIBC in recognition of the two companies' contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms.
- ✓ The award by Washington-based US-India Business Council (USIBC) would be conferred upon them during the 2019 India Ideas Summit. The USIBC Global Leadership Awards recognise top corporate executives from the United States and India whose companies play a major role in catalysing growth in the US-India commercial corridor.

5. Which country's women hockey team has clinched the Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International title?

- A) Bangladesh B) India
C) Bhutan D) China

- ✓ The Indian junior women's hockey team clinched the 2019 Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title after beating Ireland 1-0 in the final at Dublin, Ireland on June 4. With 3 goals in 4 games, Mumtaz Khan finished as the highest goal scorer of the tournament.

6. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, who has been elected as President of the 74th session of the UNGA, is from which African country?

- A) Nigeria B) Egypt
C) Tunisia D) South Africa

- ✓ Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, Nigeria's Ambassador to UN, has been elected as President of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). In accordance with the rules, the President of the 74th session of the General Assembly should be elected from among the African States. Muhammad-Bande was elected by acclamation and he will succeed Ecuador's Maria Fernanda Espinosa in September 2019.

7. Who has been appointed as Director General (DG) of the India Meteorological Department (IMD)?

- A) Mrutyunjay Mahapatra C) K J Ramesh
B) S Christopher D) Avinash Chander

- ✓ Mrutyunjay Mahapatra, the renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist, has been appointed as the chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD). Popularly known as the 'Cyclone man of India', he will take charge of his new assignment on August 1 for a period of five years.
- ✓ Mahapatra and his team at the Cyclone Warning Division (CWD) of the IMD have earned praise for their accurate forecasts on cyclones, its wind-speed and likely impact on life and property including during the recent cyclone 'Fani', when their timely warnings enabled the authorities to ensure early evacuation of millions of people.
- ✓ Over the last six years, the CWD has given accurate forecasts on cyclones including when Phailin (2013), Hudhud (2014) and Titli (2018) hit the eastern coast.

- ✓ The IMD is responsible for weather and climate-related forecasts in the country. It is also mandated to issue warning to people about severe weather phenomenon like cyclones, dust storms, heavy rain and snow, cold and heatwaves, among others.

8. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Environment Day?

- A) Green Economy C) Beat Air Pollution
B) Connecting People to Nature D) Go wild for life

- ✓ The World Environment Day is observed every year on 5th of June to raise awareness of the environment and specific environmental issues. The theme for 2019 "Beat Air Pollution" is a call to action call to combat this global crisis.
- ✓ To celebrate the 2019 WED, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) of India has launched the song 'Hawa Aane De' to spread awareness about Air pollution. The theme song is written by Swanand Kirkire and sung by Shantanu Mukherjee, Kapil Sharma, Sunidhi Chauhan and Shankar Mahadevan.
- ✓ On this Day, the Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has launched #SelfieWithSapling campaign to promote awareness about environmental protection. Mr. Javadekar also urged people to plant a sapling and post a selfie with it on the social media.

9. Who is the author of the book 'Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge'?

- A) R Sreekandan Nair B) Ashis Ray
C) Sanjay Manjrekar D) Harsha Bhogle

- ✓ The book 'Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge' has been authored by veteran broadcaster and writer Ashis Ray. It is a book on the history of the tournament from an Indian perspective that has been formally unveiled by the chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, Tom Harrison.
- ✓ The book reviews all tournaments from 1975 to 2015 and also previews the ongoing 2019 World Cup in England and Wales.

- ✓ All matches of India, since the inaugural World Cup 44 years ago, are recorded as well as every semi-final and final regardless of whether India featured in them or not.

10. The 2019 Global Disability Summit is scheduled to be held in which of the following cities?

A) New Delhi B) New York

C) Paris **D) Buenos Aires**

- ✓ The 2nd edition of Global Disability Summit will be held at Buenos Aires, Argentina from 6-8 June 2019. The Indian delegation will be headed by Thaawarchand Gehlot, the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment.
- ✓ The objective of the summit is to deliberate on issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to work out a mechanism for enabling them to live an independent and dignified life.
- ✓ The Indian delegation will also participate in the bilateral discussions with Government of Argentina for developing a Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries on 9-10 June 2019.

1. What is the India's rank at the first-ever SDG Gender Index?

- A) 106th B) 95th
C) 84th D) 77th

- ✓ India has been ranked 95th out of a total 129 countries in the first-ever SDG Gender Index, which measures strides made in achieving gender commitments against internationally set targets.
- ✓ The index has been developed by Equal Measures 2030, which is a partnership among global and regional organisations from the civil society and the development and private sectors. It includes The African Women's Development and Communication Network, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, International Women's Health Coalition and Plan International.
- ✓ The overall index scores are based on a scale of 0–100. A score of 100 indicates the achievement of gender equality in relation to the underlying indicators. A score of 50 would indicate that a country is about halfway to meeting its goal.
- ✓ India's score of 56.2 means that it is among 43 countries that fall in the 'very poor' category. Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Slovenia, Germany, Canada, Ireland, and Australia rank as the top 10 countries in the index.

2. Laldingliana Sailo, who passed away recently, was the noted editor of which news channel?

- A) Doordarshan C) Zee News
B) The Hindu D) Indian Express

- ✓ Laldingliana Sailo (76), the former Doordarshan and All India Radio news editor, has passed away in Aizawl. Sailo, a senior officer in the Indian Information Service, was inducted as Field Publicity Officer under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in the year 1972.
- ✓ He retired as Director in the Directorate of Field Publicity for Kohima Region.

3. Who has been sworn-in as new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court?

- A) Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel

B) N V Ramana

C) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud

D) Jasti Chelameswar

- ✓ Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel was sworn in as new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. Lt Governor Anil Bajjal administered the oath of office to Justice Patel at a function held at Raj Niwas.
- ✓ Earlier, Justice Patel was posted at the Jharkhand High Court. The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended his name for the appointment as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. With an approved strength of 60, the Delhi High Court has a shortage of around 24 judges.

4. India has recently notified a tax data pact with which of the following countries?

- A) Cuba B) Panama
C) Guatemala D) Marshall Islands

- ✓ India has notified a Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA) with the Marshall Islands, which enables a bilateral sharing of banking & ownership information and allows officials of one country to undertake tax examinations in the other.
- ✓ The TIEA for exchange of information with respect to taxes was signed on March 18, 2016 at Majuro, the Capital of the Marshall Islands. India notified the TIEA on May 21.
- ✓ The TIEA is based on international standards of tax transparency and exchange of information and enables sharing of information on request.
- ✓ The agreement will enhance mutual cooperation between India and the Marshall Islands by providing an effective framework for exchange of information on tax matters which will help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance.

5. Which of the following metros has become the India's first project to receive power from waste-to-energy?

- A) Kolkata metro B) Delhi Metro
C) Bengaluru metro D) Chennai metro

- ✓ The Delhi Metro has become the India's first-ever project to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant. According to Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), the project is also in line with Prime Minister Modi's "Swachh Bharat Mission".
- ✓ This will also help in creating awareness on the importance of waste management and utilizing waste in a sustainable manner.
- ✓ The DMRC has started receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity plant in Ghazipur. The DMRC will take approximately 17.5 million units per annum from this plant. However, the energy off-take will depend upon the actual generation of the plant.
- ✓ The waste-to-energy plant set up by East Delhi Waste Processing Company Limited (EDWPCL) is based on a public private partnership (PPP) involving the Delhi government, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and EDWPCL. The waste-to-energy plant will mitigate over 8 million tons of greenhouse gases (GHG) over the life of the project.

6. Who will chair the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs?

- A) **Rajnath Singh** B) Amit Shah
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) Narendra Modi

- ✓ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will chair the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs and be part of the all-important panel on political affairs headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ Singh was also made a member of two new committees set up by the Modi government -- the Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth and the Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development, to propel growth and investment. Both the committees will be chaired by Home Minister Amit Shah.

7. Which is the most congested city in the world, according to TomTom Traffic Index 2018?

- A) Moscow C) Lima
B) New Delhi **D) Mumbai**

- ✓ The TomTom Traffic Index 2018, carried out by location technology specialist TomTom, covered 403 cities in 56 countries and defined congestion as the extra time added to road travel when traffic doesn't flow freely.
- ✓ Mumbai topped the list of cities with drivers expecting to spend an average of 65% extra travel time stuck in traffic. New Delhi ranked 4th with a congestion rank of 58%.
- ✓ Bogota (63%) in Colombia and Lima in Peru (58%) were ranked second and third on the list respectively, while the Russian capital Moscow (56%) ranked fifth. The study found that in 2018, the best time to drive in Mumbai was between 2 am and 5 am.

8. Who has won the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction?

- A) Zadie Smith C) Kamila Shamsie
B) Kate Mosse **D) Tayari Jones**

- ✓ American author Tayari Jones has won the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction for her novel "An American Marriage". The book portrays a young African American's wrongful conviction and how it affects his marriage.
- ✓ Jones wins £30,000 and the 'Bessie' - a limited edition bronze figurine. The prize is one of the biggest international celebrations of women's creativity.

9. Who is the newly appointed vice chairman of NITI Aayog?

- A) **Rajiv Kumar** B) V K Saraswat
C) V K Paul D) Ramesh Chand

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently reconstituted the federal policy think-tank National Institution of Transforming India (NITI) Aayog by introducing key Cabinet ministers as members as ex-officio members.
- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home minister Amit Shah, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar are now ex-officio members of the think tank that is headed by Mr. Modi.

- ✓ Rajiv Kumar will continue to be the vice-chairperson, along with full time members—Ramesh Chand, VK Saraswat and VK Paul.
- ✓ On 15th June 2019, Prime Minister will chair the 5th meeting of NITI Aayog's Governing Council to discuss various issues concerning water management, agriculture and security. The council includes all chief ministers, lieutenant governors of union territories, several union ministers and senior government officials.
- ✓ This will be the first governing council meeting under the new Modi government. NITI Aayog was constituted via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on 1st January 2015 & replaced the erstwhile planning commission.

10. Sinai Peninsula, which is in news recently, is located in which of the following African countries?

- A) Libya B) Tunisia
C) Egypt D) Algeria

- ✓ The Sinai Peninsula is a peninsula in Egypt, and the only part of the country located in Asia. It is situated between the Mediterranean Sea to the north and the Red Sea to the south, and is a land bridge between Asia and Africa.
- ✓ Recently, it is in news because the Egyptian security forces has killed 14 suspected militants during a raid carried out in the restive Sinai Peninsula in response to a deadly checkpoint attack.
- ✓ The Islamic State extremist group had claimed responsibility for attack in which 8 Egyptian police officers have been killed in a militant attack on a checkpoint in the northern Sinai Peninsula.
- ✓ The attack took place west of the city of El-Arish, as local people celebrated the Islamic festival of Eid al-Fitr on 5th June 2019.

1. What is the current repo rate in the second bi-monthly monetary policy review of RBI for FY20?

- A) 5.25% B) 5.50% **C) 5.75%** D) 5.0%

- ✓ On June 6, the 6-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reduced the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.75% from 6.0% with immediate effect in its 2nd bi-monthly monetary policy statement for 2019-20.
- ✓ Repo rate is the interest rate at which the central bank provides liquidity to banks to overcome short-term liquidity mismatches. A repo rate cut allows banks to reduce interest rates for consumers on loans, and lowers equal monthly installments on home loans, car loans and personal loans.
- ✓ Consequently, the reverse repo rate stands adjusted to 5.50%, and the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.0%. Beside this, RBI has also unanimously decided to change the stance of monetary policy from neutral to accommodative. The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled during August 5 to 7.

2. Which country has recently launched Arctic train service?

- A) Russia** C) Germany B) France D) US

- ✓ In Russia, the first tourist train service traveling through Russia's Arctic region and on to Norway set off from St. Petersburg station with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey on June 5.
- ✓ The tourists came from 7 countries including the US, Germany, Norway and Russia. The train, named Zarengold ("The Tsar's gold" in German), complete with two restaurant cars will travel from Saint Petersburg through Petrozavodsk. According to the organisers, the whole trip will take 11 days.

3. Dzukou Valley, which is in news recently, is located in which of the following North-East states of India?

- A) Assam B) Mizoram
C) Nagaland D) Arunachal Pradesh

- ✓ In Nagaland, the scenic Dzukou Valley has been officially declared Plastic Free Zone on the occasion of 2019 World Environment Day. The declaration was

made officially by Advisor of Youth Resources and Sports, Zale Neikha.

- ✓ The much-appreciated initiative on declaring this scenic valley as a 'plastic-free zone' was taken by Southern Angami Youth Organisation (SAYO) in accordance with its pledge to conserve and protect the environment.
- ✓ The Dzukou valley is situated at an altitude of 2452 m above sea level. It is famous for its wide range of flower in every season. The rare Dzukou Lily is found only in this valley.

4. Who of the following players has become the India's highest capped footballer?

- A) Robin Singh B) Jeje Lalpekhlua
C) Sandesh Jhingan **D) Sunil Chhetri**

- ✓ Sunil Chhetri has become the India's highest capped footballer by surpassing Bhaichung Bhutia's 107 international matches.
- ✓ In his milestone match of the King's Cup football tournament in Buriram, Thailand, he scored the lone goal for his side in the 31st minute from a spot kick for his 69th goal. However, his effort did not make any difference as India ranked 101, lost 1-3 to higher ranked Curacao.

5. Which social networking site has launched its first interactive game show 'Confetti' in India?

- A) Facebook** B) Instagram
C) Twitter D) Pinterest

- ✓ Facebook has launched its first interactive game show titled "Confetti" in India, which will start from June 12 on its dedicated video platform - Facebook Watch.
- ✓ The interactive show will air from Wednesday to Sunday and will challenge participants to answer pop culture trivia questions for a chance to win Rs 3 lakh as cash prize every day.
- ✓ In 2018, the social networking giant globally rolled out Facebook Watch as its video-on-demand service in an attempt to take on its rival YouTube.

6. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has recently signed pact with which company to modernize air traffic management in India?

A) Dassault B) Airbus C) Embraer **D) Boeing**

- ✓ The US aircraft maker Boeing co and national airports body Airports Authority of India (AAI) have signed a technical assistance agreement for developing a comprehensive roadmap for modernisation of air traffic services in the country.
- ✓ The air traffic services comprise Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) and Air Traffic Management (ATM). The 10-year modernisation roadmap will be undertaken with a grant from the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).
- ✓ The agreement is aimed at developing a roadmap for AAI to use as guidance in the modernisation of the Indian National Airspace System (NAS) based on global and local best practices to optimally utilize airspace capacity, enhance CNS/ATM.

7. Who has become the first South Asian American woman to chair US House?

A) Gayatri Spivak C) Medha Yodh
B) Pramila Jayapal D) Kausalya Hart

- ✓ Indian-American Congresswoman, Pramila Jayapal has become the first South Asian American woman to preside over the US House of Representatives. She is a Democrat from Washington DC. A record number of 17 Asian Americans serve in Congress, with 14 in the House and three in the Senate.

8. Sidharth Rawat is associated to which sports?

A) Football C) Table Tennis
B) Badminton **D) Tennis**

- ✓ Indian tennis player Sidharth Rawat defeated Rio Noguchi of Japan to win his first title in the \$25,000 ITF men's Futures tennis tournament on June 2, 2019. With the ATP points being restored for events of this level, he will be able to improve his current rank of 510. He had a career-best rank of 430.

9. Which country has successfully launched its first sea-based space rocket from Yellow Sea?

A) China B) Indonesia C) Japan D) Vietnam

- ✓ China has successfully launched a space rocket from sea for the first time and became the third nation to successfully demonstrate the ability to launch satellites into orbit from a floating platform after Russia and United States.
- ✓ The China National Space Administration (CNSA) has announced that a Long March 11 rocket was launched from a floating launch pad in the Yellow Sea just off the coast of Shandong on 5th June 2019.
- ✓ China now spends more than Russia and Japan on its civil and military space programmes. Earlier this year, China became the first nation to land a rover on the far side of the moon. It also unveiled ambitious plans to build a research base on the lunar surface, send a probe to Mars and build a space station in Earth orbit.

