

AUGUST...
.....2019

winmeen.com

THIRD WEEK

CURRENT AFFAIRS

16 AUGUST - 21 AUGUST



www.winmeen.com

1. The researchers at which IIT have developed bone substitutes from eggshells?

A) IIT Madras

B) IIT Delhi

C) IIT Bombay

D) IIT Hyderabad ☒

- ✓ The researchers at IIT Hyderabad and BR Ambedkar National Institute of Technology (NIT) of Jalandhar have developed a process by which bone implant materials can be synthesized from waste egg shells.
- ✓ They seek to produce bone substitute materials such as – Tri-Calcium phosphate (TCP) without the use of toxic chemicals. The natural source of choice of the IIT Hyderabad researchers is egg shells. Eggshells are made up largely of calcium (95.1%) along with small amounts of proteins and water.
- ✓ In modern medicine, damaged and missing bones are replaced with bone from either patient or donor, or by using artificial materials containing calcium, such as Plaster of Paris, and phosphate compounds like hydroxyapatite and calcium phosphate. TCP is a commonly used bone substitute material from natural sources.

2. The researchers at which IIT have developed industrial and field robot 'GraspMan'?

A) IIT Madras ☒

B) IIT Delhi

C) IIT Bombay

D) IIT Hyderabad

- ✓ The researchers from IIT Madras have developed a multi-modal robot 'GraspMan' with good grasping, manipulation and locomotion abilities for use in industrial and field applications.
- ✓ The GraspMan is consists of a pair of graspers, which provide morphological adaptation. It will enable to conform to the geometry of the object being grasped.
- ✓ This allows the grasper to hold objects securely and manipulate it much like the human hand. The motivation behind this research is to realize a robot with a minimalistic design that can overcome the need for task-specific robots that are capable of navigating and manipulating across different environments without increasing the system complexity.

3. Who has become the first Indian to win gold at the World Junior Wrestling Championships after 18 years?

A) Akash Antil

B) Parveen Malik

C) Vijay Patil

D) Deepak Punia ☒

- ✓ Wrestler Deepak Punia has won gold in men's 86 Kg freestyle bout at the World Junior Wrestling Championships after beating Russia's Alik Shebzukhov in the final at Tallinn, Estonia.
- ✓ With this, Punia has become the first Indian to win gold at the junior World Championship after 18 years. Earlier, Ramesh Gulia (69 Kg) and Palwinder Singh Cheema (130 Kg) had won international gold medals at the junior circuit in 2001.

4. Which state has got award at the World Education Summit – 2019?

A) Rajasthan ☒

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Maharashtra

D) Madhya Pradesh

- ✓ Rajasthan has bagged the "Best Innovation & Initiative Leadership Award" for its achievements in higher education in the 14th World Education Summit.
- ✓ The award was received by the Minister of State for Higher Education Bhanwar Singh Bhati at the 14th summit in New Delhi. The representatives of 8 countries and 17 States of India participated in the 2 day summit.

5. VB Chandrasekhar, who passed away recently, was associated to which sports?

A) Basketball

B) Cricket ☒

C) Football

D) Hockey

- ✓ V.B. Chandrasekhar (57), the former India and Tamil Nadu cricketer, has passed away in Chennai on 15th August 2019. Fondly referred to as VB, he represented India in 7 ODIs, with an innings of 53 being his highest score.
- ✓ In 81 First Class matches, Chandrasekhar notched up 4999 runs at 43.09 with 10 centuries. After his eventful cricketing career, where he was a part of the last Tamil Nadu team to triumph in the Ranji Trophy in 1988.

- ✓ Later, he led the state side and then briefly played for Goa — VB focussed on coaching and commentary. Notably, he was the cricket manager of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in the franchise's first 3 years and was instrumental in getting the iconic M.S. Dhoni to CSK.

6. Which former Indian athlete has been appointed as a member of the Athletes Commission of the Asian Athletics Association (AAA)?

- A) Anju Bobby George
- B) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore
- C) Karnam Malleswari
- D) PT Usha ☒

- ✓ Legendary Indian athlete and Olympian P.T. Usha has been appointed as a member of the Athletes Commission of the Asian Athletics Association (AAA). Usha will be one of the six members of the AAA Athletes Commission.
- ✓ The commission will be headed by 1992 Olympics gold medallist hammer thrower Andrey Abduvaliyev of Uzbekistan. Usha is known for her stellar performance at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, where she missed the bronze in the 400m hurdles finals by 1/100 second.
- ✓ The 'Paygoli Express' was awarded with the prestigious Arjuna Award in 1983. Recently, Usha is nominated for the prestigious International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) Veteran Pin Award.

