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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS

01 DECEMBER - 07 DECEMBER



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1. Election Commission of India has recognized Jannayak Janta Party as state party of which state?
- A) Haryana B) Punjab
C) Madhya Pradesh D) Rajasthan
- ✓ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has recently recognized the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) as state party of Haryana and allotted the symbol of "key" for the party. The decision in this regard was taken on the basis of the poll performance of the party in the recent 2019 Assembly elections in Haryana.
- ✓ The JJP was formed in December 2018 by a breakaway faction of the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) & won 10 seats in the recently-held Haryana Assembly elections and formed the government with the BJP.
2. Yasuhiro Nakasone, who passed away recently, was the former PM of which country?
- A) North Korea B) China
C) South Korea D) Japan
- ✓ In Japan, Yasuhiro Nakasone (101) has passed away at Tokyo on 29th November. He was one of the longest-reigning Prime Ministers and known for his friendship with Ronald Reagan. In 1983, he became the first Japanese Premier to officially visit South Korea.
3. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa is associated to which sports?
- A) Chess B) Cricket
C) Boxing D) Shooting
- ✓ In shooting, Angad Vir Singh Bajwa unofficially hit a world record score in the men's skeet final at the 63rd National Shooting Championships for Shotgun events in New Delhi on 29th November. He defeated his senior and fellow Tokyo 2020 quota winner Mairaj Ahmad Khan of Uttar Pradesh.
4. Who has become fastest man to reach 7,000 Test runs?
- A) Virat Kohli B) Rohit Sharma
C) Steve Smith D) Aaron Finch
- ✓ Steve Smith has become the fastest man to score 7,000 Test runs in the ongoing second Test against Pakistan. He broke English great Wally Hammond's record that had stood since 1946. Smith also passed Bradman's 6,996 Test runs. It took Smith 70 Tests to do so, while Bradman needed only 52.
5. Noted theatre artiste Paramananda Sahu, who passed away recently, was from which state?
- A) Odisha B) Punjab
C) Madhya Pradesh D) Rajasthan
- ✓ Renowned theatre artiste of Odisha, Paramananda Sahu (72) has passed away in Balasore on 30th of November. He had directed and acted in more than a hundred dramas, besides being an artiste in All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan.
6. Who is the author of the book "The Legacy of Militancy in Punjab: Long Road to Normalcy"?
- A) Dona Suri B) Vikram Seth
C) Arundhati Roy D) Vani Kaushal
- ✓ The book titled "The Legacy of Militancy in Punjab: Long Road to Normalcy" have been authored by civil rights activist Inderjit Singh Jaijee and journalist Dona Suri.
- ✓ The book provide details how militancy in Punjab affected judiciary by delaying trials, how it influenced the popular culture and how the youth today are still responding to conditions in the northern state.
7. Schistura syngkai is the scientific name of which type of species?
- A) Elephant B) Fish
C) Frog D) Tortoise
- ✓ The fish species, that has a scientific name Schistura syngkai, has been discovered in West khasi hills district of Meghalaya. It was discovered at Twahdidoh stream (a tributary of Wahblei River) by a team of scientists led by Prof. Khlur Mukhim of Shillong's Lady Keane College.

- ✓ Both sexes of the fish have golden–brown bodies. Earlier, Mukhim had discovered a blind fish species that lives 1,600 feet inside a limestone cave in East jaintia hills district of the state.

8. Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri, who has been chosen for the 55th Jnanpith Award, is associated to which language?

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

- ✓ Eminent Malayalam poet Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri has been chosen as the recipient of the 55th Jnanpith Award for the year 2019.

- ✓ Born in 1926, Akkitham is one of the most revered names in Malayalam poetry. Apart from poetry, his literary excellence has footprints in genres like drama, critical essays, children literature, short stories & translation.

- ✓ He has authored 55 books out of which 45 are collections of poems including “Khanda Kavyas”, “Katha Kavyas”, “Charitha Kavyas” and songs. His works have also been translated into many Indian and foreign languages.

9. The first–ever International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience” was held in which city?

- A) Geneva
B) London
C) Paris
D) New Delhi

- ✓ Minister of State for Home Affairs, G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the first–ever International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience” in New Delhi.