10. The 2019 G-20 Finance Ministers' meeting is scheduled to be held in which of the following cities?

A) Hanoi **B) Fukuoka** C) Mumbai D) New Delhi

- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will attend the two-day meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank governors in Japan on June 8 and 9. This will be the first overseas visit of Ms. Sitharaman as Finance Minister.
- ✓ Among other things, the meeting is likely to focus on risks and challenges being faced by the global economy, investment in infrastructure and international taxation.
- ✓ G-20, which is a group of developing and developed nations, includes India, the U.S., the U.K., China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, France and Australia.
- ✓ The G20 meetings, convened annually since 1999, provide a forum for key countries in the international financial system to discuss major international economic issues and to coordinate to achieve the stable and sustainable growth of the global economy.

1. Which Indian personality has been conferred Maldives's 'Nishan Izzuddin' award?

- A) Sushma Swaraj B) Ram Nath Kovind
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) **Narendra Modi**

- ✓ Maldives has conferred 'Nishan Izzuddin' award on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It is the highest award to honour foreign nationals. On June 8, Mr. Modi arrived in Male on the first leg of his two-nation tour to the Maldives and Sri Lanka. This will also be the first bilateral visit to the Maldives of an Indian Prime Minister after 2011.
- ✓ Mr. Modi will have bilateral discussions with President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, hold meetings with Vice President Faisal Naseem and Speaker of Majlis and former President Mohamed Nasheed during his visit. He will also address the legislative body of the island nation called the People's Majlis.
- ✓ Along with President Solih, Prime Minister Modi is likely to inaugurate the Coastal Surveillance System (CSS) and the Comprehensive Training Centre for National Defence Forces of Maldives. The two projects have been developed with Indian Grants.
- ✓ India is likely to announce a few new projects to the Maldives including building a cricket Stadium there and renovating the Friday Mosque by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

2. 'Gandhi Cycle Rally for Peace' has recently organized in which of the following countries?

- A) Oman C) **Saudi Arabia**
B) Kenya D) South Africa

- ✓ The Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia organised a 'Gandhi cycle rally for peace' in Riyadh on Friday to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The cycle rally was organized in association with the Diplomatic Quarter Authority and Saudi Cycling Federation.
- ✓ Over 150 participants participated in the cycle rally. The rally was flagged off by Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

3. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Oceans Day?

- A) **Gender and Oceans**

B) Clean our Ocean!

C) Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet

D) Our Oceans, Our Future

- ✓ The World Oceans Day is observed every year on June 8 to celebrate the majesty of the world's oceans and raise awareness about their preservation. Oceans are important for mankind because they generate an estimated 70% of the earth's oxygen.
- ✓ They regulate the globe's climate and weather. They support marine life. They provide us with food, and ingredients for many of our medicines. But our oceans and marine life are under threat: from pollution and overfishing.
- ✓ Hence, the day aims to address these challenges. The 2019 conservation action theme "Gender and Oceans" reflects on equalizing the representation of women and men in marine fields.

4. India has recently signed Rs 300 crore deal with which country to procure 100 SPICE bombs used in Balakot airstrike?

- A) France B) **Israel**
C) Japan D) United States

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) has recently signed a deal worth around Rs 300 crore for buying more than 100 SPICE bombs from Israel. The IAF fighter jets used these bombs to target Jaish-e-Mohammed training camps in Pakistan's Balakot on 26th February 2019 after the ghastly Pulwama terror attack in which over 44 CRPF jawans lost their lives after a suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden SUV into the convoy which was passing from the area.
- ✓ As per the contract, the advanced SPICE bombs would be delivered to the Air Force in the next 3 months as the deal is under emergency powers.
- ✓ SPICE bomb has a standoff range of 60 km and approaches the target as its unique scene-matching algorithm compares the electro-optical image received in real-time via the weapon seeker with mission reference data stored in the weapon computer memory and adjusts the flight path

accordingly. Israeli defence firm Rafael Advanced Defence Systems manufactures the weapon.

5. Which of the following Indian NGOs has won the UN's Equator Prize for 2019?

A) Save Life Foundation

B) Akanksha Public Charitable Trust

C) Swayam Shikshan Prayog

D) Deccan Development Society

- ✓ The women members of Telangana-based Deccan Development Society (DDS) groups have bagged the prestigious United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Equator Prize for 2019. They have been selected for standing as 'an outstanding example of a local, nature-based solution to climate change and sustainable development.
- ✓ The women farmers have been building their own seed banks and growing millets in the predominantly rain-fed villages of Sangareddy district. The women farmers of DDS are the first group in the Telugu states to have been selected for the prestigious award which will be presented at a ceremony in New York in September 2019.
- ✓ The US\$10,000-prize is given annually for nature-based solutions to climate change as well as sustainable development. The award recognizes local and indigenous community initiatives.

6. Who has been elected as new Prime Minister of Thailand?

A) Thaksin Shinawatra

B) Prayuth Chan-ocha

C) Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit

D) Prem Tinsulanonda

- ✓ The Thai parliament has recently elected ex military government Chief Prayuth Chan-ocha as its new Prime Minister. He beat the popular billionaire leader of the anti-junta Future Forward Party, Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit, with 500 votes to

244 after a 12-hour session that included 10 hours of fierce debate in Parliament on June 5.

- ✓ Prayuth will now head a coalition government led by the pro-military Palang Pracharat Party. Prayuth's appointment becomes official when it is endorsed by King Maha Vajiralongkorn. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy.

7. Which former US president will be bestowed with the George H. W. Bush Award for Statesmanship?

A) Bill Clinton

C) George W. Bush

B) Barack Obama

D) Jimmy Carter

- ✓ Former President Jimmy Carter will be bestowed with the George H. W. Bush Award for Statesmanship for his contributions to relations between the U.S. and China. A private award ceremony is scheduled June 12 at the Carter Center in Atlanta.
- ✓ The George H. W. Bush Foundation has said that the award goes to people who have made profound contributions to the development of constructive and mutually beneficial relations" between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China (PRC).

8. Which union ministry has instituted the Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman?

A) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

B) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

D) Ministry of Human Resource Development

- ✓ The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) has instituted the first Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS) for 2019 to mark the contribution of media in spreading the message of Yoga. The AYDMS will be conferred to print and electronic media houses.
- ✓ The contribution of the media in popularizing Yoga would be assessed by six juries. A total of 33 awards, under three categories, will be conferred. The award will comprise a special medal, plaque and trophy and a citation. The duration of the coverage for AYDMS would be from June 10 to June 25.

9. The first-ever World Food Safety Day has officially observed on which date?

- A) June 7 B) June 6
C) June 5 D) June 8

- ✓ The first-ever World Food Safety Day (WFSD) has officially celebrated on 7th June 2019 to strengthen efforts to ensure that the food we eat is safe. The theme of this year's inaugural WFSD 'Food Safety, everyone's business'.
- ✓ The day gives us an opportunity to share the outcomes of the two food safety conferences, discuss ways in which food safety can incentivize healthy diets, and discuss how the United Nations in New York can further support the efforts to improve food safety.
- ✓ The day was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2018. The UN has designated two of its agencies - the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) - to lead efforts in promoting food safety around the world.

10. Greta Thunberg, who won the Amnesty International's Ambassador of Conscience Award for 2019, is from which country?

- A) Germany B) Sweden
C) Portugal D) France

- ✓ The 16-year-old Swedish teen climate activist Greta Thunberg and her "Fridays for Future" global movement has won a prestigious Amnesty International's Ambassador of Conscience Award for 2019.
- ✓ She has been recognized for mobilizing world public opinion on the looming peril of global warming. The Fridays for Future movement was started in August 2018 by Greta Thunberg, who decided to miss school every Friday and protest outside the Swedish parliament until it took more serious action to tackle climate change.
- ✓ Her efforts to raise awareness of the climate crisis quickly went global. Her strike inspired millions of

students to skip school to join protests demanding faster action on climate change. The movement has now spread beyond Sweden to other European nations.

1. Which state government has recently launched Pink Sarathi vehicles for women's safety?

A) Karnataka

B) Kerala

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Jharkhand

- ✓ Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has recently launched the 'Pink Sarathi' vehicles to attend to the complaints of women passengers travelling in city buses. The vehicles are procured by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) under the 'Nirbhaya' scheme.
- ✓ The corporation had received Rs 56.07 crore from the Union government under the scheme and had taken up various measures for the safety of women passengers, including the launch of Pink Sarathi vehicles.

2. Bancha, which has become the first Solar Kitchen only village in India, is located in which district of Madhya Pradesh?

A) Jabalpur

C) Chhindwara

B) Bhopal

D) Betul

- ✓ Bancha in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh has become the first village in India to have zero wooden stoves and almost no use for LPG cylinders with all its 75 houses relying on solar-powered stoves to meet their cooking needs.
- ✓ The team of IIT Mumbai has designed a special solar stove & now no trees are being cut by the villagers for lighting their stoves. The project of installing solar power plates, batteries and stoves in all the 74 houses was started in September 2017 and got completed by December 2018.

3. Which of the following parties has become the first Political Outfit from the Northeast to get Status of National Party?

A) National People's Party

B) All India United Democratic Front

C) Hill State People's Democratic Party

D) Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura

- ✓ The ruling National People's Party (NPP), which is in an alliance with the BJP in Meghalaya, has been granted recognition as a national party by the Election Commission of India (ECI). As per the party's request, the symbol 'book' has been allotted to it.

- ✓ With this, the NPP has become the first party from the North East (NE) to get the national party status. It is a recognized party in four states of the region viz. Meghalaya, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.

- ✓ According to the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order of 1968, a political party can be recognised as a national party if its candidates secure at least 6% of votes polled in four or more states in Lok Sabha or assembly elections.

- ✓ In addition, it has at least 4 members in the Lok Sabha. It also has to have at least 2% of the total Lok Sabha seats and its candidates come from not less than 3 states. Third, it is recognised as a state party in at least four states.

4. Who lifted the men's singles title at the 2019 French Open tennis tournament?

A) Dominic Thiem

B) Rafael Nadal

C) Novak Djokovic

D) Roger Federer

- ✓ In Tennis, World No. 2 Rafael Nadal has lifted the French Open Men's Singles title for the 12th time. In the summit clash played at Paris on June 9, he defeated Austrian fourth seed Dominic Thiem, 6-3, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1 to win at the Roland Garros for the third straight year.
- ✓ Hence, Nadal became the first player to win 12 Singles titles at the same Grand Slam and has now won 18 majors overall. The win also gave Nadal an 82nd career title and 950th match win.

5. Which of the following plays is/are written by Girish Karnad, who passed away recently?

A) Tughlaq

B) Yayati

C) Rakshasa Tangadi

D) All of the above

- ✓ Girish Karnad (81), well-known writer, playwright, actor and public intellectual, has passed away on

June 10 in Bengaluru. Born in May 1938, he was one of the most prominent theatre personalities of the 60s and 70s, a period regarded as the Renaissance of Indian theatre.

- ✓ He worked with mythology and history and gave them a contemporary resonance in plays such as Nagamandala, Tughlaq and Hayavadana. He wrote his first play Yayati in 1961 when he was a Rhodes Scholar in England.
- ✓ Karnad translated most of his plays himself. His last play was 'Rakshasa Tangadi', published in 2018. He was a recipient of the 1998 Jnanpith Award -- the highest literary honour conferred in India. He was also conferred the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan.

6. Mohan Rangachari, who passed away recently, was the ace scriptwriter of which regional cinema?

- A) Tamil B) Telugu
C) Kannada D) Malayalam

- ✓ Crazy Mohan (67), prominent theatre artiste and ace scriptwriter for Tamil films, has passed away in Chennai on 10th June 2019.
- ✓ Born in 1952, as Mohan Rangachari, 'Crazy' was an epithet that he acquired after his popular play 'Crazy Thieves in Palavakkam'. An engineer by profession, Mohan started writing stage plays and established his own drama troupe called "Crazy Creations" in 1979.
- ✓ He entered the film industry after a long and successful career as a theatre personality. He penned the scripts for several super hit films, including Kamal Haasan-starrer "Avvai Shanmugi", "Vasool Raja MBBS", and "Michael Madhana Kamarajan", besides acting in many.

7. India has partnered with which country to set up a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal?

- A) United Kingdom C) Portugal
B) Japan D) France

- ✓ India has partnered with Portugal to set up a national maritime heritage museum at the ancient

Indian site of Lothal in Gujarat. It is likely to come up on the lines of a similar museum at Lisbon, which is administered by the Portuguese Navy.

- ✓ The Government of India has allocated a grant for building the maritime museum and the foundation stone for the project was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in March 2019.
- ✓ The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme, with the involvement of the Archaeological Survey of India, the State government and other stakeholders.

8. R V Janakiraman, who passed away recently, was the former Chief Minister of which state/UT?

- A) Tamil Nadu C) Karnataka
B) Odisha D) Puducherry

- ✓ R V Janakiraman (79), the former Puducherry Chief Minister and senior Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leader, has passed away in Puducherry on 10th June 2019.
- ✓ He was the Chief Minister between 1996 and 2000, heading the coalition government of DMK and the Tamil Maanila Congress. Mr. Janakiraman became the Chief Minister in 1996 and represented the Nellithope Assembly constituency for five consecutive times.

9. Who led Indian delegation at the 2019 G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy in Japan?

- A) S Jaishankar B) Nitin Gadkari
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) Piyush Goyal

- ✓ The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways, Piyush Goyal led the Indian delegation for the 2-day G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy at Tsukuba city in Japan on June 8.
- ✓ The G-20 Trade Ministers deliberations will form part of the G-20 Summit Leaders agenda in the formal discussions and will also be a part of the Summit Declaration.
- ✓ Over 50 Trade and Digital Economy Ministers get together for the first time in G20 history in Tsukuba,

to discuss how G20 economies can promote trade and investment and maximize benefits from the development of the digital economy.

- ✓ The Trade and Digital Economy meeting is one of the 8 Ministerial meetings taking place in Japan alongside the 2019 G20 Summit.
- ✓ The other seven Ministerial meetings are Agriculture Ministers', Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' meeting, Labour and Employment Ministers' meeting, Tourism Ministers meeting, Ministerial meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth, Health Ministers' meeting and Foreign Ministers' meeting. The G20 members represent two-thirds of the world's people and 85 percent of its economy.

10. Which Indian personality has been elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society (APS)?

- A) Vikram Seth B) Romila Thapar
C) Chetan Bhagat D) Amitav Ghosh

- ✓ Dr. Romila Thapar, the well-known historian and writer, has been elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in United States.
 - ✓ Dr. Thapar, a Professor Emerita of history at Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, was among 1,013 members elected to the society at its Annual Spring Meeting.
-

1. Which North American country has decided to ban single use plastics from 2021?

- A) Canada B) Mexico
C) United States D) Cuba

- ✓ Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has recently announced that harmful single-use plastics will be banned in the country from 2021 to reduce ocean waste. He declared it a global challenge to phase out the plastic bags, straws and cutlery clogging the world's oceans.
- ✓ Currently less than 10% of plastic used in Canada gets recycled. The Canadian government said that one million birds and over 100,000 sea mammals worldwide are injured or die each year when they mistake plastic for food or become entangled. Single-use items represent some 70% of the plastic waste littering the marine environment.
- ✓ Canada's move follows one by the European Union (EU), which late last year announced a similar ban. Canada, France, Germany, Britain and Italy, along with the European Union, subscribed at 2018 G7 summit in Quebec to a new charter against pollution in the world's oceans.
- ✓ The non-binding Ocean Plastics Charter called on participating countries and the EU to commit to making all plastics reusable, recyclable or recovered by 2030.