7. Which state government has launched a programme for student entrepreneurs "E-Step"?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Punjab
- C) Karnataka ☒
- D) Kerala

- ✓ The Karnataka government has launched an initiative E-Step to empower student start-ups. The focus of E-Step is on boot camps, mentoring & training programs which cover various aspects of entrepreneurship.
- ✓ The programme is part of Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS). It is specially crafted for students / start-ups / entrepreneurs to understand the basics of entrepreneurship from experienced trainers.

- ✓ The first phase of E-Step will be to organize day long boot camps across all New Age Incubation Networks (NAIN) across the state. The boot camp gives participants an overview of the current start-up system.

8. India's first private Space Science Museum has opened in which city?

- A) Hyderabad ☒
- B) Ujjain
- C) Dehradun
- D) Lucknow

- ✓ India's first private Space Science Museum has opened in Hyderabad to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Birla Archaeological and Cultural Research Institute (BACRI).
- ✓ It is a collaborative effort between the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the B M Birla Science Centre. The ISRO on its part is providing some 65 models of various spacecrafts, satellites and rockets of varying sizes.
- ✓ This museum exhibits scale models of Indian Launch vehicles GSLV Mk-III, GSLV Mk-II & PSLV, Chandrayan I, Mars Orbiter spacecraft, APPLE, Aryabhata, Bhaskara, Rohini RS-1 and a model of the International Space Station (ISS).

9. Advait Bhartia, who recently climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, is from which city?

- A) Delhi
- B) Pune ☒
- C) Chandigarh
- D) Bhubaneswar

- ✓ Advait Bhartia, a 9 year old boy from Pune, has recently climbed the highest peak in Africa – Mount Kilimanjaro – in a span of just 7 days. Advait is fondly called 'Simbum ToTo' (Little Simba).
- ✓ He reached the top of mountain on 31st July 2019 under the supervision of his expedition leader Samir Patham. The trek was organized by Pune based adventure and trekking company Adventure Pulse.
- ✓ Mt.Kilimanjaro in Tanzania is about 4,900m from its base and 5,895m above sea level. The mountain has been the subject of many scientific studies because of its shrinking glaciers and disappearing ice fields.

10. Who is the author of the book "Kashmir's Untold Story: Declassified"?

- A) Parvez Sharma B) Iqbal Chand Malhotra ☒
C) Jabbar Patel D) Aleksa Muhammed Fazil

- ✓ The book "Kashmir's Untold Story: Declassified" has been authored by filmmaker Iqbal Chand Malhotra and defence analyst Maroof Raza. It will tell the riveting story of the history of Jammu and Kashmir (J & K), from the time of its political and geographic consolidation under Maharaja Gulab Singh to the present day.
 - ✓ It will also shed light on why the special status was integral to the accession treaty. The book would reveal amazing insights into the Government of India's policy towards the state, right from 1889, when it first imposed central rule and dispossessed the rule of the then Maharaja, till date.
 - ✓ It will also provide answers to some of the most asked questions on the situation in the Valley, like "Why has this state of siege in the Kashmir valley continued for 72 years since the Partition of India?", "What role has Pakistan played in it all these years?", or the question of the hour, "Will there ever be a resolution to the militancy in the state?". Now, the former state has been bifurcated into two union territories – J & K and Ladakh.
-