- ✓ This first–of–its–kind conference aims to bring together all the stakeholders including relevant Ministries and experts to discuss, debate and disseminate information, experiences and innovations for landslides risk reduction and resilience at national and international levels.

10. Who has been appointed as chairman of microfinance panel of the Code for Responsible Lending?

- A) H R Khan
B) R Gandhi
C) Mahesh Kumar Jain
D) Anand Sinha

- ✓ Former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), H R Khan has been appointed as the 1st chairman of the steering committee of the Code for Responsible Lending (CRL) in micro–credit.

- ✓ The CRL is a self–regulatory step for the micro–credit industry making diverse entities like banks, NBFC–MFIs and NBFCs adhere to standards of customer protection.

1. 50th International Film Festival of India was recently concluded in which city?

- A) Goa B) Mumbai
C) Chennai D) New Delhi

- ✓ The Golden Jubilee Edition of International Film Festival of India, IFFI, culminated in Goa. The festival saw screening of 300 films of various languages from India and abroad for delegates from different parts of the world.
- ✓ The IFFI was awarded the ICFT–UNESCO Fellini medal at the closing ceremony which was received by Information and Broadcasting Secretary Amit Khare and Director of festivals Chaitanya Prasad. Governor of Goa Satyapal Malik, Chief Minister of Goa Dr. Pramod Sawant, Union minister Babul Supriyo and others were present on the occasion.

2. Researchers of which country have recently discovered a massive black hole in the Milky Way?

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

- ✓ Researchers from the National Astronomical Observatory of China have discovered a black hole in the Milky Way. The black hole is so huge that it challenged the existing models of the evolution of stars.
- ✓ The black hole was discovered by an international team of scientists using China's sophisticated Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fibre Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST) telescope. The black hole, LB-1, is located 15,000 light-years away from Earth.

3. Who was awarded 2019 Karmaveer Chakra by iCONGO and United Nations?

- A) Manjeet Singh B) Rahul Adhikari
C) Aman Desai D) Sachin Tanwar

- ✓ 2019 Gold-Medalist from Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee and founder of International Changemaker Olympiad Rahul Adhikari, was conferred with 2019 Karmaveer Chakra Award REX Karmaveer Global

Fellowship at the REX CONCLiVE held in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The award was given for his contribution in the education sector.

4. Who is the author of 'Garam pahad'?

- A) Namdev Tarachandani B) Moti Prakash
C) Anita bhatnagar Jain D) Fahmida Hussain

- ✓ Union Minister of Human Resource Development Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has launched 3 books for children namely Kumbh, Garam Pahad and Dilli ki Bulbul (Sindhi edition) in New Delhi.
- ✓ The 3 books, penned by Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS (1985 batch), are a collection of stories for children and have documented the environmental issues & topics like socio-cultural unity, cultural heritage.

5. Which film won the Golden Peacock Award 2019?

- A) Aramm B) Rwanda
C) Particles D) Jallikattu

- ✓ Particles, the French-Swiss film directed by Blaise Harrison won the Golden Peacock Award at the 50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa. The IFFI 2019 concluded on November 28.
- ✓ The Golden Peacock Award includes a cash prize worth Rs. 40 lakhs, a trophy and a citation. This film was produced by Estelle Fialon. The prize money is to be distributed equally between the director and producer.

6. Which company has become the first company to list commercial papers on stock exchanges?

- A) Tata Capital B) Aditya Birla Finance
C) Muthoot Finance D) Bajaj Finserv Ltd.

- ✓ On November 28, Aditya Birla Finance became the first company to list its commercial papers borrowing of Rs 100 crore on the Indian stock exchanges.
- ✓ The non-banking finance company (NBFC) listed its CPs on NSE with a value date of November 28, 2019 and maturity date on February 7, 2020.

7. Which bank is to assist in strengthening power connectivity in Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor?