2. Which of the following banks has introduced repo-linked home loan product?

- A) SBI C) PNB
B) BoB D) BoI

- ✓ After linking its short-term loans and large savings deposits rates to the repo rate, the State Bank of India (SBI) has decided to introduce a repo rate-linked home loan product from July 1.
- ✓ The home loans under this product will be priced at 2.65% over the repo rate of 5.75%. So, the home loan interest rate will work out to 8.40%. Currently, SBI offers home loans, which are linked to its marginal cost of funds, at 8.55%.
- ✓ The lender has also reduced the interest rate on cash credit /overdraft customers (limits above Rs1 lakh) after RBI cut its repo rate from 6% to 5.75%. Now the

effective Repo-Linked Lending Rate (RLLR) for CC/OD customers is 8%. Repo rate is the key interest rate at which commercial banks borrow short-term funds from the Reserve Bank of India.

3. Mount Sinabung is located in which of the following islands of Indonesia?

- A) Java B) Bali
C) Sumatra D) Sumbawa

- ✓ Mount Sinabung, on the island of Sumatra, erupted for around 9 minutes on June 9 & send clouds of volcanic ash 7 km into the sky.
- ✓ The volcano has seen a spike in activity since its last major eruption in 2010. Mount Sinabung, which is 2,460m (8,071 ft) high, is among Indonesia's most active volcanoes, but had been inactive for four centuries before its 2010 eruption.
- ✓ Indonesia has nearly 130 active volcanoes, more than any other country. It follows the eruption of Mount Agung on the Indonesia island of Bali last month, which caused several flights to be cancelled.

4. India's first Dinosaur-Museum-Cum-Park is located in which of the following states?

- A) Rajasthan B) Odisha
C) Gujarat D) Himachal Pradesh

- ✓ India's first dinosaur museum and fossil park has recently inaugurated by Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani at Raiyoli village near Balasinor town of Mahisagar district.
- ✓ The new museum will create a prehistoric-like era environment when dinosaurs might have roamed around freely in Raiyoli. As many as 50 sculptures of dinosaurs, including a life-size one of Rajasaurus Narmadensis that was found in Gujarat, have been erected at the museum.
- ✓ The museum would have 3D projection, 360 degrees virtual reality presentations, interactive kiosks, gaming consoles and other facilities. According to government officials, Raiyoli is globally known to be the 3rd largest fossil site and about 10,000 dinosaur eggs have been found there.

5. Which country has decided to conduct its first-ever simulated space warfare exercise 'IndSpaceEx'?

- A) Italy B) Israel
C) Indonesia D) India

- ✓ India is planning to conduct its first-ever simulated space warfare exercise titled 'IndSpaceEx' in the last week of July under the aegis of the Integrated Defence Staff of the defence ministry.
- ✓ All military stakeholders, including those from the scientific community, will participate in it. The purpose of the exercise is to understand the possible challenges in space warfare and to counter China's growing influence in this domain, which poses a major threat to India's national security interest.

6. Guadalajara International Book Fair (GIBF), which is in news recently, is scheduled to be held in which of the following countries?

- A) Mexico B) Canada
C) Germany D) Spain

- ✓ India has been designated as the Guest of Honour at the 33rd Guadalajara International Book Fair (GIBF) 2019 in Mexico, which is scheduled to be organized from Nov 30 to Dec 8. The book fair will be the largest book fair in the Spanish speaking world.
- ✓ The dedicated India pavilion at the fair will showcase over 35 Indian authors and artists, along with 15 publishing houses. Ancient and rare manuscripts including 'Mahabharata' and 'Ramayana' will be put on exhibition, along with photo books, handicrafts and paintings. India's participation at the fair will also include a film festival showing movies like 'Dangal', 'Chennai Express' and 'Omkaara'.

7. Who has been elected as the new president of Kazakhstan?

- A) Amirjan Qosanov
B) Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
C) Toleutai Rakhimbekov D) Daniya Yespayeva

- ✓ On 9 June, Interim President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has won the 2019 Presidential election of Kazakhstan with 70.96% of the vote. He was recognised as the elected president by the Central Election Commission and will take an oath of office June 12.
- ✓ Earlier, on 20th March 2019, Tokayev took office as the Interim President of Kazakhstan & succeeded Nursultan Nazarbayev who served as the President from the country's independence in 1992 until his resignation.
- ✓ The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan is the head of state, commander-in-chief and holder of the highest office within the Republic of Kazakhstan.

8. The scientists of which US University have created a global map of where groundwater meets oceans?

- A) Duke University B) Stanford University
C) Yale University D) Ohio State University

- ✓ The researchers from Ohio State University in United States have created high-resolution maps of points around the globe where groundwater meets the oceans — the first such analysis of its kind that may help protect both drinking water and the seas.
- ✓ The study showed that nearly one-half of fresh submarine groundwater discharge flows into the ocean near the tropics.
- ✓ They also found that regions near active fault lines send greater volumes of groundwater into the ocean than regions that are tectonically stable. The findings may help coastal communities better protect and manage their drinking water.

9. Who has been appointed as the new Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development?

- A) V H Deshmukh B) V S Kaumudi
C) Indla Srinivas D) R P Thakur

- ✓ V.S. Kaumudi, a 1986 batch Andhra Pradesh cadre IPS officer, has been appointed as the new Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D).

- ✓ He has been appointed BPR&D chief for a period of two years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. He succeeded 1984 batch IPS officer Sudeep Lakhtakia. Prior to this post, Kaumudi was ADG in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

10. Who will be the pro-tem speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha?

- A) Vivek Sejwalker B) Virendra Kumar
C) Shankar Lalwani D) Anil Firojiya

- ✓ Virendra Kumar, the BJP MP from Madhya Pradesh, will be the pro-tem speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha. Kumar is a 7-term Member of Parliament and won the Lok Sabha polls from Tikamgarh.
- ✓ As pro-tem speaker, he will preside over the first sitting of the Lok Sabha and administer the oath of office to the newly elected MPs. The first session of the newly-constituted 17th Lok Sabha will be held from June 17 to July 26.
- ✓ As pro-tem speaker, Kumar will also oversee the election of the Lok Sabha speaker.

1. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Day against Child Labour?

A) End Child Labour in Supply Chains

B) Children shouldn't Work in Fields, But on Dreams

C) Generation Safe & Healthy

D) No to Child Labour – YES to Quality Education!

- ✓ The World Day against Child Labour is observed every year on June 12 to focus attention on the global extent of child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.
- ✓ The day brings together governments, employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people to highlight the plight of child labourers and the measures to help them.

2. Who has been appointed China's new Ambassador to India?

A) Luo Zhaohui

C) Sun Weidong

B) Liu Xiaoming

D) Wei Wei

- ✓ China has appointed veteran diplomat Sun Weidong as its new envoy to India. He is an expert in South Asian affairs and worked closely with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar during his tenure in Beijing as the Indian ambassador from 2009 to 2013.
- ✓ Sun, who also served as the ambassador to Pakistan, is currently the Director General of the Policy and Planning Department of the Foreign Ministry. He will succeed Luo Zhaohui, who has been appointed as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

3. Amasebailu village, which has become Karnataka's first solar-powered Gram Panchayat, is located in which of the following districts?

A) Belgaum

B) Bellary

C) Chikmagalur

D) Udupi

- ✓ Amasebailu village in Kundapura Taluk of Udupi district has become Karnataka's first solar-powered Gram Panchayat. Over 1800 houses were provided solar lamps at a total cost of Rs 2.13 crore.

- ✓ The project was funded by Centre and State Government in the ratio of 30:20 and the rest was paid by the Panchayat and charitable organizations.
- ✓ As per the agreement with Selco Light Pvt. Ltd, the solar lamps have a guarantee of 5 years and any faulty lamps will be replaced by the supplier within the guarantee period.

4. Who has been appointed the Leader of the House for the Rajya Sabha?

A) Piyush Goyal

B) Rajnath Singh

C) Pragalath Joshi

D) Thawar Chand Gehlot

- ✓ Thawar Chand Gehlot, the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, has been appointed the Leader of the House for the Rajya Sabha. He will replace senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley who opted out of the government citing health reasons.
- ✓ Gehlot is an experienced parliamentarian from and a Dalit face of the saffron party. He was a member of the Madhya Pradesh state assembly for several terms and has served in the Lok Sabha as well as the Rajya Sabha.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Union Minister for Railways and Commerce Piyush Goyal will take charge as the Deputy Leader for the Upper House of the Indian Parliament.
- ✓ The Rajya Sabha has been convened to meet for the Budget Session from 20 June, the day President Ram Nath Kovind will address the joint sitting of Parliament. The session will continue till 26 July. In all, there will be 27 meetings of the upper house of the Parliament.

5. Who is the head of the Sashakt Committee that recommended changes in existing Inter-Creditor Agreement?

A) Sandeep Bakshi

B) Manoharan

C) Venugopal Dhoot

D) Sunil Mehta

- ✓ The Sashakt Committee, headed by PNB non-executive chairman Sunil Mehta, has recommended changes in existing Inter-Creditor Agreement (ICA) to incorporate revised voting threshold and other

changes for decision making stipulated by the Reserve Bank of India.

- ✓ It will enable expeditious implementation of the new framework on stressed assets. Under the RBI's new framework, it is a mandatory requirement for lenders to enter into an Inter-Creditor Agreement during the review of the borrower account within 30 days from date of first default to any lender.
- ✓ The New Framework further lays down some parameters to be included in the Inter-Creditor Agreement including decision-making by lenders holding 75% (by value of total outstanding facilities) and 60% by number and protection of dissenting lenders.
- ✓ The Inter-Creditor Agreement is required to be executed by all lenders covered under the New Framework and asset reconstruction companies.
- ✓ The New Framework applies to all banks, term financial institutions, small finance banks, systemically important non-deposit taking non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) as well as deposit taking NBFCs.

6. Who clinched women's title at the 2019 French Open tennis tournament?

- A) Marketa Vondrousova **B) Ashleigh Barty**
C) Johanna Konta D) Madison Keys

- ✓ Ashleigh Barty, an Australian professional tennis player and former cricketer, has clinched the women's title at the 2019 French Open tennis tournament.
- ✓ In the final, she defeated Marketa Vondrousova 6–1, 6–3 at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris.
- ✓ Barty is the first Australian player (male or female) to win a French Open singles title since Margaret Court in 1973. The 2019 French Open was the 123rd edition of a Grand Slam tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts.

7. The scientists at which Indian university have discovered a new species of 'paddy frog' belonging to the microhylid genus Micryletta from Northeast India?

- A) Delhi University**
B) Lovely Professional University
C) Jawaharlal Nehru University
D) Calcutta University

- ✓ A team of scientists from Delhi University (DU) and the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), in collaboration with researchers from Indonesia and the US, have discovered a new species of 'paddy frog' from Northeast India, primarily Assam.
- ✓ The frog belongs to the microhylid genus Micryletta. It is a group of narrow-mouthed frogs that is primarily and widely distributed in Southeast Asia. Currently, there are only four recognized species in this group.
- ✓ The newly discovered Micryletta frog from Northeast India was confirmed as a new species by detailed comparison of both DNA and morphology with all previously known members across Southeast and East Asia.
- ✓ The new species has been named 'aishani', derived from the Sanskrit word 'aishani' or aisani (meaning North – east), referring to the Northeast regions of India where this frog was discovered.

8. Who has been appointed new Secretary to the Vice President of India?

- A) Ashok Dewan **B) I V Subba Rao**
C) Prashanth Kumar D) Arvind Kapoor

- ✓ Dr. I V Subba Rao, a 1979 batch IAS officer from Andhra Pradesh, will continue as secretary to Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on a contract basis in the rank and pay of a secretary of the Government of India. His tenure will be co-terminus with the tenure of the vice president.

9. The 2019 edition of Mela Kheer Bhawani is celebrated in which of the following states?

- A) Uttar Pradesh B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Maharashtra D) Jammu & Kashmir

- ✓ The 'Mela Kheer Bhawani' is one of the biggest religious festivals of the displaced community of Kashmiri pundits, and is associated with Hindu Goddess Ragnya Devi.
- ✓ It is recently celebrated with religious fervor and gaiety at Tulmulla area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district and Kupwara with thousands of Pandith devotees participated in the function.
- ✓ The annual festival is held on Jesht Ashtami (May-June) when Kashmiri pandits visit the place in large number to offer prayers to seek the blessings of the deity. The devotees carry rose petals, walk barefoot and offer tribute to the goddess, and also offer milk and kheer (pudding) at the sacred spring.
- ✓ It is believed that the color of the water in the spring, which flows below the temple, is an indication of the valley's well-being. Black or darkish colour of the water is believed to be a sign of inauspicious times for Kashmir. However, the water in the spring this time was clean and milky white.
- ✓ The mela has become a symbol of communal harmony as Muslims in the locality make all the arrangements for the devotees, including setting up of stalls for flowers and other offerings.

10. Who is the head of the RBI committee to review ATM charges?

- A) Dilip Asbe B) Giri Kumar Nair
C) V G Kannan D) K Srinivas

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has constituted a six member high-level committee under the chairmanship of VG Kannan, Chief Executive of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to review the entire gamut of ATM charges and fees.
- ✓ There are around 2 lakh ATMs in India. At end of April 2019, there were over 88.47 crore debit cards and 4.8 crore credit cards in function, and as per RBI data

during April only 80.9 crore transactions were done through debit cards on ATM.

- ✓ It will examine existing patterns of costs, charges and interchange fees by banks for ATM transactions. It will review overall patterns of usage of ATMs by cardholders and also assess impact (if any) on charges and interchange fees levied by banks.
- ✓ It will make recommendations on optimal charge or interchange fee structure and pattern. It will submit its report to RBI within two months from date of its first meeting.

1. Zonel Sougaijam, who has been included in the Facebook Hall of Fame 2019, is from which Indian state?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh B) Mizoram
C) Nagaland D) Manipur

- ✓ Zonel Sougaijam (22), civil engineer from Manipur, has been honoured by Facebook for discovering a WhatsApp bug that violated the privacy of a user. The social media giant awarded \$5000 to him and also included him in the 'Facebook Hall of Fame 2019' for detecting the WhatsApp bug.
- ✓ Sougaijam detected that during a voice call through WhatsApp, the bug used to allow the caller to upgrade it to a video call without the authorization and knowledge of the receiver. The caller was then able to see what the other person was doing that breached the privacy of the receiver.
- ✓ Sougaijam's name is currently at the 16th position in a list of 94 people, in the 'Facebook Hall of Fame' for this year.

2. Rajanath Singh 'Surya', who passed away recently, was the veteran personality of which field?

- A) Poetry C) Journalism
B) Photography D) Arts

- ✓ Rajanath Singh 'Surya' (82), the veteran journalist and former Rajya Sabha Member, has passed away in Lucknow, UP on June 13. He had worked in various newspapers and he was a well-known columnist.

3. Who has been conferred the 54th Jnanpith award for the year 2018?

- A) Amitav Ghosh B) U R Ananthamurthy
C) Krishna Sobti D) Girish Karnad

- ✓ Bestselling author and one of India's leading contemporary writers, Amitav Ghosh has been conferred the 54th Jnanpith award for the year 2018 for his outstanding contribution towards literature.
- ✓ The writer was felicitated for his outstanding contribution by former West Bengal governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi at a function in New Delhi on 13th June 2019.

- ✓ Mr Ghosh is the first Indian author in English language to be honoured with the Jnanpith award. The works of Amitav Ghosh portray a vast range of subjects. His famous books include The Circle of Reason (1986), The Shadow Lines (1988), The Calcutta Chromosome (1996), The Hungry Tide (2004), Sea of Poppies (2008), The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable (2016).
- ✓ Instituted in 1961, the Jnanpith award is bestowed only on Indian writers writing in Indian languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India and English with no posthumous conferral. The recipients of Jnanpith award are given a cash prize of Rs 11 lakh, a citation plaque and a bronze replica of Goddess Saraswati.