1. The National Tribal Festival "Aadi Mahotsav" has started in which region?
- A) Shimla B) Udaipur
C) Ladakh ☒ D) Delhi
- ✓ The 9-day National Tribal Festival "Aadi Mahotsav" is a joint initiative of Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs & Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED).
- ✓ On 17th August 2019, the fest is started at Polo Ground in Leh-Ladakh with theme "A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce". The event will see around 160 Tribal artisans from more than 20 states across the country, actively participating and showcasing their masterpieces.
- ✓ The Mahotsav will showcase traditional art and handicrafts and cultural heritage of the country. The product range will consists of Tribal Textiles from Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Odisha, West Bengal; Tribal Jewellery from Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and North East; Tribal Paintings like Gond art from Madhya Pradesh, Warli art from Maharashtra; Metal craft from Chhattisgarh; Black pottery from Manipur, and Naturals and Organic products from Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka.
2. Rizia Rahman, who passed away recently, was the renowned novelist of which country?
- A) Indonesia B) Myanmar
C) Iran D) Bangladesh ☒
- ✓ Rizia Rahman (79), the renowned Bangladeshi novelist and the 'Ekushey Padak' winning author, has passed away in Dhaka on August 17. Some of her wellknown novels are as follows: Bong Theke Bangla, Rokter Okshor and Ghar-Bhanga-Ghar.
3. Which state government has decided to set up Atal Bihari Vajpayee residential schools for children of labourers?
- A) Jharkhand B) Uttar Pradesh ☒
C) Karnataka D) Haryana
- ✓ In Uttar Pradesh, the state government has decided to set up Atal Bihari Vajpayee residential schools for children of labourers in all 18 divisions of state.
- ✓ Beside this, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced many projects in state in remembrance of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee including a memorial in Bateshwar, the former prime minister's native village in Agra.
- ✓ A 'Centre of Excellence' will also establish in DAV College in Kanpur where Atal ji had his education. The state government also announced that the work to set up a medical university in Lucknow is underway and a satellite centre of KGMU is being set up in Balrampur, from where Vajpayee had contested elections in 1957.
4. Which state government has rolled out the Grama and Ward Volunteer system?
- A) Andhra Pradesh ☒ B) Chhattisgarh
C) Rajasthan D) Maharashtra
- ✓ On 73rd Independence Day, Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the Grama and Ward Volunteer system for effective delivery of schemes.
- ✓ The basic idea behind implementing the scheme is to ensure corruption free governance and last mile delivery of welfare schemes and services to every household and citizen in the State.
- ✓ The scheme will involve over 2.8 lakh volunteers. Under the scheme, one volunteer will cover 50 families in each village. Identity cards will be given to each volunteer and they would get an honorarium of Rs 5,000 per month. A tollfree telephone number – 1902 – would be set up at the call centre in the Chief Minister Office to receive the grievances of the people.
5. Who has been awarded Tamil Nadu government's Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award?
- A) Kailasavadivoo Sivan ☒ B) Ritu Karidhal
C) Mylswamy Annadurai D) A.S Kiran Kumar
- ✓ On the occasion of the 73rd Independence Day 2019, ISRO Chairman Dr. Kailasavadivoo Sivan has been honoured

with the Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam award by the Tamil Nadu government.

- ✓ However, Dr. Sivan could not receive the award at the Independence Day celebrations at Fort St. George but he is expected to collect the award from the Chief Minister at a later date.
- ✓ He won the award in recognition of his stellar work in promotion of science and technology. The Kalam award is to honour those who work for promoting scientific growth, humanities and students' welfare and the awardees should hail from Tamil Nadu. The award carries 8 gm gold medal, Rs. 5 lakh in cash and a citation.

6. Madan Mani Dixit, the veteran Litterateur & Journalist has passed away. He was from which country?

- A) South Africa B) India
- C) Sri Lanka D) Nepal ☒

- ✓ Madan Mani Dixit (96), a pioneering writer and Journalist, has passed away in Kathmandu on 15th August 2019. He was fondly known as 'maadsaap' by his contemporaries and friends.
- ✓ Some of his famous works include Meri Nilima, Bhumisukt, Rig Veda and the short story, Kasle jityo kasle haryo?. He was awarded the prestigious Madan Puraskar of Nepal for his literary masterpiece "Madhavi". Dixit is also acknowledged as the first Photo Journalist of Nepal.

7. Jyske Bank, which has launched world's first negative interest rate mortgage, is associated to which country?

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

- ✓ Denmark's third largest, Jyske Bank has launched the world's first negative interest rate mortgage and started to offer a 10-year mortgage deals at a negative interest rate of 0.5% a year.

- ✓ Under its negative mortgage, borrowers will pay the usual EMI but the outstanding amount will be slashed each month by more than the borrower has paid.
- ✓ The unconventional decision is the latest in a series of moves central and commercial banks in advanced economies have undertaken to revive demand and boost consumption.

8. India's first National Essential Diagnostics List (NEDL) has finalized by which organisation?

- A) ICMR ☒ B) AIIMS
- B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D) Tata Memorial Hospital

- ✓ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recently finalized the India's first National Essential Diagnostics List (NEDL) that recommends that at least 159 tests should be made available for patients in even basic government health facilities.
- ✓ The list aims to bridge the current regulatory system's gap that do not cover all the medical devices and In-Vitro Diagnostic device (IVD). The current system is equipped to manage only the few notified devices.
- ✓ With this, India has become the first country to compile such a list that would provide guidance to the government for deciding the kind of diagnostic tests that different healthcare facilities in villages and remote areas require.
- ✓ The list is meant for facilities from village till the district level. The list also encompasses tests relevant for new programmes such as Health and Wellness Centres under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- ✓ In India, diagnostics (medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics) follow a regulatory framework based on the drug regulations under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945. Diagnostics are regulated under the regulatory provisions of the Medical Device Rules, 2017.