- A) Asian Development Bank B) RBI
C) Swiss Bank D) BRICS Bank

- ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has extended a \$451 million loan to strengthen power connectivity between the southern and northern parts of the Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC). CKIC is part of the East Coast Economic Corridor (ECEC) in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a \$451 million loan for strengthening power connectivity between northern and southern parts of Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC) which is part of East Coast Economic Corridor (ECEC). ECEC is India's first coastal economic corridor.
- ✓ It will help establish extra–high–voltage transmission link between Coimbatore and Virudhunagar. It will meet increased power demand in CKIC by transferring additional generation capacity of 9,000 MW, including 6,000 MW from renewable by 2025. This will help reliably evacuate power from these new power plants in southern CKIC.

8. The Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium has become the second neutral venue in India to host a Test match. The stadium is in which Indian city?

- A) Varanasi B) Chennai
C) Lucknow D) Ghaziabad

- ✓ The Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow became the second neutral venue in India to host a Test match. Afghanistan and the West Indies are playing in a one–off Test at the stadium.
- ✓ Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Dehradun became the first neutral venue to host a Test in the country.

9. The United Nations Development Programme has launched the country chapter of its Accelerator Lab in which city?

- A) Hyderabad B) Bangalore
C) Kohima D) New Delhi

- ✓ Seeking to address some of the most pressing issues facing India, including air pollution, through innovation, the United Nations Development Programme on Nov.28 launched the country chapter of its Accelerator Lab in New Delhi.
- ✓ The laboratory that will be housed in the UNDP India office has partnered with the Indian government's Atal Innovation Mission to achieve its objectives.

10. A 2 day Conference on Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat is to be organized in which state / UT?

- A) Ladakh B) New Delhi
C) Jammu and Kashmir D) Assam

- ✓ The government is to organize a two–day Conference on Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat from 30 November – 1 December 2019 at Jammu.
- ✓ It will be inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent charge) of the Ministry of DONER, Minister of State for PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions; Atomic Energy & Space along with G.C. Murmu, Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, R.B. Udhayakumar, Minister for Revenue & Disaster Management, Government of Tamil Nadu and R.K. Mathur Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

1. According to the recently released UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2019, the global temperature will rise by how many degrees till 2100?
- A) 3.2°C B) 4.7°C C) 1.9°C D) 2.4°C
- ✓ Recently released United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report–2019 warns that the Earth’s average temperature may rise by 3.2°C by 2021.
- ✓ The report was released prior to United Nations Climate Conference (COP–25) to be held in Spain from Dec.2. It states that GHG emissions have increased by 1.5% since last decade and that carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions have reached an all–time high figure of 55.3 gigatons.
- ✓ China, USA, European Union and India are among the top 4 greenhouse gas emitters. UNEP report highlights that India is regularly considering deadlines and targets to curb carbon emission. As per the report, India’s per capita emission is one of the lowest within G20 countries. Also, India is one of the leading countries that are looking for electric vehicle development.
2. SURYA KIRAN, a joint military Exercise of India with which country?
- A) Bhutan B) Nepal
- C) USA D) Japan
- ✓ ‘Surya Kiran XIV’ between India and Nepal will be conducted at Salijhandi, Rupendehi district of Nepal from 3–16 December 2019.
- ✓ The exercise will comprise of 300 soldiers from both the Indian Army and Nepal Army who will be sharing their experiences in the conduct of various counter–insurgency and counter–terrorism operations, as also various humanitarian assistance missions by both Armies.
3. The 6th Dornier aircraft squadron of Indian Navy was recently commissioned in which state/UT?
- A) Goa B) Punjab
- C) Gujarat D) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- ✓ The Indian Navy has commissioned its sixth Dornier aircraft squadron in the Porbandar town of Gujarat. It aims to give a fillip to coastal security near the sea border with Pakistan.
- ✓ It was commissioned by Deputy Chief of Naval Staff Vice–Admiral M S Pawar. Dornier aircraft squadron: The Indian Naval Air Squadron 314 is called Raptors. It will operate with next–generation Dornier aircraft.
4. Which one is the maximum fine that can be imposed by the government for the misuse of National Emblem?
- A) Rs.5 lakh B) Rs.2 lakh
- C) Rs.4 lakh D) Rs.1 lakh
- ✓ The Government of India has proposed increasing the fine for illegal and improper use of national emblems for commercial gains from Rs.500 to Rs.1 lakh. It also suggested change also includes jail time and a fine of Rs.5 lakh for repeat offenders.
- ✓ The aim is to crack down on their misuse. The Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 of India prohibits the misuse of the national flag, the Ashoka Chakra, the official seal of the President or Governor, the coat–of–arms used by a government department, the pictorial representation of Mahatma Gandhi and the Prime Minister.
5. Which online trucking platform, has partnered with IDFC Bank and Yes Bank to provide FASTags?
- A) Blackbuck B) Trunk pool
- C) Freight D) Integrated logistics
- ✓ BlackBuck, the online trucking platform, has partnered with private lenders IDFC Bank and Yes Bank on 28 November. The partnership aims to provide FASTags to truck owners free of cost.
- ✓ With this partnership, the Truck owners can order FASTags on BlackBuck’s Boss App. It will be delivered at their doorstep free of cost until 31 December 2019. The initiative will help over 3 million trucks in India become FASTag compliant.