4. Which Indian actor will be chief guest at 10th Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM -2019)?

- A) Naseeruddin Shah B) Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
C) Rani Mukerji D) Shah Rukh Khan

- ✓ Bollywood Superstar Shah Rukh Khan will be the chief guest at the 10th edition of Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM), which is scheduled to be held between 8th – 17th August 2019.
- ✓ Every year, one of the leading film celebrities head to Australia to attend the fest held during the month of August. During their visit, the celebrities hoist the Indian National Flag in the presence of many Indians and other dignitaries as a part of the festival.
- ✓ The IIFM is a Victorian Government initiative that aims to strengthen ties between the Indian film industry and Victoria.

5. Which state cabinet has approved proposal for jail term for those who abandon elderly parents?

- A) MP B) UP
C) Bihar D) Rajasthan

- ✓ Bihar Cabinet-led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has approved a proposal to punish sons and daughters who abandon their elderly parents with a jail term. The cases against the children will be registered

under the non-bailable section in Bihar after receiving complaints from the elderly parents.

6. Indian Navy hosted maritime information sharing workshop at IFC-IOR in which of the following cities?

A) Gurugram B) Kolkatta

C) Pune D) Cochin

- ✓ The Indian Navy hosted a maritime information sharing workshop under the aegis of the Information Fusion Centre — Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) at Gurugram, Haryana on June 12.
- ✓ Over 41 delegates from 29 countries of the IOR participated in the two-day event. The aim of the workshop was to explain participants about IFC-IOR and its information sharing mechanisms and promote sharing of best practices in this field.
- ✓ The event included issues such as maritime terrorism, piracy, human and drug trafficking, humanitarian assistance as well as disaster relief and the legal perspective of combating these challenges.

7. Which Indian celebrity will be honored with the UNICEF's Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award?

A) Narendra Modi

B) Priyanka Chopra

C) Medha Patkar

D) Chandi Prasad Bhatt

- ✓ Indian actress Priyanka Chopra, a global UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights, will be honored with the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award by UNICEF's American chapter at their Snowflake Ball on December 3 in New York.
- ✓ Priyanka is known for her contribution to social causes and for being a voice for children's education. She has been a part of United Nation's global "Girl Up" Campaign and is associated with several NGOs in India to raise awareness about ways to improve the education, health and safety of girl child in India.
- ✓ She promotes various causes such as environment, health and education, and women's rights and is particularly vocal about gender equality and feminism.

- ✓ The award is named after actor-philanthropist Danny Kaye, who was UNICEF's first Goodwill Ambassador.

8. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of International Albinism Awareness Day?

A) Shining our light to the world

B) Still Standing Strong

C) Advancing with renewed hope

D) Celebrate diversity; promote inclusion; protect our rights

- ✓ The International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is observed every year on June 13 to celebrate the human rights of persons with albinism worldwide. The 2019 theme is "Still Standing Strong".
- ✓ Albinism is a congenital disorder characterized in humans by the complete or partial absence of pigment in the skin, hair and eyes. It is associated with a number of vision defects such as photophobia, nystagmus, and amblyopia.
- ✓ Albinism sufferers face social stigma, obstacles in access to areas of health and education and ignorance in social and political arenas.

9. The meeting of Council of Heads of States (CHS) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has started in which of the following cities?

A) Jakarta

B) Bishkek

C) Nay Pyi Taw

D) Kuala Lumpur

- ✓ On June 13, the meeting of Council of Heads of States (CHS) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has started in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan.
- ✓ This is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first multi-lateral summit after his re-election as the Prime Minister. This is also the second CHS meeting after India became member of SCO.
- ✓ Presidents and Prime Ministers of 8 member countries will participate in this multilateral international forum which will also be attended by 4 head of states as observers.

- ✓ The leaders participating in the Summit are expected to focus their discussions on the global security situation, multilateral economic cooperation, people-to-people exchanges and also on topical issues of international and regional importance.
- ✓ The SCO is a China-led 8-member economic and security bloc. The CHS is the supreme decision-making body in the SCO.

10. Which year is set as target by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to have its own Space station?

- A) 2040 B) 2050
C) 2030 D) 2070

- ✓ On June 13, 2019, The Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) K Sivan announced that India will have its own Space station by 2030. This will help ISRO to send more astronauts to space.
 - ✓ A space station is like a habitable artificial satellite that is designed to remain in space and is capable of being inhabited by crew members for an extended period of time. The Project is an extension of Gaganyaan mission.
 - ✓ The proposal to set up the space station will be sent to the central government for approval after India's first Gaganyaan mission by 2022. The project will be executed in 5-7 years and the proposed cost of the project is not disclosed.
-

1. What is the slogan of the 2019 edition of World Blood Donor Day?

- A) Share Life, Give Blood B) Safe blood for all
C) Blood connects us All D) Blood donor is a hero

- ✓ The World Blood Donor Day is observed every year on June 14 to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank blood donors.
- ✓ The 2019 theme "Blood Donation and Universal Access to Safe Blood Transfusion" is a component of achieving universal health coverage. The slogan - Safe Blood for All - has also been adopted. The theme strongly encourages more people all over the world to become blood donors and donate blood regularly.

2. Which state government has recently launched online facility to approve building plans?

- A) Karnataka C) Andhra Pradesh
B) Chhattisgarh D) Odisha

- ✓ Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy has recently launched 118 websites that would enable citizens get building plan approvals, diversion of land use change and other related permissions through online submissions, avoiding middlemen and delays.
- ✓ It will bring greater transparency and end corruption and save people's time and money. These websites and softwares integrate 14 departments. The status of their applications will be shared through SMS to the applicants.

3. Pazhavila Ramesan, who passed away recently, was the renowned poet of which state?

- A) Odisha B) Karnataka
C) Kerala D) Telangana

- ✓ Pazhavila Ramesan (83), a popular lyricist & Poet, has passed away in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on June 13, 2019. He is a recipient of the 2019 Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award. He had also served as the director of Kerala Bhasha Institute for a long time.

- ✓ Ramesan brought out poetry collections such as Mazhayude Jalakam, Njan Ente Kadukalelikku, and Pazhavila Ramesante Kavithakal.

4. The Government of India has reduced the rate of contribution under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act from 6.5% to ___?

- A) 6.0% B) 5.5%
C) 4.5 D) 4.0%

- ✓ The Union Government has taken a historic decision to reduce the salary contribution of industrial workers who are eligible for healthcare benefits under the Employees' State Insurance Act (ESI) Act from 6.5% to 4.0%.
- ✓ The move is aimed at formalizing India's informal workforce and expanding social security coverage. The reduced rates will be effective from July 1 and would benefit 3.6 crore employees and 12.85 lakh employers.
- ✓ The reduced rate of contribution will bring about a substantial relief to workers under the ESI scheme and bring more and more workforce into the formal sector. The ESI Act of 1948 provides for medical, cash, maternity, disability and dependent benefits to the Insured Persons under the Act.
- ✓ The ESI Act is administered by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC). Benefits provided under the ESI Act are funded by the contributions made by the employers and the employees.
- ✓ The Government of India through the Ministry of Labour and Employment decides the rate of contribution under the ESI Act.

5. The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has decided to confer alumni award to which of the following union ministers?

- A) Ravi Shankar Prasad & Dharmendra Pradhan
B) Nitin Gadkari & Piyush Goyal
C) Nirmala Sitharaman & S Jaishankar
D) Ramesh Pokhriyal & Prakash Javdekar

- ✓ The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has decided to confer its Distinguished Alumni Award to Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. The award will be presented at JNU's 3rd convocation to be held in August.
- ✓ Sitharaman had completed her MA and M.Phil degrees while Jaishankar completed his M.Phil and doctoral research from JNU.

6. Who is the head of the committee to review existing marketing structure in LPG marketing in India?

- A) Errol D'souza B) MA Pathan
C) GC Chaturvedi **D) Kirit Parikh**

- ✓ The Government of India has recently constituted a 5-member committee to review existing marketing structure in Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) marketing in India.
- ✓ The committee, headed by economist Kirit Parikh, will look into issues related to definition or quality standards of LPG being marketed. Its terms of reference also include scope for liberalizing government policies for private participation.
- ✓ The committee is expected to submit its report by end-July. Based on the LPG control order, domestic LPG should be supplied to oil-marketing companies only. The committee will also identify the grey areas that might allow private entities like Reliance Industries to sell subsidized cooking gas.

7. The Union Cabinet has recently approved two-month extension to Committee for OBC Sub-categorization. Who is the head of the Committee?

- A) S K Gangwar B) Prahlad Singh Patel
C) G Rohini D) R L Kataria

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has accorded ex-post facto approval for the extension of the term of the Commission to examine the issue of Sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) by two more months' upto 31st July 2019.

- ✓ This is the 6th extension to the commission, which was constituted under Article 340 of the Constitution with the approval of President on 2nd October 2017.
- ✓ The extension of the tenure of the commission would enable it to evaluate the issue of Sub-categorization of OBCs in the Central list based on wider consultations with various stakeholders.
- ✓ It will also enable the commission to submit a comprehensive report on the issue. The Commission is headed by Justice (Retd.) G. Rohini.

8. Which SCO member has been conferred Kyrgyzstan's Highest National Award?

- A) Emomali Rahmon B) Vladimir Putin
C) Narendra Modi **D) Xi Jinping**

- ✓ Chinese President Xi Jinping has been conferred the Kyrgyzstan's highest national award titled "Manas Order of the First Degree" at the Ala Archa state residence in Bishkek.
- ✓ Xi, along with other leaders of the group including Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is in Bishkek (the Kyrgyz capital) to attend the 19th SCO summit on June 14-15, 2019.
- ✓ The SCO is a China-led 8-member economic and security bloc. The founding members of the SCO are China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan were admitted to the Beijing-based regional security grouping in 2017.

9. Which country is the current chair of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS)?

- A) South Africa B) Russia
C) India D) China

- ✓ India is one of the founder members of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) and is the Chair of Kimberley Process for the year 2019 with Russian Federation as Vice Chair.
- ✓ The Inter-sessional meeting of Kimberley Process (KP) is being hosted by India from 17th to 21st June, 2019 in Mumbai.

- ✓ Besides meetings of different Working Groups and Committees of the KPCS, 2 special forums regarding Diamond Terminology and Artisanal Mining – Small Steps to Larger Outcomes, will be held during the Intersessional.
- ✓ Around 300 delegates from the Government of India and other participating countries, industry and civil society will be attending the 5-day Meeting. At present, KPCS has 55 members representing 82 countries including EU with 28 members.

10. What is the theme of the 20th anniversary of victory in Kargil war?

A) Remember, Rejoice and Renew

B) Pride, Honour and Inspire

C) Salute valour of the armed forces

D) Peace & Humanity

- ✓ The Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated every year on July 26 to commemorate India's emphatic victory against Pakistan. The day is named after the success of Operation Vijay.
 - ✓ In 2019, India will celebrated the 20th anniversary of victory in Kargil war with pride, honour and inspiration from 25th to 27th of July at Dras and New Delhi. This year, the Kargil Vijay Diwas is being celebrated with the theme 'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'.
-

1. Which of the following Asian countries will be guest nation at the 2020 Copa America?

- A) Saudi Arabia B) China
C) India D) Qatar

- ✓ The South American Football Confederation (SAFC) has invited Australia and Qatar as guests at 2020 Copa America. Both the nations will join 10 South American nations in the 2020 tournament, which for the first time will be held jointly in two countries – Colombia & Argentina.
- ✓ Qatar, which is the current champion of 2019 AFC Asian Cup and also host of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, is making its debut at the 2019 edition of Copa America.

2. What is the India's rank at the 2019 Global Peace Index (GPI) of Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)?

- A) 151st C) 141st
B) 136th D) 155th

- ✓ As per a report released by the Australian think tank Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), India's ranking in 2019 Global Peace Index (GPI) has slipped five places to 141st among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries.
- ✓ IEP ranks countries according to their level of peacefulness based on three thematic domains -- the level of societal safety and security, the extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict and the degree of militarization.
- ✓ The report covers 99.7 per cent of the world's population and uses 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from highly respected sources to compile the index. As per index, Iceland remains the most peaceful country and Afghanistan the least peaceful nation.
- ✓ In South Asian countries, Bhutan topped the index with 15th rank, followed by Sri Lanka 72nd, Nepal 76th and Bangladesh 101st. Pakistan has been ranked 153rd on the index. The GPI was founded by Steve Killelea, an Australian tech entrepreneur & philanthropist.

3. Which Indian NGO has been awarded the 2019 BBC World Service Global Champion?

- A) Arth India B) Chetna
C) Save Life Foundation D) Akshaya Patra

- ✓ Bengaluru-based NGO Akshaya Patra has been awarded the 2019 BBC World Service Global Champion Award for its school meal project programme at the BBC Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, UK.
- ✓ The award recognizes a person or project that is changing the way the world produces, processes, consumes or thinks about food for the better. Akshaya Patra is a non-profit organisation running one of the world's largest school meals project in India.

4. On which date, the 2019 edition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed?

- A) June 15 B) June 14
C) June 13 D) June 13

- ✓ The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed on the 15th of June every year to voice opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted on elderly people. According to the UN, around 1 in 6 older people experience some form of abuse.
- ✓ Elder abuse can lead to serious physical injuries and long-term psychological consequences. It is a global social issue which affects the health and human rights of millions of older persons around the world.
- ✓ It is predicted to increase as many countries are experiencing rapidly ageing populations. The global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to about 2 billion in 2050.

5. The Carmichael coal mine project is associated to which of the following countries?

- A) Indonesia B) New Zealand
C) Australia D) Malaysia

- ✓ Ahmedabad-based Adani group has recently got final approval for controversy-hit Carmichael coal

mine project in Australia, after Queensland State authorities approved its groundwater management plan.

- ✓ The final approval for the Adani group's long-delayed billion-dollar mega coal mine project came only weeks after a surprise election win of Australia's pro-coal ruling coalition led by Prime Minister Scott Morrison.
- ✓ The approval potentially paves the way for half a dozen new thermal coal mines to come on line in Australia by opening up Queensland's remote Galilee basin with rail infrastructure to the coast 320 km away at Abbot Point.
- ✓ Earlier, the Gautam Adani-led Adani Group got the first approval from the Queensland state government to protect the endangered black-throated finch bird population as part of its crucial environmental plan at the site of its mine project.
- ✓ It is set to become the largest coal mine in Australia, with approval to produce up to 60 million tonnes of coal annually, and 2.3 billion tonnes over the life of the mine.

6. The 10th Regional GRIHA Summit 2019 was held in which of the following cities?

- A) Bengaluru B) Nagpur
C) Pune D) New Delhi

- ✓ On June 15, the 10th edition of Regional GRIHA Summit 2019 was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra with theme "Transformation strategies for built environment".
- ✓ The one day summit served as a platform for knowledge sharing among different domains of the green building industry and facilitates networking opportunities among individuals representing government, academia, civil society organizations, architecture, engineering, and construction management sector.
- ✓ GRIHA is an independent, non-profit society jointly set up by the Ministry of New and renewable energy and the energy and resources institute.

7. Which of the following defence PSUs has signed a pact to supply heavy weight torpedoes to the Indian Navy?

- A) Bharat Electronics Ltd
B) Bharat Dynamics Ltd
C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
D) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd

- ✓ The Hyderabad-based defence public sector undertaking, Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) has recently signed a contract worth Rs 1,187.82 crores for supply of heavy weight torpedoes - Varunastra - to the Indian Navy. The execution of the contract will be in the next 42 months.
- ✓ The weapon will be manufactured at BDL Visakhapatnam Unit under collaboration with DRDO. The Heavy Weight Torpedo (or Varunastra) is a ship launched, electrically propelled underwater weapon equipped with one of the most advanced automatic and remote-controlled guidance systems.
- ✓ The weapon system uses its own intelligence in tracing the target. The BDL is the main producer of the country's range of missiles and missile defence systems.