9. SUPRA Scheme, which is in news recently, is associated to which field?

A) Women Empowerment

B) Science & Technology ☒

C) Child Education

D) Digital Banking

- ✓ The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has proposed a new scheme called Supra with the sole objective of funding exploration of new scientific and engineering breakthroughs with global impact.
- ✓ The initiative is part of the Prime Minister Modi's 100-day transformative ideas. The SUPRA (or Scientific and Useful Profound Research Advancement) scheme is designed to attract high quality research proposals consisting of new hypotheses or challenge existing ones and provide 'out-of-box' solutions.
- ✓ The SERB is a statutory body under the Department of Science and Technology to promote and fund research in different scientific disciplines.

10. Which union ministry has launched the 5th edition of Swachh Survekshan 2020 (SS 2020)?

A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

B) Ministry of Rural Development

C) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒

D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

- ✓ In New Delhi, the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the 5th edition of the annual cleanliness survey – Swachh Survekshan 2020 (SS 2020) with theme "Cleanliness is Our Right".
- ✓ The survey will be conducted in January 2020. On this occasion, the MoHUA also launched Swachh Nagar app for waste collection.
- ✓ The Ministry also launched the Water PLUS Protocol which aims to provide a guideline for cities and towns to ensure that no untreated waste-water is released into the environment thereby enabling sustainability of the sanitation value chain.

- ✓ A city could be given the tag of Water+ if it ensures 100% treatment of wastewater and 10% use of treated waste-water, among other things.

1. India's first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology (CICET) is proposed to set up in which state?
- A) Maharashtra B) Gujarat ☒
- C) Karnataka D) Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ Union Minister of State for Chemical and Fertilizers, Mansukh Mandaviya has recently announced that the India's first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology (CICET) will be set up in Gujarat to give boost to the chemical industry. The CICET will come up either at Ahmedabad or Surat. The proposed institute will help the chemical industry with research and innovations.
2. Damodar Ganesh Bapat, who passed away, was the noted personality of which field?
- A) Painting B) Social Work ☒
- C) Photography D) Journalism
- ✓ Damodar Ganesh Bapat (84), the noted social worker and Padma Shri awardee, has passed away in Bilaspur district, Chhattisgarh on August 17.
- ✓ He dedicated his life to the treatment and service of leprosy patients at an ashram run by Bharatiya Kushta Nivarak Sangh (BKNS) in Sothi village in Janjgir – Champa district of the state for the last 4½ decades. He played an instrumental role in making people aware about leprosy in tribal areas of the state.
3. Which country's team has won the 2019 T20 Physical Disability Cricket World Series?
- A) India ☒ B) England
- C) New Zealand D) Pakistan
- ✓ Indian cricket team has won the T20 Physical Disability World Cricket Series in England. In the final, India defeated England by 36 runs at the Blackfinch New Road ground in Worcester.
- ✓ The Indian team called itself Wadekar Warriors, in memory of former India captain Ajit Wadekar, who played an active role in All India Cricket Association for Physically Challenged (AICAPC).
- ✓ The AICAPC organised the selection and preparation for the event. The 6 nation tournament was organised by England and Wales Cricket Board.
4. The Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF) is associated to which international organisation?
- A) United Nations ☒ B) World Bank
- C) AIIB D) ADB
- ✓ India has recently contributed \$1 million to the UN Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF) for the Resident Coordinator System. The SPTF is a specific fund housed within the UN Secretariat.
- ✓ The fund has been established to receive, consolidate, manage and account for all contributions and financial transactions of the new Resident Coordinator system in a transparent and effective way. On real time basis, the SPTF webportal reflects all commitments, contributions and expenditures recorded for the fund.
5. On which date, the 2019 World Photography Day was observed recently?
- A) August 18 B) August 19 ☒
- C) August 17 D) August 16
- ✓ The World Photography Day is observed every year on August 19 to encourage photographers across the planet to share a single photo with the world with an aim – to share their world with the world.
- ✓ The date of August 19 was chosen to commemorate the invention of the Daguerreotype, a photographic process developed by Frenchmen Louis Daguerre and Joseph Nicéphore Niepce in 1837.
- ✓ On 9th of January 1839, the French Academy of Sciences announced the Daguerreotype process. On August 19 that same year, the French government purchased the patent and announced the invention as a free gift to the world. This event was an important step in the development of modern-day photography.