6. The police of which Indian city has recently received SKOCH award for clean stations?

- A) Hyderabad
B) Chennai
C) Amravati
D) Panaji

✓ On Nov.29, the Greater Chennai Police received the Union government's SKOCH Award under the category 'Swachh Police Station', for maintaining cleanliness in all their police stations.

✓ This comes after the police's efforts to clear up abandoned and unclaimed vehicles from all station premises. A huge pile of abandoned and unclaimed vehicles around nearly all police stations in the Greater Chennai area used to take up a lot of space, besides giving the stations a shabby look.

✓ On the instruction of Commissioner of Police A.K. Viswanathan, senior officers took account of all these vehicles in each police station in the city.

7. The Small Industries and Export Corporation of which state has recently launched a Web-based Geographic Information System?

- A) Andhra Pradesh
B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Punjab
D) Uttar Pradesh

✓ The Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation (PSIEC) has launched the Estate Management System (EMS) and Web-based Geographic Information System (Web-GIS) on 28 November 2019.

✓ PSIEC launched it under the leadership of Capt. Amarinder Singh. The aim of the system is to ensure transparency. The system also promotes ease of doing business in the State.

8. 18th World Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition was organized in which country?

- A) Israel
B) Spain
C) Brazil
D) Germany

✓ World Wind Energy Association (WWEA) organized the 18th World Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition

(WWEA2019) from 25–27 November 2019 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The conference focused on opportunities offered by a renewable energy strategy.

✓ The conference held a discussion to set up strategy including wind power as a cornerstone of a country's energy supply system that is based on renewable energy.

9. Which country has been recently elected as a member of the World Heritage Committee?

- A) Indonesia
B) Malaysia
C) Thailand
D) Laos

✓ Thailand has been elected as a member of the World Heritage Committee. It was selected during the 22nd session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in Paris.

✓ The representatives from 193 countries cast their votes to fill nine vacant seats on the 21-member World Heritage Committee. With this selection, it will be the fourth time Thailand has served on the World Heritage Committee. The term would end in 2023.

10. World AIDS Day is observed all over the world on which date?

- A) November 29
B) December 1
C) December 2
D) November 30

✓ World AIDS Day is observed on 1 December every year. The day aims to raise public awareness about AIDS. The theme of the 2019 World AIDS Day is "Communities Makes The difference".

✓ Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a pandemic disease that is caused due to the infection of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). HIV causes damage to the immune system.