8. Which of the following Indian movies is/are selected to be screened at 2019 Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BiFAN)?

- A) Manikarnika B) Gully Boy
C) Andhadhun D) All of the above

- ✓ Four Indian movies have been selected to be screened at the prestigious 23rd Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BiFAN-2019). Out of them, one is a Tamil movie, namely 'Super Deluxe' starring Vijay Sethupathi and Samantha Akkineni. Three of them are Bollywood movies namely Gully Boy, Andhadhun and Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi.
- ✓ The festival will take place from June 27 to July 7 in South Korea. The South Korean film festival is known for screening some of the best movies in the world.

9. Which international organisation has released the World Investment Report 2019?

- A) IMF
B) ADB
C) World Bank
D) UNCTAD

- ✓ According to UNCTAD's World Investment Report 2019, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India increased by 6% to \$42 billion in 2018 with strong inflows in manufacturing, communication, financial services and cross-border merger and acquisition activities making it the sub-region's largest recipient.
- ✓ As per report, India has been ranked 10th amongst the top recipients of FDI in 2018. The report added that India has historically accounted for 70 to 80% of inflows to the sub-region.
- ✓ Further, the growth in cross-border Merger & Acquisitions for India to 33 billion dollars in 2018 was primarily due to transactions worth 16 billion dollars in retail trade, which includes e-commerce and telecommunication.

10. The world's highest operating weather stations has installed on which of the following mountains?

- A) Mt Kanchenjunga
B) Mt Everest
C) Mt Makalu
D) Mt K2

- ✓ The National Geographic Society has announced the successful installation of the world's highest operating weather stations on Mount Everest to provide researchers, climbers, and the public with near real-time information about mountain conditions.
- ✓ The multi-disciplinary team installed the world's two highest operating automated weather stations at Balcony area (8,430 m) and South Col (7,945 m), as well as 3 other weather stations on Mount Everest.
- ✓ The other stations were placed at Phortse (3,810 m), Everest Base Camp (5,315 m) and Camp II (6,464 m). Each weather station will record data on temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed, and wind direction.

1. Who won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship?

A) Pankaj Advani B) Semih Sayginer

C) Sourav Kothari D) **Peter Gilchrist**

- ✓ Peter Gilchrist from Singapore has won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship at the Yarraville Club. In the final, he defeated India's Sourav Kothari.

2. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought?

A) Combating land degradation for sustainable agriculture

B) The Beauty of Deserts – The Challenge of Desertification

C) **Let's Grow the Future Together**

D) Social Dimensions of Desertification: Migration and Poverty

- ✓ The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed every year on 17th of June to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.
- ✓ The day is a unique moment to remind everyone that land degradation neutrality is achievable through problem-solving, strong community involvement and co-operation at all levels.

3. Suman Rao, who has been crowned Femina Miss India World 2019, is from which state?

A) Maharashtra B) **Rajasthan**

C) Gujarat D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ Suman Rao from Rajasthan has won the Femina Miss India World 2019 beauty pageant during a star – studded ceremony at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium in Mumbai.
- ✓ While Shivani Jadhav from Chhattisgarh clinched Femina Miss Grand India 2019 title and Shreya Shanker from Bihar won Miss India United Continents 2019 title during the grand finale of the beauty pageant. Now, Suman will represent India at Miss World 2019 in Thailand.

- ✓ The show was hosted by Bollywood filmmaker Karan Johar and actor – anchor Maniesh Paul along with Miss World 2017 Manushi Chhillar.

4. Which social activist has won the HridayMitra Foundation's 'Save Water Hero Award'?

A) Shaheen Mistri B) Sandeep Pandey

C) **Makarand Tilloo** D) Sanal Edamaruku

- ✓ In Pune, Social activist Makarand Tilloo has won the 'Save Water Hero Award' by the HridayMitra Foundation for his efforts to raise awareness about water conservation in the city.
- ✓ Tilloo is a Laughter Yoga trainer and motivational speaker by profession. He started a campaign to save water by replacing leaking taps with new ones.
- ✓ The HridayMitra Foundation is an organisation which aims to spread awareness about diseases as well as the surgeries required to remedy them. It also runs a free helpline, offering people financial guidance and other such services.

5. Who has been sworn-in as the first female President of Slovakia?

A) **Zuzana Caputova** B) Adriana Karembeu

C) Jana Kolesarova D) Suzie Kronerova

- ✓ Zuzana Caputova, a liberal environmental activist and a political newcomer, has been sworn-in as the first female President of Slovakia in Bratislava on 15th June 2019. She is also the youngest president in the history of Slovakia, at the age of 45.
- ✓ She first became known by prevailing in a decade-long struggle against the situating of a toxic landfill in her hometown of Pezinok. For this, Caputova was awarded the 2016 Goldman Environmental Prize. Caputova succeeded Slovak President Andrej Kiska.

6. Who is the first woman Project Director in an ISRO mission of Chandrayaan – II?

A) Ritu Karidhal B) Rohini Godbole

C) **Muthayya Vanitha** D) Gagandeep Kang

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has recently announced that India's second mission to the moon – Chandrayaan – II – will be launched on July 15 at 2.15 AM from Sriharikota. This particular mission is an advancement of Chandrayaan – I, which was launched a decade ago.
- ✓ Chandrayaan – II will scale the lunar surface and gather info on minerals, rock formations and water. For the first time in the history of ISRO, the Project Director and the Mission Director will be women.
- ✓ Muthayya Vanitha will be the Project Director for the orbiter, the lander and the rover, and Ritu Karidhal will be the Mission Director in charge of the GSLV-Mk III launch vehicle
- ✓ In fact, 30% of the team in charge of the mission is composed of women. The cost of the entire Chandrayaan – II mission is about Rs. 1000 crore.

7. Inger Andersen, who is new Executive Director of the UNEP, is from which country?

- A) Norway B) Denmark
C) Finland D) Sweden

- ✓ Danish economist and environmentalist, Inger Andersen has recently taken charge as the new Executive Director of UN Environment Programme (UNEP) for a 4 year term. She succeeded Erik Solheim of Norway.
- ✓ Prior to her appointment at UNEP, Andersen was Director General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Vice President for Sustainable Development at the World Bank and Head of the CGIAR Fund Council.
- ✓ She has also served as the World Bank vice-president for the Middle East and North Africa and worked at the UN for 15 years on water and environment issues.

8. Which of the following companies will soon roll out TechBee programme to hire and train students for IT jobs?

- A) Wipro B) Infosys
C) HCL D) Reliance

- ✓ HCL Technologies will soon roll out "TechBee" programme to hire and train students for IT jobs. The purpose of the HCL's early career programme is to provide students an opportunity to start early & become financially independent.
- ✓ Under the initiative, the company will conduct an entrance test for those completed +2 or Intermediate course and gives them a year's training to make them employable. Students who have completed Intermediate in 2018 or 2019 with more than 60% marks are eligible for the programme.
- ✓ However, the students will have to a pay fee of Rs. 2 lakhs to join the programme. The firm would facilitate a bank loan, which can be repaid in EMIs after they are absorbed into the company.
- ✓ While working at HCL, students can enrol in higher education programmes offered by reputed universities such as BITS Pilani & SASTRA University. The students after completion of required training will be recruited with salary range of Rs two lakh to Rs 2.5 lakh depending on what work stream they are taken into.

9. Feni Bridge is located in which of the following states?

- A) West Bengal B) Odisha
C) Tripura D) Andhra Pradesh

- ✓ The Feni Bridge, which is also known as Maitree Setu, is developing as a corridor for trade and commerce between India's North-East and Bangladesh over river Feni and will connect Tripura with Chittagong port of Bangladesh.
- ✓ It will provide direct road connectivity between South Tripura and Chittagong allowing India to use Chittagong as a "port of call" and promoting trade, tourism and people-to-people ties.
- ✓ The bridge will facilitate carrying of heavy machines and goods to and from the northeastern states and the rest of India via Bangladesh through Chattogram.
- ✓ The bridge is being constructed by the National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd of Ministry of Road and Transport highways,

govt. of India at a cost of over Rs 82 crores. The project is scheduled to be completed by April 2020.

10. Who has been sworn-in as the pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha?

- A) Pawan Kumar Goyal B) Kartar Singh
C) Virendra Kumar D) Randhir Singh Ruhal

- ✓ Dr. Virendra Kumar, the 7-time Lok Sabha MP from Tikamgarh in Madhya Pradesh, has been sworn-in as the pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha. President Ram Nath Kovind administered oath to Dr Kumar at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
 - ✓ As pro-tem speaker, Kumar will preside over the first sitting of the Lok Sabha and administer the oath to the newly elected MPs. He will also oversee the election of the 17th Lok Sabha speaker. The first session of the newly constituted Lok Sabha will be held from June 17 – July 26.
-

1. Operation Sunrise 2, which is in news recently, is a coordinated operation of India and which neighboring country?

- A) Myanmar B) Bangladesh
C) Nepal D) Bhutan

- ✓ The armies of India and Myanmar carried out a 3-week-long coordinated operation, named 'Operation Sunrise 2', from May 16 in their respective border areas & targeted several militant groups operating in Manipur, Nagaland and Assam.
- ✓ As part of the operation, the armies coordinated with each other to bust camps of militant outfits, including the Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO), the NSCN (Khaplang), the United Liberation Front of Assam (I) and the National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB).
- ✓ As per sources, at least six dozen militants belonging to these groups were nabbed and several of their camps destroyed during the operation.
- ✓ Myanmar is one of the strategic neighbours of India and shares a 1640 km border with a number of north-eastern states, including the militancy-hit Nagaland and Manipur.
- ✓ The first phase of this operation was launched in February 2019 in which Indian Army targeted members of the Arakan Army (an insurgent group in Myanmar), who were opposed to the Kaladan multi-modal transit transport project. The Kaladan multi-modal transit transport project is viewed as India's gateway to Southeast Asia.

2. On which date, the 2019 edition of International Day of Family Remittances is observed?

- A) June 18 B) June 17
C) June 20 D) June 16

- ✓ The International Day of Family Remittances is observed every year on 16th of June to recognize the contribution of over 200 million migrants to improve the lives of their 800 million family members back home, and to create a future of hope for their children.
- ✓ Through this observance, the United Nations aim at bringing greater awareness on the impact that these

contributions have on millions of households, but also on communities, countries, and entire regions.

- ✓ The Day also calls upon governments, private sector entities, and the civil society to find ways that can maximize the impact of remittances through individual, and/or collective actions.

3. On which date, the 2019 edition of Autistic Pride Day is observed?

- A) June 18 B) June 17
C) June 19 D) June 16

- ✓ The Autistic Pride Day is observed every year on 18th of June to recognise the importance of pride for autistics and understands it not as a disease but as a difference.
- ✓ Autism or Autism Spectrum Disability is a range of complex neurodevelopment disorders characterized by social impairments, communication difficulties, restrictive and repetitive pattern of behaviour. It is a lifelong condition which usually occurs in the first three years of life.
- ✓ The exact cause of autism is not known but it is known to be associated with genetic and environmental factors. Autistic Pride Day was initiated by Aspies for Freedom, a group that raises public awareness about autism rights.

4. The World Food India event will be held in which of the following cities?

- A) Indore B) Jaipur
C) New Delhi D) Lucknow

- ✓ The World Food India event will be held in New Delhi from November 1-4 as part of the government's effort to boost investment into this growing sector.
- ✓ The event aims to promote food processing sector and to position India as food processing destination of the World. The tagline of the event will be "Forging Partnerships for Growth".
- ✓ This will be the 2nd edition of World Food India, with first one held in 2017 that saw the participation of 61 countries and signing of MoUs worth \$14 billion.

5. The bathing festival 'Snana Yatra' is recently celebrated in which of the following states?

- A) Odisha B) Jharkhand
C) Bihar D) West Bengal

- ✓ The 'Snana Yatra' is a bathing festival celebrated on the full moon day (Purnima) of the Hindu month of 'Jyestha' & considered to be the birthday of Lord Jagannath. It is a significant ritual in the run-up to the annual 'Rath Jatra' festival.
- ✓ In Puri, the annual ceremonial bathing ritual of the deities at Sri Jagannath temple has recently celebrated on 17th June 2019 in the presence of thousands of devotees. The ceremony is known as 'Snana Jatra' of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra.
- ✓ It was performed on a bathing altar known as the 'Snana Mandap' in which priests' poured 108 pitchers of aromatic sacred water on the deities. The Skanda Purana mentions that King Indradyumna arranged this ceremony for the first time when the idols of the deities were first installed.

6. Who has been named new chief of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)?

- A) Ahmad Shuja Pasha B) Zaheerul Islam
C) Asim Munir D) Faiz Hameed

- ✓ Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed has been appointed as the new Director-General of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the powerful spy agency of Pakistan. He succeeded Lt Gen Asim Munir. Hameed has previously served as the head of the Counter Intelligence wing of the ISI.
- ✓ The ISI was formed in 1948 as an independent unit to strengthen the country's intelligence network. The ISI was formerly a part of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), which handled intelligence-sharing between different branches of the military, as well as external intelligence gathering.
- ✓ Its headquarters were initially located in Rawalpindi, but were later moved to Islamabad. In 1950, the ISI was officially given the task of

safeguarding Pakistani interests and national security, inside and outside the country.

7. India will host the UNCCD COP 14 in which of the following cities?

- A) New Delhi B) Shimla
C) Chandigarh D) Hyderabad

- ✓ For the first time, India will host the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in New Delhi between September 2 -14, 2019. It will see participation from at least 5,000 delegates from nearly 197 countries.
- ✓ Ahead of the COP-14, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar launched a flagship project (a part of a larger international initiative called the Bonn Challenge) to enhance India's capacity for Forest Landscape Restoration.
- ✓ It will be implemented during a pilot phase of three-and-a-half years in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Karnataka. The project will aim to develop and adapt the best practices and monitoring protocols for the country, and build capacity within the five pilot States.
- ✓ The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land under restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030.
- ✓ The United Nations has three major Conventions: UNFCCC, UNCCD and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Established in 1994, the UNCCD is the only legally binding international agreement linking environment and development issues to the land agenda.

8. Who has been appointed as the new Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India?

- A) Rabi Mishra B) N S Vishwanathan
C) Preet Sinha D) Usha Das

- ✓ Dr. Rabi N. Mishra has been appointed as the new Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India, after the

position fell vacant on Rosemary Sebastian's retirement.

- ✓ As Executive Director, Mishra's portfolio includes non-banking and Co-op bank supervision. Mishra has been serving RBI for about 30 years now.

9. Who clinched the 119th US Open Golf Championship?

- A) Brooks Koepka B) Tiger Woods
C) Gary Woodland D) Graeme McDowell

- ✓ Gary Woodland of the United States has clinched the 2019 US Open Golf Championship by three strokes at Pebble Beach Golf Links in California. It is his first major championship and sixth professional victory.

10. Mohamed Morsi, who passed away recently, was the former president of which country?

- A) Egypt B) Iran
C) Israel D) Turkey

- ✓ Mohamed Morsi (67), the former President of Egypt, has passed away in Cairo on June 17 after collapsing during his court trial that charged him of espionage and inciting violence. He was the first democratically elected President of Egypt.
-

1. Who has been elected as Speaker of 17th Lok Sabha?

- A) Ramcharan Bohara B) Rahul Kaswan
C) Om Birla D) Manoj Rajoria

- ✓ NDA nominee Om Birla from Kota has been unanimously elected as the Speaker of 17th Lok Sabha. All major political parties including Congress, DMK, TMC, BJD, YSR Congress, JD (U) and Shiv Sena supported the motion moved by Prime Minister and Leader of the House, Narendra Modi to choose Birla as the Speaker.
- ✓ Later, Pro-tem speaker Dr. Virendra Kumar declared Mr. Birla as the Speaker. Prime minister along with other leaders of different political parties escorted Om Birla to the Speaker's chair. An agriculturalist and social worker, Om Birla started his political journey as a student leader.
- ✓ Later, he elected as MLA for 3 consecutive terms for Rajasthan Assembly in 2003, 2008 & 2013. He won his 1st Lok Sabha election in 2014 and was again elected from Rajasthan's Kota Lok Sabha seat in 2019.