6. What is the campaign of 2019 World Humanitarian Day?

A) #NotATarget

B) #PeopleHelpingPeople

C) #WomenHumanitarians ☒

D) #WorldNeedsMore

- ✓ The World Humanitarian Day is held every year on August 19 to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to rally support for people affected by crises around the world.
- ✓ The day recognizes humanitarian personnel and those who have lost their lives working for humanitarian causes. The 2019 World Humanitarian Day campaign – #WomenHumanitarians – honour the work of women in crises throughout the world.
- ✓ The day was designated by the UN General Assembly to commemorate the 19th of August 2003 bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq

7. The famous Hazratganj Chauraha, which has been renamed as Atal Chowk, is located in which district of Uttar Pradesh?

A) Agra

B) Allahabad

C) Meerut

D) Lucknow ☒

- ✓ The famous 'Hazratganj Chauraha' of Lucknow has been renamed as 'Atal Chowk' in memory of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The announcement came on the first death anniversary former PM.
- ✓ Hazratganj is a major Victorian style shopping area situated in the heart of the city. It houses showrooms, shopping complexes, restaurants, hotels, theatres, offices and businesses. Hazratganj shops sell the famous Lucknow Chikan material.
- ✓ Naza Market, part of Hazratganj, is the biggest market for computer / IT goods in the state and 2nd largest in India after Delhi's Nehru Place. Naza Market is also the biggest piracy market in whole Asia.

8. Where is the headquarters of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW)?

A) New Delhi ☒

B) Ujjain

C) Dehradun

D) Lucknow

- ✓ Harshad Pandurang Thakur, Professor at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), has been appointed as the new Director of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi for a period of 5 years.
- ✓ The NIHFW is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and is headquartered in New Delhi. It acts as an apex technical institute as well as a think tank for the promotion of health and family welfare programmes in the country.

9. Which renowned scientist has bagged the prestigious J C Bose Fellowship?

A) K Thangaraj ☒

B) Annie Zaidi

C) Raghunath Anant

D) Shiraz Minwalla

- ✓ Dr. K Thangaraj, Chief Scientist at the city based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) has bagged the prestigious J C Bose Fellowship for his outstanding scientific contributions in the field of population and medical genomics.
- ✓ The J C Bose fellowship is awarded to active scientists in recognition of their outstanding performance by the Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science & Technology.
- ✓ Dr K Thangaraj is a population geneticist. Some of his major works includes finding out the origin of Indian population – how humans migrated from Africa during different episodes and populated different parts of India.
- ✓ These studies led to further work on understanding how these populations interbred. He also showed how in the last 2000 years Indians started practicing endogamy resulting in many population specific genetic disorders.

10. Ranjit Guru, the noted journalist and columnist passed away. He was from which state?

- A) Jharkhand B) Odisha ☒
C) Bihar D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ Ranjit Guru (61), the noted Odisha journalist and columnist, has passed away in Bhubaneswar on August 18. He was working with leading Odia daily 'Sambad' in a senior editorial position.
- ✓ During his over a 3 decade long career in journalism, he was also associated with the leading newspapers like 'Anandabazar Patrika' and 'The Asian Age'.
-

1. Ansupa lake is located in which state?

- A) Maharashtra B) Odisha ☒
C) Kerala D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ The Odisha Wetland Authority has recently approved implementation of an integrated management plan for Chilika (India's largest brackish water lagoon), and Ansupa (State's largest freshwater lake). The plan for Chilika & Ansupa will cost Rs 180 crore.
- ✓ The five year management of lakes is intended at strengthening livelihood of thousands of fishermen relying on the two water-bodies. Chilika is spread over 1,100 sq km and lakhs of tourists visit the lake to watch endangered Irrawaddy dolphins and migratory birds during winter.
- ✓ While Ansupa is famous for its sweet water fish, especially for labeo bata locally known as pohala. It is spread over almost 2 sq.km and is also the wintering ground for 32 species of migratory birds. Its calmness, scenic beauty and forest coverage behold the visitors.

2. Which state government has launched School Fagadaba to improve infrastructure in government schools?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh B) Nagaland
C) Tripura D) Manipur ☒

- ✓ Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh launched a scheme named "School Fagadaba" (Make education better) to improve infrastructure of government schools in the state.
- ✓ The aim of the scheme is to ensure better infrastructure, quality education and overall improvement of government schools to make them model schools. In the first phase of the scheme, one school from each of the 60 Assembly constituencies in the state has been selected.
- ✓ The overall purpose of School Fagadaba is to improve the government schools in terms of physical and manpower gaps and increase in enrollment of students.