1. 'Mitra Shakti' is a joint military exercise of India with which country?
- A) Nepal B) Bhutan
C) Sri Lanka D) Iran
- ✓ The seventh Indo–Sri Lanka joint military exercise Mitra Shakti was held on December 1, 2019 at Aundh military station. The main objective of the exercise is to build and promote positive relations between the countries.
- ✓ The exercise was scheduled to be conducted at the Foreign Training Node in Pune between December 1 and December 14, 2019.
2. Which country has become the first country to make entire Haj process digital?
- A) Bhutan B) India
C) Myanmar D) Sri Lanka
- ✓ India has become the first country in the world to completely digitize the Haj process. Various services have been added to the online application service like e–visa, haj mobile app, e–messiah health facility, stay and traffic information in Mecca Medina and Haj pilgrimage information.
- ✓ It is for the first time when digital pre–tagging has been arranged by the airlines so that Haj pilgrims will get all kinds of information in India itself. Haj pilgrims will get prior information about which room of which building in Mecca Medina and what number bus will have to be taken after landing at the airport.
3. Who has been elected as the new speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly?
- A) Praful Patel B) Nana Patole
C) Dilip Walse Patil D) Kisan Kathore
- ✓ Congress MLA Nana Patole has been elected as Speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly. Patole's election came after the BJP took back the name of Kisan Kathore as the party's nominee with minutes to go before the 10 am deadline. It is a tradition in the Maharashtra Assembly for the Speaker to be elected unopposed.
4. Who recently took charge as the new Controller General of Accounts?
- A) Giriraj Prasad Gupta B) Archana Nigam
C) J.P.S. Chawla D) Soma Roy Burman
- ✓ The government on Dec.1, appointed Soma Roy Burman, a 1986–batch Indian Civil Accounts Service Officer, as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA). Ms. Burman is the 24th CGA and is the seventh woman to hold this position.
- ✓ During her 33–year long career, she has held cadre positions at different levels in ministries such as Home Affairs, Information & Broadcasting, Industry, Finance, Human Resource Development and Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.
5. Which became the first Asian country to be the 'Guest of Honour Country' at the International Book fair, Mexico?
- A) Bhutan B) India
C) Myanmar D) Sri Lanka
- ✓ International Book Fair is the biggest book fair in the Spanish–speaking world. This is the 33rd edition of Guadalajara International Book Fair and will continue till 8 December.
- ✓ India is the 'Guest of Honour Country' in this book fair and it becomes the first Asian country to participate as 'Guest of Honour' in the Fair. The National Book Trust, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development Government of India, is participating as the nodal agency of the Government in this book fair.
6. 13th South Asian Games have recently been inaugurated in which country?
- A) Bhutan B) Nepal
C) Myanmar D) Sri Lanka

✓ 13th South Asian Games have formally begun in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. President of Nepal Bidya Devi Bhandari declared games open in a glittering ceremony at Dasaratha Rangshala in Kathmandu on December 1.

✓ Vice President Nanda Bahadur Pun, Chairman of National Assembly Ganesh Timilsina, Deputy Prime Minister Ishwor Pokharel, Ministers from South Asian countries and a large number of other dignitaries also graced the opening ceremony. Over 2700 athletes from seven South Asian Countries participated in the march past.

7. Who won the Women's Singles title at 2019 Syed Modi International badminton tournament?

- A) P.V. Sindhu B) Carolina Marin
C) Baek Ha-na D) Alina Davletova

✓ Carolina Marin won second title in 71 days but Sourabh Verma faltered at the final hurdle of the \$150,000 Syed Modi International badminton tournament on December 1. In the second, she easily bridged a five-point deficit. In fact, she won 15 of the last 20 points.

8. Which city is to organize the 3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games?

- A) Chandigarh B) Nashik
C) Guwahati D) Patna

✓ The third edition of the Khelo India Youth Games which is scheduled to be held from January 10 to 22 in Guwahati.

✓ The third edition will have two additional sports — Cycling and Lawn Bowls as over 10,000 participants from across the country participate in a total of 451 medal events during the 13 action-packed days. The Khelo India Games was launched in 2018 to imbibe a culture of sports in the country.

9. Who has been recently re-elected as the president of Namibia?

- A) Sam Nujoma B) Peter Katjavivi

C) Hage Geingob

D) Peter Shivute

✓ Namibia's President Hage Geingob has been re-elected for a second term, the country's electoral commission says. Geingob polled 56.3% in election, well ahead of his nearest rival Panduleni Itula with 29.4%.

✓ However, Geingob's tally was well down from 87% with which he won his first term in 2014.

10. International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is observed on which date?

- A) November 29 B) December 2
C) December 1 D) November 30

✓ The International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is a yearly event on Dec.2, organized by the United Nations General Assembly. The Day was first celebrated in 1986.