2. The first iron ore mine of Bangladesh has recently discovered in which of the following districts?

- A) Pabna B) Dinajpur
C) Dhaka D) Sirajganj

- ✓ For the first time in Bangladesh, iron ore mine has been discovered at Isabpur village in Dinajpur. According to the Geological Survey of Bangladesh, a 400 – foot thick iron layer was found 1750 ft beneath the surface stretched over an area of 6-10 square kilometre. The percentage of iron in the mine was 65 which indicate the high quality of the ore.
- ✓ In most other countries like Canada, China, Brazil Sweden and Australia the percentage is below 50. Other minerals such as gold, there were copper, nickel and chromium were also found at various levels of the mining.
- ✓ The discovery of the iron mine has opened up economic prospects for the country. Since the iron concentration in the magnetite ore is 65%, mining would be economically feasible.

3. Which of the following institutes has become the India's best institute in QS World University ranking 2020?

- A) IIT Bombay B) IIT Delhi
C) IISc Bangalore D) IIT Indore

- ✓ 23 Indian Institutions have been ranked among the best global universities in the latest 2020 QS World University ranking. In it, IIT Bombay has become India's best institute & secured 152nd rank globally.
- ✓ IIT Delhi and Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore have also been figured in the top 200. Other Indian universities included in the top 500 list are IIT-Madras (271), IIT-Kharagpur (281), IIT-Kanpur (291), IIT-Roorkee (383), University of Delhi (474) and IIT-Guwahati (491).
- ✓ World-class MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) has made a history by topping the QS World University Rankings for the 8th consecutive year. According to QS, no other university has managed such a long run at the top.
- ✓ Stanford University, Harvard University and California Institute of Technology (Caltech) – all retain their positions at second, third and fourth in the world, respectively.

4. Which Indian armed force is co – hosting 12th ReCAAP ISC capacity building workshop?

- A) Indian Navy B) Indian Army
C) Indian Coast Guard D) Indian Air Force

- ✓ Indian Coast Guard is co-hosting 12th international Capacity Building workshop in New Delhi to deepen knowledge on issues related to piracy and armed robbery on June 19-20, 2019.
- ✓ The two day workshop is being organized in cooperation with the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP). The ReCAAP is the first regional Govt to Govt agreement to deal with piracy and armed robbery at sea in Asia. Presently, 20 countries are members of the ReCAAP.

- ✓ A total of 31 International delegates from 19 countries are participating in the workshop.

5. Which state government has decided to launch the Chief Minister's Employment Generation Programme for MSMEs?

- A) Punjab B) Maharashtra
C) Rajasthan D) Madhya Pradesh

- ✓ The Maharashtra government has decided to launch the Chief Minister's Employment Generation Programme for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), which will create 10 lakh jobs in the next five years. The flagship programme of the Industries Department will have 30% reservation for women entrepreneurs.
- ✓ The scheme will be implemented on the lines of the P M's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP). This scheme is for promoting entrepreneurship and address unemployment issues.
- ✓ The nodal bank for the programme will be Corporation Bank and beneficiaries will be financed by nationalised and private Sector banks like Yes Bank, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank. To supplement this programme, 50 new industrial parks will be developed at taluka level by the government.

6. The researchers of which country has develop new type of cooling vest for sports athletes?

- A) Japan B) Indonesia
C) China D) India

- ✓ The researchers from Hiroshima University in Japan have developed a new type of cooling vest for sports athletes that may help them compete safely in sweltering summer conditions. The cooling vest is filled with ice packs and features a collar that can also cool the neck.
- ✓ The aim is to cool the athletes' upper-body skin which can decrease heart rate and temperature of their neck and skin. The 2020 Tokyo Olympics will be held in the hot and muggy Japanese summer where the ambient temperature is expected to be above 33° C.

- ✓ To help combat this, the researchers collaborated with a Japanese sportswear company Mizuno to test a new type of cooling vest.

7. Which state government has decided to launch a project "Chullah" for smokeless kitchens?

- A) Karnataka B) Uttar Pradesh
C) West Bengal D) Maharashtra

- ✓ The Maharashtra government has decided to launch a pilot project providing smoke-free environment in the kitchen for women.
- ✓ The project, named "Chullah (wood – fired stove) free and smoke free Maharashtra", will target the women who have not benefited under the Ujjwala or any other LPG distribution scheme. The pilot project will be implemented in Naxal affected areas as well as the districts where farmer suicide rate is high.

8. Which of the following is the India's most attractive employer brand, as per Randstad Employer Brand Research (REBR) 2019 report?

- A) Nestle B) Sony India
C) Microsoft India D) Amazon India

- ✓ According to the Randstad Employer Brand Research (REBR) 2019, E-commerce giant Amazon India is the most attractive employer brand in India followed by Microsoft India and Sony India.
- ✓ Others in the top 10 most-attractive employer brands in India for 2019 include Mercedes-Benz at 4th position, IBM (5th), Larsen & Toubro (6th), Nestle (7th), Infosys (8th), Samsung (9th) and Dell (10th).
- ✓ As per report, Amazon has scored high on financial health, utilisation of latest technologies and a strong reputation. The survey further noted that a vast majority (55%) of Indians prefer to work for a large multi-national corporation, while a negligible 9% preferred start-ups.
- ✓ The preference for Multi National Companies (MNCs) can be strongly attributed to job security, financial health and career progression opportunities, which these organisations offer to their employees.

- ✓ The survey also noted that the Indian workforce prefers to work for companies operating in sectors like IT, ITeS and telecom (67%), retail, FMCG and e-commerce (67%), followed by automotive (66%) and BFSI (65%).

9. Who is the head of the RBI committee to study current framework for MSMEs?

- A) Sharad Sharma B) Anup Bagchi
C) UK Sinha D) Bindu Ananth

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up an 8-member expert committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to suggest long-term solutions for the economic and financial sustainability of the MSMEs.
- ✓ This committee is set up under the leadership of former SEBI Chairman UK Sinha to review the current framework for the MSME Sector. The committee will examine the factors affecting the timely and adequate availability of finance to the MSME sector.
- ✓ It will review the existing MSME focused policies and their impact and will propose measures for leveraging technology in accelerating the growth of the sector apart from recommending the global best practices.

10. On which date, the 2019 edition of World Sustainable Gastronomy Day is observed recently?

- A) June 19 B) June 20
C) June 18 D) June 21

- ✓ The World Sustainable Gastronomy Day is observed every year on 18th of June to focus the world's attention on the role that sustainable gastronomy can play. It also reaffirms that all cultures and civilizations are contributors and crucial enablers of sustainable development.

1. Which Indian engineer has won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary – General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in London?

A) Anukriti Gusain1 B) Ritu Karidhal

C) Akshaya Jain D) Nitesh Jangir

- ✓ The Bangalore-based electronics engineer, Nitesh Kumar Jangir has won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary-General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in London, UK. He received his award in the 'People' category alongside 14 other innovators from across the 53 member countries of the Commonwealth.
- ✓ Jangir created Saans as a breathing support device to tackle avoidable deaths of premature babies from respiratory distress syndrome due to a lack of immediate access to complex medical equipment. His low cost neonatal breathing device has saved the lives of new born babies across small towns of India.
- ✓ Jangir is the co – founder of Coeo Labs, a medical device company with a vision to prevent preventable deaths in the field of emergency and critical care. Each of the 15 winners of the Commonwealth Innovation Awards receive a trophy, a certificate and 2,000 pounds in prize money.

2. India has recently extended \$15 million grant assistance to which country for organizing African Union Summit?

A) Tunisia B) Niger

C) Morocco D) Ghana

- ✓ India has extended US\$ 15 million grant assistance to Niger in support of organizing of the African Union (AU) summit scheduled from 7-8 July, 2019 in Niamey, the capital of Niger.
- ✓ The support of grant assistance was in response to a specific request made by Government of Niger. Niger is hosting the AU Summit for the first time. The AU Summit in Niamey is also expected to launch the historic African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- ✓ India is also establishing in Niamey, Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre (MGICC) under grant assistance. The MGICC honours the

memory of Mahatma Gandhi whose 150th birth anniversary is being observed in 2019.

- ✓ The Centre is likely to host some meetings associated with the forthcoming AU Summit. The grant assistance is also reiteration of India's firm commitment towards Africa.

3. Which Indian sports player has won gold in women's 1500m at Folsam Grand Prix 2019?

A) PU Chitra B) Dutee Chand

C) Jyotirmoyee Sikdar D) Soma Biswas

- ✓ India's PU Chitra has won gold in women's 1500m at Folsam Grand Prix 2019 held in Sollentuna, Sweden. Beside her, Asian Games gold medallist Jinson Johnson won the silver in the men's 1500m clocking 3:39.69s as he finished behind Sweden's Andreas Almgren (3:39.68s).

4. Where is the headquarters of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)?

A) Los Angeles B) Paris

C) New York D) Berlin

- ✓ Global internet body Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and Indian IT industry body Nasscom has collaborated to develop identifier technology that can be used for managing devices and infrastructure using internet.
- ✓ Under the collaboration, both the bodies will focus on updating Internet of Things (IoT) devices using Domain Name System (DNS) even in situation when the manufacturer or supplier has closed down the business.
- ✓ The ICANN is a nonprofit organization responsible for coordinating the maintenance and procedures of several databases related to the namespaces and numerical spaces of the Internet, ensuring the network's stable and secure operation. Its' headquarters is located at Los Angeles in California, United States.

5. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of World Refugee Day?

A) Step with Refugees

B) With courage let us all combine

C) Migrants and Refugees: Towards a Better World

D) We stand together with refugees

- ✓ The World Refugee Day is observed every year on 20th of June to celebrate the stories and contributions of refugees. The 2019 theme is “#Step with Refugees - Take a Step on World Refugee Day”.
- ✓ According to the latest annual study released by the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 70.8 million children, women and men were forcibly displaced at the end of last year. This is the highest number in the organization’s almost 70 year history.
- ✓ The study said wars, violence and persecution have driven record numbers of people from their homes worldwide. Almost two thirds of those uprooted from their homes are internally displaced people who have not left their homelands. About 80% of these refugees live in countries neighbouring their country of origin.
- ✓ On an average, one person is forcibly displaced every two seconds as a result of conflict or persecution and refugees are among the most vulnerable people in the world.

6. Guthi Bill, which is in news recently, is associated to which of the following India's neighbouring countries?

A) Bhutan

B) Nepal

C) Bangladesh

D) Pakistan

- ✓ In Nepal, thousands of people came onto roads in capital Kathmandu against controversial “Guthi Bill” on 19th June 2019.
- ✓ The local residents of Kathmandu valley, especially ethnic Newar community members are protesting against the controversial bill, claiming that the bill had provisions in favour of land mafias and could be

a threat to the centuries-old culture and traditions of Nepal.

- ✓ Guthis are socio-economic institutions (trusts), both public and private, that fund their obligations from incomes from cultivated or leased land assets. Depending on their obligations, Guthis fulfil religious, public service or social roles and could either involve members from a common lineage, or several.
- ✓ The Government of Nepal had tabled the Guthi Bill in National Assembly, the Upper House of Parliament in April to amend Guthi Act and nationalise both public and private Guthis or trusts and regulate all religious sites under a powerful commission.
- ✓ Though the Guthi Bill was withdrawn by the Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation but protesters are demanding that it should be completely scrapped.

7. Who has been appointed as India's representative in the council of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)?

A) Alok Shekhar

B) Shefali Juneja

C) Jitendra Singh

D) Nikil Kumar

- ✓ Shefali Juneja, a 1992 batch officer of Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax cadre), has been appointed to the post of Representative of India in the council of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in Montreal, Canada for a period of 3 years. She will replace senior IAS officer Alok Shekhar.

8. Who has become the most expensive bowler in ICC World Cup history?

A) Rashid Khan

B) Adil Rashid

C) Kagiso Rabada

D) Lasith Malinga

- ✓ The world's No.3 ODI bowler, Afghanistan leg-spinner Rashid Khan has become the most expensive bowler in ICC World Cup history during their match against hosts England at Old Trafford in Manchester on June 18.

- ✓ He leaked 110 runs off 9 overs as England racked up a gigantic 397 for six after electing to bat. The record earlier belonged to New Zealand's Martin Snedden, who had conceded 105 runs for two wickets against England in the 1983 World Cup.

- ✓ The center is a joint collaboration of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and the NGO Wildlife SOS.
-

9. Which of the following states has topped the USGBC list of India's top 10 states for LEED?

- A) Tamil Nadu B) Maharashtra
C) Karnataka D) Kerala

- ✓ Maharashtra bagged the top slot in the second edition of the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) list of India's top ten states that have maximum number of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified green buildings.
- ✓ LEED is a widely used green building rating system. Maharashtra has 334 LEED-certified green buildings, while Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have 232 and 157 buildings, respectively.
- ✓ The top 10 states for LEED are home to more than 840 million Indians and together include more than 475 million gross square feet of LEED-certified space.
- ✓ LEED is an international symbol of sustainability excellence which signifies a building is lowering carbon emissions, conserving resources and cutting down cost, while prioritizing sustainable practices and creating a healthier environment.

10. India's first water clinic for elephants has opened in which of the following cities?

- A) Mysuru B) Mathura
C) Bengaluru D) Raipur

- ✓ India has opened its first specialised hydrotherapy treatment center (water clinic) for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments on the banks of the Yamuna in Mathura.
- ✓ It is opened near the Wildlife SOS' Elephant Conservation and Care Centre (ECCC), which currently houses 20 rescued elephants.

1. On which date, the 2019 edition of World Sickle Cell Day is observed?

- A) June 19 B) June 18
C) June 20 D) June 21

- ✓ The World Sickle Cell Day is observed every year on 19th of June to raise public awareness about the sickle cell disease and its treatment methods.
- ✓ Sickle cell disease is an inherited form of anaemia in which red blood cells are not able to carry adequate oxygen throughout the body. Govt has organised several campaigns for the proper treatment and cure of those suffering from the disease.

2. DD India channel will be made available to which of the following neighbouring countries?

- A) Myanmar B) Bangladesh
C) Sri Lanka D) Bhutan

- ✓ In a bid to boost India's relations with its neighbours, the Union Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has signed agreements with Bangladesh and South Korea to make DD India available to viewers in the two countries respectively.
- ✓ Under this agreement, Bangladesh's BTV World and South Korea's KBS World will also be made available on DD Free Dish, which has nearly 35 million subscribers across the country.
- ✓ The move is in line with India's strategy to strengthen its relationships with neighbouring countries and other Asian nations and will help promote robust cultural exchange.

3. Which of the following states have recently get GI tag for Namma Kolhapuri chappal?

- A) Chhattisgarh & Maharashtra
B) Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh
C) Maharashtra & Karnataka
D) Karnataka & Gujarat

- ✓ Karnataka and Maharashtra have jointly got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Namma Kolhapuri chappal. These leather chappals are hand-

crafted and tanned using vegetable dyes. The art of making them is passed down one generation to another. LIDKAR has in-house fashion designers who will design the footwear.

- ✓ According to LIDKAR officials, there are 5,000 people from villages in Belagavi, Bagalkote and even Dharwad making Kolhapuri chappals at their houses. Their market is restricted to nearest towns.
- ✓ The GI tag approvals implies that the artisans producing Kolhapuris in these districts will now be able to make and market their product in domestic and international markets.
- ✓ This also means the artisans can tie up with leading e-commerce players for higher profits. More importantly, it also prohibit the usage of the term "Kolhapuris" for similar products made in other parts of the country.