3. Which Indian personality has been conferred the UAE's highest civil honour 'Order of Zayed'?

- A) Ram Nath Kovind B) Narendra Modi ☒
C) Amitabh Bachchan D) Lata Mangeshkar

- ✓ On 23rd August 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a 3 day official visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain. During the visit, PM Modi will receive the the UAE's highest civil honour "Order of Zayed".
- ✓ The honour was conferred to him in April 2019 in recognition of his distinguished leadership that gave a big boost to bilateral relations between the two countries. The award is named after the UAE's founding father Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.
- ✓ So far, 6 countries — Russia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Palestine and Afghanistan — have given their highest award to Prime Minister Modi. After that, PM Modi will visit Bahrain that will be the first-ever Prime Ministerial visit from India to Bahrain.

4. NCPCR and which IIT have developed a kit to spread sexual – abuse awareness?

- A) IIT Kharagpur B) IIT Kanpur ☒
C) IIT Bombay D) IIT Madras

- ✓ The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in collaboration with IIT Kanpur has developed a kit to spread sexual-abuse awareness among children by using interactive means to teach them about personal safety.
- ✓ The kit is a set of cards, posters, short animation clips and games. It can be used by teachers or NGOs to conduct an interactive workshop for children about sexual-abuse awareness.
- ✓ The kit also features game cards as an intervention to assess the learning acquired by children. It can be used in classrooms for kids aged between 8–12 and in a group of 30–35 students in one session. The workshop kit has been vetted by the psychologists at Central Institute of Psychiatry of Ranchi, and a revised version will be developed based on their feedback.

5. Mohammed Zahur Hashmi, who has passed away recently, was the veteran personality of which field?

- A) Journalism B) Politics
C) Film Industry ☒ D) Photography

- ✓ Mohammed Zahur Hashmi (92), the veteran music composer, has passed away in Mumbai on August 20, 2019. Popularly known as Khayyam, he was best known for his music in classic films such as 'Umrao Jaan' and 'Kabhi Kabhie'.
- ✓ He was a recipient of Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and Padma Bhushan. In 2016, the veteran composer established Khayyam Jagjeet Kaur KPG Charitable Trust and pledged to donate his entire wealth to the trust to support budding artists and technicians in India.

6. Who is the head of the task force on Direct Tax Code which recently submitted report to Union Finance Ministry?

- A) G C Srivastava B) Mansi Kedia
C) Girish Ahuja D) Akhilesh Ranjan ☒

- ✓ The task force, headed by CBDT member Akhilesh Ranjan, constituted by the Union government for drafting the new Direct Tax Code (DTC) has recently submitted its report to Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman.
- ✓ The task force was constituted to replace the 6 decades old Income Tax Act 1961. It is believed that the task force has suggested changes in the slab for personal income tax & corporate tax.
- ✓ At present, the personal income tax structure has 3 categories — for people below the age of 60, for people above the age of 60 but less than 80, and the third for people of 80 years and above.
- ✓ Currently, companies with turnover up to Rs 400 crore attract tax at the rate of 25%. This covers 99.3% of all the companies registered. Now, the report is expected to be placed in Parliament as a part of Union Budget 2020–21.

7. Which country is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), according to latest report by environmental NGO Greenpeace?

- A) Iran B) India ☒
C) Russia D) South Africa

- ✓ Environmental NGO Greenpeace has recently released an analysis of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) satellite data.
- ✓ As per country-wise world rankings, India is the world's largest emitter of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) as it has the maximum hotspots. It contributes more than 15% of all anthropogenic SO₂ hotspots in the world.
- ✓ The major SO₂ emission hotspots in India are Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh, Neyveli and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, Talcher and Jharsuguda in Odisha, Korba in Chhattisgarh, Kutch in Gujarat, Ramagundam in Telangana and Chandrapur and Koradi in Maharashtra.
- ✓ According to report, the vast majority of plants in India lack Flue-Gas Desulfurization (FGD) technology to reduce their air pollution. Individually, the Norilsk smelter complex in Russia is the largest SO₂ emission hotspot in the world, followed by Kriel in Mpumalanga province in South Africa and Zagroz in Iran. Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh is at 5th position.

8. Which state government has recently classified Nicotine as Class A poison?

- A) Punjab B) Karnataka ☒
C) Haryana D) Odisha

- ✓ The Karnataka government has recently classified nicotine as Class A poison by amending the Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules 2015. The move is to curb illegal sale, smuggling of nicotine cartridges & e – cigarettes.
- ✓ Highly toxic chemicals (such as cyanogen, hydrocyanic acid, nitrogen peroxide, and phosgene) which even in very small quantities as gas or vapour in the air are dangerous to life.