1. Who won the 2019 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix title?
- A) Max Verstappen B) Charles Leclerc
- C) Valtteri Bottas D) Lewis Hamilton
- ✓ Britain's Lewis Hamilton has won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix F1 Series at the Yas Marina Circuit in the United Arab Emirates. Max Verstappen of the Netherlands and Charles Leclerc of Monaco took second and third place respectively.
- ✓ Hamilton, who has already won his sixth World Championship title, has won the 11th trophy in the current 21 series. Overall, he ranks second on the list of players who have won more than one trophies (84) in the F1 arena. Topping the list is Germany's Michael Schumacher (91).
2. Which spacecraft of NASA has recently found the crashed Indian Moon lander Vikram?
- A) CALIPSO B) Aura
- C) Landsat7 D) LRO
- ✓ NASA satellite orbiting the Moon has found India's Chandrayaan-2 Vikram lander which crashed on the lunar surface in September.
- ✓ NASA released an image taken by its Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) that showed the site of the spacecraft's impact and associated debris field, with parts scattered over almost 2 dozen locations spanning several kilometers.
3. Carl XVI Gustaf, who is on a visit to India, is the King of which country?
- A) Sweden B) Switzerland
- C) Turkey D) Scotland
- ✓ King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden are on a five-day visit to India aimed at strengthening bilateral ties. The Swedish royal couple, who arrived in India on December 2 were accorded a ceremonial reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ✓ Apart from Delhi, the royal couple is scheduled to visit Mumbai and Uttarakhand. The ties between India and Sweden have been on an upward trajectory in the last few years. The King is leading a high-level business delegation from his country. The bilateral trade volume was USD 3.37 billion in 2018.
4. Who is the author of the book 'The Vault of Vishnu'?
- A) Ashwin Sanghi B) Amish Tripathi
- C) Devdutt Pattanaik D) Sunil Dalal
- ✓ Bestselling author Ashwin Sanghi will come out with his next book, "The Vault of Vishnu", on January 23, 2020, announced publishing house Westland. The book, which will be the sixth installment of the author's famous mythological 'Bharat series', will be released at the upcoming Jaipur Literature festival.
- ✓ Setting a fictional timeline of mythological events, Sanghi said, the new book will also be a "combination of history, mythology, culture, philosophy, geology, and science".
5. Which Income Tax Act will be amended by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019?
- A) Income Tax Act 1922 B) Income Tax Act 1962
- C) Income Tax Act 1961 D) Income Tax Act 2018
- ✓ The Lok Sabha on December 2, 2019 passed a Bill to replace an Ordinance promulgated in September for effecting reduction of corporate tax rates. Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019, will amend the Income Tax Act 1961 and the Finance (No 2) Act 2019.
6. What is the name of the typhoon that recently hit Philippines?
- A) Frank B) Kammuri
- C) Angela D) Haiyan
- ✓ A powerful typhoon is blowing through the central Philippines, damaging homes and heading toward the capital, Manila.
- ✓ Typhoon Kammuri hit the eastern coast overnight and was moving west through Quezon province ripping off

roofs, toppling trees and knocking out power. It had maximum sustained winds of 155 km per hour and gusts of up to 190 kmph. Nearly 90,000 residents were evacuating coastal and low-lying areas prone to flash floods and landslides.

7. Who has been appointed as the new President of Mauritius?

- A) Ameenah Gurib-Fakim B) Pravind Jugnauth
C) Pritivirajsing Roopun D) Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

✓ On December 3, 2019 the former arts and culture minister Pritivirajsing Roopun was elected as president of Mauritius. His predecessor Ameenah Gurib-Fakim resigned in March 2018 after being embroiled in a scandal over her use of a credit card to buy luxury personal items.

✓ In Mauritius, the prime minister is head of the government and holds most political power while the President is head of the state but has no executive role and is considered the guardian of the Constitution.

8. Who won the Ballon d'Or award 2019?

- A) Virgil van Dijk B) Cristiano Ronaldo
C) Lionel Messi D) Mohamed Salah

✓ Lionel Messi claimed a record sixth men's Ballon d'Or award on December 2, beating Liverpool's four leading nominees to claim soccer's most prestigious individual trophy. He beat Virgil van Dijk, the runner-up, and third-placed Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, who has won the award five times.