4. Who is the author of book "Yoga and Diet for Weight Loss"?

- A) Bijoylaxmi Hota B) Baba Ramdev
C) Jaggi Vasudev D) Dinesh Singh

- ✓ The book titled "Yoga and Diet for Weight Loss" has been authored by noted integrated yoga therapist Bijoylaxmi Hota. The book seeks to break slimming and weight loss myths and prescribes certain postures of yoga, along with the diet one should take in order to achieve better and faster results.
- ✓ According to author, slimming is not just about what one eats, how much one eats, how much one exercises or what form of exercise one does but more importantly, how fast one's body utilises food. The key question is how efficient is one's metabolism.

5. India's first solar-powered cruise boat to be rolled out in which of the following states?

- A) Karnataka B) Kerala
C) Andhra Pradesh D) Bihar

- ✓ India's first solar-powered cruise boat to be rolled out in Alappuzha, Kerala in December 2019. Rs 3-crore cruise boat that can carry 100 passengers is under construction at a boatyard in Aroor.

- ✓ This is part of an initiative of the State Water Transport Department (SWTD), whose solar ferry Aditya in the Vaikom – Thavanakadavu route has proved to be a success.
- ✓ The hybrid vessel will be powered by a motor that can source energy from solar panels, battery, and generator. Its battery will have 80 KWh (kilowatt hour) power backup as compared to 50 KWh backup in Aditya.

6. Which operation has been launched by Indian Navy in Persian Gulf for Indian vessels security?

- A) Operation Parakram B) Operation Sankalp
C) Operation Trishul D) Operation Calm

- ✓ Indian Navy has recently launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area. The development has come in the wake of the suspected attacks on two merchant ships in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman region.
- ✓ Both the attacks took place at Strait of Hormuz, which is a major conduit for global oil supplies. The US has blamed Iran for the attack. The Navy has deployed stealth guided missile destroyers INS Chennai and patrol vessel INS Sunayna in the region for maritime security operations.
- ✓ In addition, aerial surveillance in the area is also being done by IN aircraft. The Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region of the Indian Navy is also keeping a close watch on the movement of ships in the Gulf region.

7. The scientists of which CSIR institute has developed a Cancer cell detection 'dots' from coal?

- A) NISTAD B) CCMB
C) NBRI D) NEIST

- ✓ A team of scientists from CSIR-NEIST Assam has developed a chemical process that turns 'dirty' coal into a biomedical 'dot' to help detect cancer cells.
- ✓ The team, led by Binoy Kumar Saikia and Tonkeswar Das, has applied for a patent for their chemical

method of producing Carbon Quantum Dots (CQDs) from cheap, abundant, low-quality and high-sulphur coals. CQDs are carbon-based nanomaterials whose size is less than 10 nm (or nanometer).

- ✓ The CQDs that the CSIR-NEIST team developed emit a bluish colour with high-stability, good-conductivity, low-toxicity, environmental friendliness, and good optical properties.
- ✓ The CSIR-NEIST technology can produce approximately 1 litre of CQDs per day at a low cost to become an import substitute. The acronym 'CSIR-NEIST' stands for "Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-North East Institute of Science and Technology".

8. Which of the following logistics companies has launched the National Freight Index (NFI)?

- A) StoreKing B) Rivigo
C) VRL Group D) Future Supply Chains

- ✓ The National Freight Index (NFI) has been launched by a technology-enabled logistics company Rivigo, which owns a fleet of over 3,000 trucks. The index aims to bring transparency and boost efficiency in the market.
- ✓ The NFI is the barometer of the road freight market in India and is based on Rivigo rate exchange, which gives a live spot rate on over 7 million lane and vehicle type combinations in the country. The move is aimed at bringing transparency to the road freight market place and transforming the logistics sector.
- ✓ The index is represented in two main forms: in terms of actual freight rates condensed to Rupees per tonne-km and in terms of relative movement with respect to a base month.

9. The first-ever Bangladesh International Theatre Festival has started in which of the following cities?

- A) Tangail B) Dhaka
C) Pabna D) Dinajpur

- ✓ On June 20, the first-ever International Theatre Festival of Bangladesh inaugurated at Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in Dhaka by the Bangladesh

State Minister for Cultural Affairs KM Khalid. The week-long festival will feature theatre and puppet shows by eight troupes from seven countries.

- ✓ Rabindranath Tagore's dance-drama 'Mayar Khela' was performed as the inaugural presentation of the festival on Thursday evening. The festival is being organised at the initiative of the Culture Affairs Ministry of Bangladesh.
- ✓ Theatre troupes from India, Bangladesh, Russia, China, France, Vietnam and Nepal are participating in the festival. The festival will also have a dance drama and a seminar on theatre. The Cultural Affairs Ministry has announced that this festival will be organized every other year.

10. The book "My Life, My Mission" is the autobiography of which of the following Indian personalities?

- A) Naseeruddin Shah B) Geeta Phogat
C) **Baba Ramdev** D) Salman Khan

- ✓ The book titled "My Life, My Mission" is the autobiography of Yoga guru Baba Ramdev and is co-authored with senior journalist Uday Mahurkar.
 - ✓ The book, which is expected to hit stands in August 2019, addresses the major controversies, turning points and achievements of Ramdev's life. It also highlights the journey of Ramdev's venture, Patanjali Group of Institutions, with a turnover of about Rs 12,000 crores.
-

1. Who is the India's Sherpa at the 14th G20 Summit in Osaka?

A) Pramod Kumar Misra **B) Suresh Prabhu**

C) Arun Goyal D) A.K. Dhasmana

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the 14th G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan on 28th and 29th of June 2019. Former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu will be India's Sherpa at the summit. More than 20 countries will be participating in the G20 Summit.
- ✓ Informal meeting of the BRICS leaders and bilateral meetings with other leaders would also take place on the sidelines of the summit. The theme of the summit is "Human – Centred Future Society". India has participated in all the G20 Summits held so far. It will host the G20 summit in 2022 for the first time.

2. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of International Yoga Day?

A) Yoga for Health

B) Yoga for Peace

C) Yoga for Climate Action

D) Yoga for Harmony and Peace

- ✓ The 5th edition of International Yoga Day (IYD) is celebrated across the country and abroad on 21st June with theme 'Yoga for Climate Action'. The aim of the IYD is to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga.
- ✓ Yoga is an ancient physical, mental and spiritual practice that originated in India. The word 'Yoga' derives from Sanskrit and means to join or to unite, symbolizing the union of body and consciousness.

3. Thanjavoor Ramamoorthy, who passed away recently, was the noted mridangam exponent of which state?

A) Tamil Nadu B) Kerala

C) Karnataka D) Andhra Pradesh

- ✓ Thanjavoor Ramamoorthy (90), former staff artist of All India Radio (AIR), has passed away in Trichy on June 22. He was the recipient of the Kalaimamani award of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

4. Who has been sworn-in as new Chief Justice of Telangana High Court?

A) V Ramasubramanian

B) A A Kureshi

C) Thottathil B Radhakrishnan

D) Raghvendra Singh Chauhan

- ✓ Justice Raghvendra Singh Chauhan has been sworn – in as new Chief Justice of Telangana High Court in Hyderabad. Governor ESL Narasimhan administered the oath of office to Justice Chauhan at Raj Bhavan. Justice Chauhan is the 2nd Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court.

5. Who clinched the 2019 men's Asian Snooker Championship?

A) Pankaj Advani

B) Aditya Mehta

C) Manan Chandra

D) Lucky Vatnani

- ✓ On 21st June, India's cueist Pankaj Advani clinched the 35th men's Asian Snooker Championship in Doha to complete a career grand slam in cue sports.
- ✓ In the final, he defeated Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon 6-3 to become the only one to win the Asian and World championships in all formats.
- ✓ He is also the only one to do so in two sports, both Billiards and Snooker. Pankaj will now take part in IBSF World Cup next week in Doha.

6. Pranati Nayak is associated to which sports?

A) Gymnastics

B) Wrestling

C) Boxing

D) Sprint

- ✓ In Gymnastics, India's Pranati Nayak from West Bengal clinched a bronze in vault event at the 8th Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Ulaanbatar, Mongolia on June 22.
- ✓ In the final, she scored a total of 13.384 points to claim the bronze medal. China's Yu Linmin and Japan's Ayaka Sakaguchi won the gold and silver medal at the event.

7. Gray seals are commonly found in which of the following oceans?

- A) Antarctica Ocean B) Atlantic Ocean
C) Arctic Ocean D) Pacific Ocean

- ✓ The researchers at the University of St Andrews in Scotland have found that gray seals can copy the sounds of human words and songs including "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little".
- ✓ The study showed that 3 trained seals were able to imitate parts of popular tunes. The study gave the researchers a better understanding of the evolution of vocal learning and human language development.
- ✓ It also suggested that gray seals could be a new model to study speech disorders since they use their vocal tracts the same way as humans. The grey seal is found on both shores of the North Atlantic Ocean.
- ✓ It is a large seal of the family 'Phocidae' which are commonly referred to as "true seals" or "earless seals". It is the only species classified in the genus 'Halichoerus'.

8. Which working group is head of the SEBI panel to review margins on derivatives?

- A) BSE B) NSE Clearing Ltd
C) NPCI D) FSDC

- ✓ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a working group, headed by NSE Clearing Ltd., to review the current framework of margins in the futures and options segment. The group will look into the issue and submit its recommendations to the Secondary Market Advisory Committee.
- ✓ This assumes significance as lower cost of trading was primarily the reason why institutional investors preferred to trade in Nifty contracts on SGX at Singapore rather than on the highly liquid derivatives segment of the National Stock Exchange.
- ✓ Incidentally, a recent study jointly conducted by Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANMI) and consultancy firm Ernst & Young (EY) highlighted the fact that trading in derivatives in

India costs much more when compared with most of the other leading markets due to a variety of margins that are imposed on the traders.

9. Which state government has decided to launch Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (SSBY)?

- A) Haryana B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Punjab D) Uttarakhand

- ✓ The Punjab government has decided to launch its flagship universal health insurance scheme – Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (SSBY) from July 2019. The scheme will provide an annual health cover of Rs 5 lakh per family.
- ✓ Around 43.18 lakh families in Punjab will be covered under it. Besides all government hospitals, 364 private hospitals in Punjab had been empanelled, where the beneficiaries would get the secondary and tertiary care.
- ✓ The beneficiaries included the 14.86 lakh families covered under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) in the state. The cost of the premium for the families covered under the PMJAY would be borne by the Centre and the state government in the 60:40 ratio while for the rest of the beneficiaries, it would borne by the state government.

10. Which Indian author has been appointed the new director of Nehru Centre in London?

- A) Kiran Desai B) Vikram Seth
C) Amitav Ghosh D) Amish Tripathi

- ✓ Author Amish Tripathi has been appointed the new director of Nehru Centre in London, which is under the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). He will replace diplomat Srinivas Gotru.
- ✓ Tripathi is the author of best-selling books such as the Secret of the Nagas and Sita – Warrior of Mithila.
- ✓ The Nehru Centre was founded in 1992 with Gopalkrishna Gandhi as its founder director. Playwright-actor Girish Karnad was among the prominent people to have helmed the centre.

1. Which state has topped the NITI Aayog's 2nd edition of Healthy States, Progressive India report?

- A) Kerala B) Andhra Pradesh
C) Maharashtra D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ The second edition of the "Healthy States, Progressive India" report has been released by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar. Kerala has topped among large states on overall health performance in NITI Aayog's Health Index followed by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- ✓ Though, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have emerged as the worst performing states. However, in terms of incremental performance Haryana, Rajasthan and Jharkhand are the top three states who performed well in comparison to the last health index.
- ✓ The report focuses on measuring and highlighting the overall performance and incremental improvement over a two – year period, 2016 – 17 and 2017 – 18 in the States and UTs.
- ✓ It takes a comprehensive look at health in terms of Health Outcomes, Governance and Processes and impact of policy interventions. The report has been prepared in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and with technical assistance from the World Bank.

2. Who will be the new Chief of the Indian Coast Guard?

- A) Rajiv Jain B) Arvind Kumar
C) Samant Kumar Goel D) Krishnaswamy Natarajan

- ✓ Krishnaswamy Natarajan has been appointed as the new Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). He will take over the charge after incumbent Rajendra Singh retires on 30th June 2019.
- ✓ An alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Natarajan is now serving as Additional Director General and Coast Guard Commander (West) at Mumbai.

3. Which country's junior women's boxing team adjudged best team in Black Forest Cup?

- A) Poland B) India
C) South Korea D) Ukraine

- ✓ In Boxing, Indian team has been adjudged the best team of the tournament in the Black Forest Cup in Villingen, Schwenningen, Germany.
- ✓ In the tournament, the Indian junior women pugilists clinched 7 medals, including 5 gold. Haryana's Neha (54 kg) and Karnataka's Anju Devi (50 kg) claimed the honours of best boxer and promising player of the tournament.
- ✓ Ten countries including India, Ukraine, Germany, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Hungary, Lithuania, Mongolia, Greece, and Poland took part in this tournament.

4. Which of the following countries will jointly bid to host 2034 Football World Cup?

- A) Myanmar & Philippines
B) Malaysia & Indonesia
C) Cambodia & Thailand

D) All of the above

- ✓ The South-East Asian countries will jointly bid to host the 2034 Football World Cup. For this, the meeting of ASEAN countries was held in Bangkok.
- ✓ Prime Minister of Thailand Prayuth Chan – ocha invited the people of ASEAN to support the football associations in their countries to host the tournament.
- ✓ The FIFA World Cup has held only once in the continent when Japan and South Korea were joint hosts in 2002. Qatar will bring it back to Asia in 2022.
- ✓ The ASEAN countries are Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Brunei. ASEAN region is home to more than 640 million people many of whom follow football avidly.

5. Where is the new headquarters of International Olympic Committee (IOC) located?

- A) Paris B) Lausanne
C) Berlin D) Rome

- ✓ On June 23, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has formally opened its new headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, exactly 125 years after the Olympic Games were revived. The new headquarters costs 145 million Swiss francs.
- ✓ The Olympic House has been built on the site of the former headquarters, and 95% of the old materials were reused and recycled. The signature feature is a central staircase linking together the five Olympic rings. Designed by architecture firm 3XN of Denmark, the energy – efficient building has won international awards for sustainability.
- ✓ Renewable energy is provided using solar panels on the roof & pumps taking water from Lake Geneva. It also brings around 500 IOC employees under oneroof.

6. Which country has been chosen to host the 2026 Olympic Winter Games?

- A) France B) Austria
C) Italy D) Poland

- ✓ Italy's Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo have been chosen to host the 2026 Winter Olympics and Paralympics during the 134th session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- ✓ Skating sports and ice hockey will be held in Milan, while most alpine skiing events will take place in the resort of Cortina. Other snow sports will be held in other venues in the Italian Alps, including Bormio and Livigno.
- ✓ The 2026 Winter Olympics will take place from 6 to 22 February and the 2026 Winter Paralympics will be held from 6 to 15 March.

7. Who of the following journalists has been bestowed with the 2019 RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year'?

- A) Prannoy Roy B) Siddharth Varadarajan
 C) Dinu Ranadive **D) Rachna Khaira**

- ✓ Rachna Khaira of The Tribune has bagged the prestigious RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year'

for her expose during 2018 on the functioning of the UIDAI and its Aadhaar data cache.

- ✓ The Mumbai Press Club, which has instituted the RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism, has bestowed the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award 2019 jointly to two retired senior journalists Dinu Ranadive (94), who retired as the chief reporter of Maharashtra Times, and photojournalist Sebastian D'Souza, who had served as photo editor of Mumbai Mirror.
- ✓ Ranadive started his career as the founder-editor of the "Samyukta Maharashtra Patrika" in the 1950s, which had a lasting impact in the movement for the unification of Maharashtra as a state based on language. He had also covered the Goa freedom struggle in 1961, the Bangladesh war in 1970-71 and broke stories on cement scandal of 1982.
- ✓ D'Souza had achieved acclaim for his photographs that captured the Lashkar-e-Taiba terror attack on Mumbai on November 26, 2008.