9. Dr. Jagannath Mishra, who passed away recently, was the former chief minister of which state?

- A) Jharkhand B) Uttar Pradesh
C) Bihar ☒ D) Rajasthan

- ✓ Dr. Jagannath Mishra (82), the 3-times former chief minister of Bihar, has passed away in Delhi on August 19. Mishra was the last Congress chief minister of Bihar between December 1989 and March 1990. He also served as a Union minister in the P V Narasimha Rao cabinet.
- ✓ He was one of the most powerful leaders of the state in pre-Mandal politics who brought the infamous 'Press Bill' to curtail the freedom of the press. Currently, he was a member of Bhartiya Jan Congress (Rashtriya).

10. The underground British-era Bunker turned Museum has come up in which city of Maharashtra?

- A) Mumbai ☒ B) Nagpur
C) Nashik D) Aurangabad

- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind has recently inaugurated thematic underground British-era Bunker turned Museum inside the Raj Bhavan at Malabar Hill in Mumbai. The 15,000 sq.ft museum has Virtual Reality Booths (VRBs) in which visitors can "time travel" to the 19th century when the bunker was created to fire cannons at approaching enemy ships.
- ✓ The history of Raj Bhavan has also been depicted in another section. In 2016, the British-era bunker was discovered by Governor Ch. Vidyasagar Rao. It is made up of 13 rooms such as Shell Store, Gun Shell, Cartridge Store and Central Artillery Store.
- ✓ The underground passage has a proper drainage system and inlets for fresh air and light. The bunker dates back to the pre-World War I era and is believed to have been an asset of the battery stationed near the coast to defend Bombay Castle from naval attacks.

1. Which state government has rolled 'Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana' health insurance scheme?

- A) Maharashtra B) Punjab ☒
C) Kerala D) Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ To mark the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the Punjab government has rolled out a mega health insurance scheme named 'Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana'. It will cover 76% of the state's population.
- ✓ The scheme has clubbed with the Centre's health insurance scheme titled 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) for the poor.
- ✓ As per latest Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC), Ayushman Bharat would have covered only 14.86 lakh families while the Punjab scheme in its new form, will benefit a total of 46 lakh families. Like the original PMJAY, the Punjab government will provide cashless health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh per year.
- ✓ The Centre and the state government will bear the cost of the annual premium for 14.86 lakh families in the ratio of 60:40. For the remaining beneficiaries, the Punjab government will bear the entire expense.
- ✓ The Punjab scheme with 1,396 treatment packages will be implemented through over 450 empanelled hospitals, including 200 government hospitals.

2. NISHTHA programme, which is in news recently, is associated to which field?

- A) Mangalyaan B) Education ☒
C) Digital Banking D) Women Empowerment

- ✓ On 21st August 2019, the Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the world's biggest teacher training programme NISHTHA in New Delhi under which more than 42 lakh teachers will be trained across the country.
- ✓ The acronym 'NISHTHA' stands for 'National Initiative for School Head's and Teachers' Holistic Advancement'. The purpose of the integrated programme is to build the capacities of around 42 lakh participants covering all

teachers and Heads of the school at the elementary level in all government schools, faculty members of states councils of Educational Research and Training and other educational departments.

3. Babulal Gaur, who passed away recently, was the former Chief Minister of which state?

- A) Jharkhand B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Uttar Pradesh D) Madhya Pradesh ☒

- ✓ In Madhya Pradesh, former Chief Minister of the state Babulal Gaur (89) has passed away in Bhopal on 21st August 2019. He retired from electoral politics in 2018 citing old age. He served as the Chief Minister of MP from August 2004 to November 2005 and represented Govindpura Vidhan Sabha seat 10 times.

4. Satendra Singh Lohia, who became the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America, is from which state?

- A) Madhya Pradesh ☒ B) Rajasthan
C) Punjab D) Haryana

- ✓ On 21st August 2019, Indian Para swimmer Satendra Singh Lohia from Madhya Pradesh has scripted history by becoming the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America. He holds the Asian record of crossing both the English and Catalina channels.
- ✓ Gwalior-born Satendra led the Indian Para Relay team along with 5 team mates and crossed the Catalina Channel in 11 hours 34 minutes. At that time, the water temperature was around 13 degrees Celsius. In 2014, Satyendra has also honoured with the highest sports award of Madhya Pradesh – Vikram Award.