✓ Senegal's Sadio Mane, who with Van Dijk and fellow nominees Alisson Becker of Brazil and Egypt's Mohamed Salah, helped Liverpool win the Champions League, was fourth in the poll of international journalists.

9. Who won the Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize?

- A) David Reich B) Shrikant G. Talageri
C) Tony Joseph D) Hartosh Singh Bal

✓ English author Tony Joseph has won 12th 'Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize' for his 2018 book, 'Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came'.

✓ Tony Joseph, a journalist-author won against four other debut writers and the award was announced Shakti Bhatt Foundation. The award that was instituted in 2008 & carries a trophy and a cash prize of Rs.2 lakh.

✓ It seeks to celebrate 'extraordinary new writing in all genres' from South Asian countries. In 2018, the prize was awarded to Sujatha Gidla for her 'Ants among Elephants: An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India'.

10. International Day of Persons with Disabilities was celebrated on December 3 under which theme?

- A) Empowering persons with disabilities
B) The Future is Accessible
C) Ensuring inclusiveness and equality
D) Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all

✓ The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed every year on December 3 to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development and to increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

✓ The annual observance of the Day was proclaimed in 1992, by a United Nations General Assembly resolution. The 2019 theme is 'The Future is Accessible'.

1. Which state won the Best State Award in cadaveric organ donation?
- A) Maharashtra B) Rajasthan
- C) Kerala D) Tamilnadu
- ✓ For the fifth consecutive year, Tamil Nadu received the Best State Award in cadaveric organ donation from the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ✓ Along with this, the State received the best performing hospital award for the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, and an award for plastic surgeon Dr. Ramadevi for performing a bilateral hand transplant at the Government Stanley Medical College Hospital.
2. India is to set up Healthcare Innovation Centre with the help of which country?
- A) Netherlands B) USA
- C) Japan D) Sweden
- ✓ India and Sweden has joined hands to set up a healthcare innovation centre to promote research, broadly in non-communicable diseases and help scale-up Indian start-ups in the sector.
- ✓ Later, AIIMS, Delhi; AIIMS, Jodhpur, and Swedish Trade Commissioner's Office in New Delhi signed a Memorandum of Intent (MoI) to cement cooperation, to set up a healthcare innovation centre. The signing of MoI marks 10 years of India-Sweden health cooperation.
3. What is the strike range of nuclear-capable Prithvi-II missile whose night trial was recently conducted?
- A) 250 Kms B) 350 Kms
- C) 422 Kms D) 450 Kms
- ✓ India has successfully conducted another night trial of its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-2 missile from a mobile launcher of the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha coast.
- ✓ Earlier, the flight test of surface-to-surface missile was carried out barely a 15 days after two back-to-back trials of Prithvi-2 were conducted successfully at night from same base on 20 November.
- ✓ It is a tactical surface-to-surface short-range ballistic missile (SRBM) with a strike range of 350 kilometres and is capable of carrying 500-1,000 kilograms of warheads.
4. Which country is to organize the 2019 NATO Summit?
- A) United States B) United Kingdom
- C) France D) India
- ✓ The NATO 2019 summit will take place in Watford, UK. Some of the world's most important leaders will meet at The Grove Hotel at Chandler's Cross.
- ✓ NATO summits are a periodic opportunity for Heads of State and Heads of Government to meet and evaluate NATO's current strategies, evaluate the alliance's current position and brainstorm strategic direction.
5. Which state won the National Award of Excellence for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities?
- A) Himachal Pradesh B) Telangana
- C) Uttar Pradesh D) Gujarat
- ✓ Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment conferred Uttar Pradesh with the National Award of Excellence for doing a commendable job in the field of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh also received the award for the best state in the implementation of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan. The department's website also received the award as the best portal for being disabled-friendly while Varanasi has been awarded for offering the best rehabilitation services among the districts.
6. Recently launched 'Bharatiya Poshan Anthem' has been penned by which writer?
- A) Shankar Mahadevan B) Vishal Khurana
- C) Ehsaan Noorani D) Prasoon Joshi