8. Which DRDO scientist has developed a herbal drug to treat leucoderma?

- A) Hemant Pandey** B) Vidhi Sethi
 C) Akhilesh Mishra D) Navjeet Singh Rawat

- ✓ Hemant Pandey, a senior DRDO scientist, has developed an herbal drug – Lukoskin – to treat leucoderma, a condition in which white patches develop on the skin.
- ✓ The auto-immune condition, also called 'vitiligo', can be life – altering. Vitiligo is neither contagious nor life – threatening. Worldwide, the incidence of leucoderma is 1 – 2% of the population.
- ✓ In India, its incidence is around 4-5% in some parts of Rajasthan. In Gujarat, it is very high at more than 5-8%. This skin disorder is considered a social stigma in India where people confuse it with leprosy.
- ✓ Recently, the Modi government also conferred Pandey with the prestigious 'Science Award' for developing 'Lukoskin' to treat the skin condition.

- ✓ Lukoskin is manufactured and marketed by Delhi-based AIMIL Pharma Ltd. It is available as an ointment and oral liquid.

9. Mohan Ranade, who passed away recently, was the veteran freedom fighter from which state?

- A) West Bengal B) Goa
C) Bihar D) Maharashtra

- ✓ Mohan Ranade (89), the veteran freedom fighter from Goa and Padmashri Mohan Ranade, has passed away in Pune on June 25, 2019. He received the Goa Puraskar in 1986 for social work. He authored books on the Goa liberation movement.

10. Which state government has launched flood hazard Atlas for effective management of flood?

- A) Tamil Nadu B) Kerala
C) Andhra Pradesh D) Odisha

- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched a unique flood hazard atlas on the basis of historic flood inundation captured through satellite imagery over the period from 2001 to 2018.
- ✓ The atlas will help the authorities to systematically plan flood control measures, to carry out relief operations, to plan relief shelters & health centres and to control development activities on flood plains.
- ✓ The atlas is prepared by Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) and National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Hyderabad.
- ✓ Around 14 lakh hectare of agriculture land is being affected by floods every year in Odisha.

1. RBI has launched CMS system to lodge complaint against which of the following entities?

A) Urban co-operative banks B) NBFCs

C) Commercial banks **D) All of the above**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a new "Complaint Management System (CMS)" website where anyone can complain against any of the entities regulated by RBI.
- ✓ Through this website, complaints can be lodged against RBI regulated entities with public interface such as commercial banks, urban co-operative banks, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).
- ✓ All complaints lodged on the CMS would be directed to the appropriate office of the ombudsman/regional office of the RBI. The application also improves transparency by keeping the complainants informed through auto-generated acknowledgements and enabling them to track the status of their complaints and file appeals online against the decisions of the ombudsmen, where applicable.

2. Who has been conferred Innovative Research Excellence Award 2019 at Asian Leadership Summit/

A) Mihir Chawla B) Pankaj Upadhyaya

C) Gaurav Nigam D) Anand Gupta

- ✓ A well – known educationist, paediatrician & the author, Dr Gaurav Nigam has been conferred 'Innovative Research Excellence Award 2019' at Asian Leadership Summit (ALS) in Thimphu, Bhutan. Dr. Nigam is the founder of iCare - an organization working in the area of new – age child health care; and Intelligentsia, a research – based play school.
- ✓ Intelligentsia is all about scientific research and delivering early education through STEM approach. He has also authored a book titled 'Devil inside My Mind'.

3. Which country has gifted Manipur a Museum of Peace built on the memories of Battle of Imphal?

A) Germany **B) Japan**

C) France D) Poland

- ✓ The Imphal Peace Museum has been gifted by Japan to Manipur to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Imphal, which was one of the fiercest battles of the Second World War.
- ✓ The museum was inaugurated at Maibam Lokpa Ching popularly known as Red Hill. Around 70,000 Japanese soldiers, alongside those of Subhash Chandra Bose's Indian National Army (INA), died in battles with the British-led Allied forces in areas around Imphal and Kohima from March to June 1944.
- ✓ The last of these battles was fought at Red Hill, where the Japanese War Memorial was built in 1944 to mark the 50th anniversary of the battle. The museum symbolizes the reconciliation between Japan & Britain and Japan & India.

4. Which of the following countries has become the first Arab country to get FATF membership?

A) Saudi Arabia

B) Morocco

C) Tunisia

D) Oman

- ✓ Saudi Arabia has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) following its Annual General Meeting at Orlando in Florida, USA.
- ✓ Since November 2004, Saudi Arabia has been a founding member of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) arm of the FATF group.
- ✓ Its full FATF membership comes after it was reported the Kingdom had made "tangible progress" for its efforts in implementing the FATF's guidelines.
- ✓ FATF is responsible for issuing international standards, policies & best practices to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris. As of June 2019, there are 39 Member countries of FATF and policies drafted by FATF are highly regarded and treated as law.

5. The world-class Central Air Traffic Flow Management (C-ATFM) has inaugurated in which of the following cities?

- A) Chennai B) Kochi
C) Bengaluru D) New Delhi

- ✓ Union Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the Central Command Centre for Air Traffic Flow Management (C-ATFM) at Vasant Kunj, New Delhi.
- ✓ The C-ATFM system is primarily meant to address the balancing of capacity against the demand to achieve optimum utilization of the major resources viz., airport, airspace and aircraft at every Indian airport where there is a capacity constraint.
- ✓ It integrates flight data from various subsystems like ATC Automation System, flight updates and flight update messages. The system also displays weather information along with static information about airports, airspaces and air routes.
- ✓ The system processes the demand and capacity information and provides decision-making tools to the ATFM Flow Manager for collaborative decision making and to ensure regulated flow of traffic at each airport in India.
- ✓ After successfully implementing the AFTM, India has become the 7th country after the US, Europe, Australia, South Africa, Japan, Brazil.

6. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has marked the 20th anniversary of Kargil War at which air base?

- A) Agra B) Bikaner
C) Gwalior D) Jhansi

- ✓ To commemorate 20 years of Kargil War, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has turned the Gwalior air base virtually into a conflict theatre with dramatic reenactment of some of the milestones of the operation in 1999.
- ✓ In a symbolic 'recreation' of the Tiger Hill attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Drass-Kargil area, the air force used the Mirage 2000 aircraft and explosives

were blown up on a 'model hill' to recreate the crucial events of the war. The chief guest for the event is Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa.

- ✓ The objective of these celebrations is to evoke feeling of patriotism through nationwide campaigns especially amongst youth and to pay homage to the valiant soldiers.

7. Madan Lal Saini, who passed away recently, was the Rajya Sabha MP from which state?

- A) Uttar Pradesh B) Rajasthan
C) Chhattisgarh D) Punjab

- ✓ Madan Lal Saini (75), a Member of Parliament (MP) of Rajya Sabha for Rajasthan, has passed away in Jaipur on June 24. Hailed from Sikar district, he was serving as President of Rajasthan State BJP until his death.

8. The 32nd Congress of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) has started in which of the following cities?

- A) New Delhi B) Dehradun
C) Hyderabad D) Udaipur

- ✓ On June 26, the 32nd Congress of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) has kick-started in Hyderabad, Telangana. The Seed Congress is being held for the first time in South Asia.
- ✓ Over 600 delegates including seed experts, officials, policy makers and representatives of national and international companies from nearly 70 countries like the UK, South Africa, Argentina, New Zealand, Canada, Austria are taking part in the Congress.
- ✓ The deliberations will be mainly focusing on various technologies for increasing quality seed production and seed export-import policies. Several workshops, conferences and exhibitions are also being held as part of the 8-day long Congress.

9. Which state government has recently gave nod to implementation of 10% EWS quota?

- A) Madhya Pradesh B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Karnataka D) Uttarakhand

✓ Presently, only Germany, the Netherlands, Russia and Belgium have model testing facilities for ships.

- ✓ The Congress government in Madhya Pradesh has recently approved a proposal to provide 10% reservation for the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) of the general category in jobs and education.
- ✓ The family should not own more than 5 acres of agricultural land or a house measuring more than 1,200 square feet in municipal corporation limits.
- ✓ The size limit for the house would be 1,500 square feet in municipality areas and 1,800 square feet in Nagar Panchayat areas. In rural areas, size of the house won't matter.
- ✓ The state cabinet also approved a proposal to enter into a tripartite agreement with the Union government and MP Metro Rail Company for metro rail projects in Bhopal and Indore.

10. The first-ever Centre for Inland & Coastal Maritime Technology (CICMT) will come up in which of the following IITs?

- A) IIT Delhi B) IIT Bombay
C) IIT Kharagpur D) IIT Kanpur

- ✓ Under the flagship Sagarmala Programme, the Union Ministry of Shipping has recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement with IIT Kharagpur for setting up the Centre for Inland and Coastal Maritime Technology (CICMT) at IIT Kharagpur.
- ✓ The first of its kind Centre will focus on ship design for coastal / inland waterways, ship building tech and structural design, transport systems & logistics, cryogenic cargo handling, renewable energy harvesting from coastal and inland waters.
- ✓ It will provide technological support, research, testing and experimentation facility to agencies involved in inland water transport, shipbuilding, ports. etc.

1. Which Indian sportsperson has been bestowed an honorary doctorate by IIT Kanpur?

- A) Milkha Singh B) Prakash Padukone
C) Pullela Gopichand D) Sachin Tendulkar

- ✓ India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand has been bestowed an honorary doctorate by IIT Kanpur on the occasion of their 52nd convocation on June 28. He received the honour from former ISRO chairman and Chairman of the board of Governors of IIT Kanpur, Prof K Radhakrishnan.
- ✓ The past recipients of the honour are Former President Prof. APJ Abdul Kalam and former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. Gopichand, as a player, won the 2001 All England Open Badminton Championship. He became the second Indian after Prakash Padukone to achieve this feat.
- ✓ Post retirement, the Hyderabad-based shuttler started his own badminton academy --- Gopichand Badminton Academy --- in 2008. Many top Indian players including the likes of Saina Nehwal, PV Sindhu, Srikanth Kidambi, Parupalli Kashyap etc. have been trained at Pullela Gopichand's academy in Hyderabad.

2. Who is the head of the working group to revise current series of Wholesale Price Index?

- A) Ramesh Chand B) Vinod Paul
C) Amitabh Kant D) Rajiv Kumar

- ✓ The Union Government has constituted an 18 member working group for the revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) under Chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member of NITI Aayog.
- ✓ The revision of the base year would help in presenting a more realistic picture of the price situation and its impact on people. The Office of Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade will be the nodal office for the Working Group and will process the report and recommendation of the Group for further necessary action.
- ✓ The current series of WPI with 2011-12 as the base year was introduced in May 2017. Since 2011-12, significant structural changes have taken place in

the economy. Therefore, it has become necessary to examine the related issues pertaining to the existing series of index numbers of Wholesale Price Index.

3. Which state government has decided to set up Vedic education board?

- A) Himachal Pradesh B) Uttar Pradesh
C) Rajasthan D) Jharkhand

- ✓ The Rajasthan government has decided to set up Vedic education board and culture board in the state.
- ✓ It was announced by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot at the 25th 'Bhamashah Sammelan' at Birla Auditorium in Jaipur. The board will help future generations take inspiration from Vedic culture.

4. Vijaya Nirmala, who passed away recently, was the veteran personality of which field?

- A) Poetry B) Film Industry
C) Photography D) Journalism

- ✓ Vijaya Nirmala (75), the veteran actress and filmmaker has passed away in Hyderabad on June 27, 2019. Born on 20th February 1946, Nirmala made her acting debut in 1950 as a child artiste in the Tamil movie 'Machcha Rekhai'.
- ✓ She holds a record in the Guinness Book of World Records for being the first woman to direct as many as 47 films in different languages. She was also feted with the Raghupathi Venkaiah Award in 2008 for her contributions to Telugu cinema. She featured in over 200 films in Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam.

5. The 2019 Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festival was held in which of the following states?

- A) Sikkim B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Uttarakhand D) J&K

- ✓ In Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festival celebrated on the bank of Indus River at Leh. The festival presents the Indus River as a symbol of the multi-dimensional cultural identity of India that got its name from the Indus River.

- ✓ Folk songs and dances are performed and local handicrafts and ethnic foods are being exhibited before the tourists during the festival.

6. Who is the current chief of the Research & Analysis Wing?

- A) Sanjeev Tripathi **B) Samant Kumar Goel**
C) AS Dulat D) Vikram Sood

- ✓ Samant Kumar Goel, a 1984 batch IPS officer from Punjab cadre, has been appointed as the new of the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW).
- ✓ He succeeded Anil Dhasmana. He is said to have been involved in the planning of the Balakot air strike and played an important role in checking militancy in Punjab. Mr. Goel, a recipient of the Police Medals for Gallantry and Meritorious Service, joined the RAW in 2001.
- ✓ The Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) is the foreign intelligence agency of India. It was established in 1968 following the intelligence failures of the Sino-Indian War, which persuaded the Government of India (GoI) to create a specialised, independent agency dedicated to foreign intelligence gathering.
- ✓ The head of RAW is designated Secretary (R) in the Cabinet Secretariat, and is under the direct command of the Prime Minister, and reports on an administrative basis to the Cabinet Secretary of India, who reports to the Prime Minister. It is headquartered in New Delhi.

7. Who is the new President of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)?

- A) Yatindra Maralkar B) Sharda Sharma
C) Sharad Kumar Saraf D) Ganesh Kumar

- ✓ Sharad Kumar Saraf has been appointed as the new President of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO). He succeeded renowned exporter Ganesh Kumar Gupta.
- ✓ Saraf is the chairman and founder of Technocraft Industries (India) Ltd. The FIEO is a trade promotion organisation in India, which is responsible for

representing and assisting Indian entrepreneurs and exporters in foreign markets.

8. India has signed \$400 million loan agreement with which international organisation to eliminate TB?

- A) World Bank** B) ADB
C) AIIB D) New Development Bank

- ✓ India has signed a loan agreement worth \$400 million with the World Bank (WB) to help treat and eliminate Tuberculosis from the country.
- ✓ In India, around five lakh people died every year due to Tuberculosis. According to Finance Ministry, the World Bank supported program will cover 9 States and it will support the government's National Strategic Plan to end TB in India by 2025.
- ✓ The Program will provide financial incentives to private sector care providers for reporting cases of TB and ensuring that their patients complete the treatment regimen. It will also provide Direct Benefit Transfers to patients for acquiring the critical nutrition needed during treatment.

9. Go Tribal Campaign is associated to which of the following issues?

- A) To promote women empowerment
B) To promote use of tribal handicrafts
C) To promote child education
D) All of the above

- ✓ On July 28, the Union government has launched the Go Tribal Campaign in New Delhi to promote the use of tribal handicrafts and natural products.
- ✓ TRIFED has organized this event to institutionalize collaborations and partnerships with different organizations to promote tribal products. During the event, Tribes India and Amazon Global Marketing (AGM) have launched TRIBES India products globally through Amazon platform.
- ✓ With this collaboration, tribal products will be available in the US and will help establish an export market with tribal products.

- ✓ The collection of Madua, Jowar, Bazra, Red Rice, Honey, Lac products, Spices, Coffee, Tea and Handmade Soaps produced by Tribals in various parts of the country will also be showcased.

10. What is the theme of the 2019 edition of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking?

A) Value yourself

B) Lets Develop

C) Health for Justice, Justice for Health

D) Listen First

- ✓ The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed every year on 26th June to raise awareness about the major problem that illicit drugs represent to society.
 - ✓ The 2019 theme - Health for Justice, Justice for Health - highlights that justice and health are two sides of the same coin when it comes to addressing drug problems.
- _____