5. Which Indian – American teenager has won the 2019 South Asian Spelling Bee contest?

- A) Kavya Kopparap B) Navneeth Murali ☒
C) Dhruv Gaur D) Syamantak Payra

- ✓ Navneeth Murali, an Indian-American teenager from New Jersey, has won the 2019 South Asian Spelling Bee (SASB) contest. The prize money for this contest is USD

3,000. The SASB is an annual spelling bee platform in the US for children of South Asian descent.

- ✓ The competition is open to any student at or below the age of 14, who has at least one parent or grandparent who is of South Asian descent, or whose lineage can be traced to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and / or Sri Lanka.

6. Which country has decided to hold SAARC Foreign Ministers' informal meet?

- A) Bhutan B) Nepal ☒
- C) India B) Sri Lanka

- ✓ Nepal is planning to hold SAARC Foreign Ministers' informal meet on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly (UNGA) session in September 2019. The 18th SAARC summit was held in Kathmandu in 2014 and Pakistan was to host the next summit in 2016.
- ✓ But, the summit was cancelled after India boycotted the meeting, in the wake of the terror attack at a military base in Uri in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), which killed 19 soldiers.
- ✓ Other countries viz. Bangladesh, Bhutan and Afghanistan, also walked out following India's decision to exit the summit to step up diplomatic pressure on Pakistan. India also declared that it will participate only if Pakistan took steps to tackle terrorism.

7. The 2019 World Youth Chess Championship is being held in which city?

- A) Kolkata B) Mumbai ☒
- C) Pune D) New Delhi

- ✓ For the first time-ever India is hosting the prestigious World Youth chess championship, which is scheduled to be held in Mumbai from October 1 to 13. The world's best talent in U-14, U-16 and U-18 categories will be on view.
- ✓ The tournament is being held under the aegis of the All India Chess Federation and organised by the All Marathi Chess Association. Players from 62 countries have confirmed their participation, including Russia, USA, France, Italy and Azerbaijan.

8. The researchers at which IIT have developed method to make biofuel with sugar and salt?

- A) IIT Indore B) IIT Bombay
- C) IIT Hyderabad ☒ D) IIT Kanpur

- ✓ By using sugar, sulphuric acid and salt, the researchers of IIT Hyderabad have developed a cheap and efficient nano-carbon catalyst to help in the production of biofuel precursors.
- ✓ The catalyst showed better efficiency and selectivity than the commercially available variants to produce the desired C15 oxygenated hydrocarbon — a precursor to diesel and jet fuel. This development is important as States like Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh / Telangana produce a large amount of corncob waste in the country.
- ✓ This can be converted into valuable fuel instead of being burnt. The nano-carbon catalyst developed by the institute can enable conversion into biofuel (fuel from biological sources rather than fossil fuels) and provide an additional earning opportunity for the corn farmer, besides being a sustainable energy source.

9. Which Indian sprinter has won gold in men's 300m at the 2019 Athleticky Mitink Reiter event in Czech Republic?

- A) Kunhu Muhammed B) Mohan Kumar Raja
- C) Mohammad Anas ☒ D) Nirmal Tom

- ✓ Top Indian sprinters Hima Das and Mohammad Anas have won a gold each in women's and men's 300m races respectively at the 2019 Athleticky Mitink Reiter event in Czech Republic. This was Hima's 6th gold in 2019 in European races since July 2.
- ✓ On the other hand, Mohammad Anas won the gold clocking 32.41 seconds. India's Nirmal Tom clinched a bronze in the same event by clocking a timing of 33.03 seconds.
- ✓ National record holder Anas has already qualified for 400m event for the World Championships to be held in Doha in September–October while Hima is yet to achieve it.

10. On which date, the Communal Harmony Day is celebrated in India?

A) August 21

B) August 22

C) August 20 ☒

D) August 23

- ✓ In India, the Sadbhavana Diwas (or Communal Harmony Day) is celebrated every year on August 20 to commemorate birth anniversary of late former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
 - ✓ On the occasion of 75th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi along with Rahul Gandhi inaugurated an exhibition titled 'Memories and Archives of Rajiv Gandhi' on 20th August 2019.
 - ✓ Rajiv Gandhi served as the 6th Prime Minister of India from 1984 to 1989. He took office after the 1984 assassination of his mother, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, to become the youngest Indian Prime Minister at the age of 40.
 - ✓ In 21st May 1991, Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) suicide bomber during an election rally in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. His death anniversary is also observed as National Anti – Terrorism Day.
-