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2019

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SECOND WEEK

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08 DECEMBER - 15 DECEMBER



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1. Sarai Sewage Treatment Plant was inaugurated in which state?
- A) Maharashtra B) Rajasthan
- C) Kerala D) Uttarakhand ☒
- ✓ The 14 million litres per day (MLD) Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Sarai in Haridwar, Uttarakhand started its functioning on Dec.5. The plant was completed before its scheduled timeline. It was inaugurated by their Majesties, King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden.
- ✓ The Sarai 14 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant is the first STP that was completed under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) based Public-Private Partnership Model. The cost of the project was Rs.41.40 crores. The Plant is based on an advanced aerobic biological process which is capable of removing the nutrients during treatment.
2. First Mega Food Park of Central India has been inaugurated in which state?
- A) Telangana B) Chhattisgarh
- C) Maharashtra D) Madhya Pradesh ☒
- ✓ Union Minister for Food Processing Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated Steel Silo based Avantee Mega Food Park in Dewas, Madhya Pradesh. This is the first food park of central India. It is spread over 51 acres and has been constructed at a cost of about Rs.150 crore.
- ✓ Excess production compels farmers to sell their produces at low rates. Since the mega food park is now present in the region, farmers will be able to earn more through value addition by storing their produces after getting facility of food processing and storage.
3. According to a recent report, which country has recorded the highest estimated number of cervical cancer deaths in 2018?
- A) China B) Brazil
- C) India ☒ D) Mexico
- ✓ A report by Lancet Global Health said India recorded the highest estimated number of cervical cancer deaths in 2018.
- ✓ The report titles, "Estimates of Incidence and Mortality of Cervical Cancer In 2018: A Worldwide Analysis" said that the global cervical cancer cases reported in India and China together contributed 35% of the global cases in 2018. India contributed with 97,000 cases and 60,000 deaths and China recorded over 106,000 cases and 48,000 deaths.
4. International Civil Aviation Day is being observed on which date?
- A) December 5 B) December 6
- C) December 7 ☒ D) December 8
- ✓ In 1996 the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed that 7 December was to be the International Civil Aviation Day. The day has been celebrated by the International Civil Aviation Organization since 1994 December 7, the 50th anniversary of the signing the Convention on International Civil Aviation.
- ✓ The purpose of the day is to recognize the importance of aviation, especially international air travel, to the social and economic development of the world.
5. Which language has recently been used for the first time in Rajya Sabha?
- A) Bodo B) Dogri
- C) Maithili D) Santhali ☒
- ✓ Santhali language on December 6, 2019 made its debut in Rajya Sabha when a lawmaker from Odisha used it to raise a matter of urgent public importance during the Zero Hour.
- ✓ Sarojni Hembram of the Biju Janata Dal spoke in Santhali, an Austroasiatic-Munda language spoken mostly by tribals in Odisha. She also demanded Bharat Ratna for Raghunath Murmu, who in 1925 created the Ol Chiki script for the Santhali language.

6. Which city organized the National Florence Nightingale Awards–2019?

- A) Bengaluru B) Ahmedabad
C) Pune D) New Delhi ☒

- ✓ The President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind presented the National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing personnel in New Delhi on 5 December 2019. The event will be held from 5–6 December 2019.
- ✓ The nurses play a vital role in delivering quality and cost-effective healthcare, addressing multiple health challenges and responding to the health needs of individuals, families, and communities. The nurses are a symbol of seva, karuna, and shushrusha.

7. Which ports have been declared as Ports of Call between India and Bangladesh?

- A) Chalna and Khulna ports
B) Mongla and Chattogram ports ☒
C) Mongla and Khulna ports
D) Khulna and Chattogram ports

- ✓ Indian Government has declared Port of Mongla and Chattogram as Ports of Call under Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade (PIWT&T) between India and Bangladesh. Mongla and Chattogram are declared as Ports of Call under the Coastal Shipping Agreement between India and Bangladesh.
- ✓ An MoU, Agreement and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was signed between India and Bangladesh on the use of Chattogram Port & Mongla Ports for the movement of goods to and from India.

8. ISRO has set-up a new Space Technology Incubation Centre at which institute?

- A) NIT, Warangal B) NIT, Rourkela
C) NIT, Tiruchirappalli ☒ D) NIT, Hamirpur

- ✓ ISRO has set-up a Space Technology Incubation Centre (S-TIC) at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli. The centre will work with ISRO on the

technical problems at hand related to the future Space programmes and shall provide solutions.

- ✓ This S-TIC will cater to the southern region of India, including Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, the Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry.

9. Which company has recently launched its Cyber Defence Centre in Melbourne, Australia?

- A) Infosys B) Wipro ☒
C) Cognizant D) TCS

- ✓ Software major Wipro Limited on Dec.5, announced the launch of its cyber defence centre in Melbourne, Australia. The Indian IT giant also has plans to come up with more such centres in other cities in Australia, which will offer resilience and digital protection to large government organisations.

- ✓ With the launch of this centre, Wipro aims to make substantial investments to upskill its employees, hire more local resources and generate more than 100 jobs in Melbourne for cyber security specialists.

10. Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority has signed an agreement with which bank to create Investor awareness in India?

- A) Axis Bank B) HDFC Bank
C) SBI D) Bank of Baroda ☒

- ✓ Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) signs MOU with Bank of Baroda for information dissemination and reaching out to investors and stakeholders.

- ✓ The exercise aims to help various investors who often fall prey to tempting offers for investments and Ponzi schemes. The MoU will spread customer awareness and investor education by strengthening ties with IEPFA.

1. Who has been appointed as a Senior Security Advisor in the Home Ministry?

- A) C. Sylendra Babu B) K Vijay Kumar ☒
- C) Walter Devaram D) Sandeep Bharadwaj

✓ K Vijay Kumar is appointed as a Senior Security Advisor in the Union Home Ministry. He will be advising the Home Ministry headed by Amit Shah on security-related matters of Union Territory of J&K and Left Wing Extremism.

✓ K Vijay Kumar, 67, is a 1975-batch officer of the Indian Police Service (IPS). He served as the Director-General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Director of the National Police Academy in Hyderabad.

2. The 4th India Water Impact Summit was being organized in which city?

- A) New Delhi ☒ B) Mumbai
- C) Chennai D) Hyderabad

✓ The 4th India Water Impact Summit was held from 5-7 December 2019 at the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Summit was organized by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga) led by IIT Kanpur.

✓ The theme of the 2019 summit is Valuing Water | Transforming Ganga. The theme focuses on the Financing of High Impact Projects in the water sector.

3. Which state has launched Anti Depredation Squads in forests to avoid human-wildlife conflicts?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh B) Nagaland
- C) Assam ☒ D) Sikkim

✓ Aiming to control the human-elephant conflicts, the Assam government launched Anti-Depredation Squads of the state forest department which would be stationed at 15 major human-wildlife conflict districts in order to mitigate the problem and to ensure safety of both humans and wildlife

✓ Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched 15 Anti-Depredation Squads during a programme held in state capital Guwahati. The state forest department engaged specially trained 50 frontline staff to handle conflict situations.

4. Which railway station has become the 5500th station of India to get free wifi facility?

- A) Hazaribagh Railway Station
- B) Arigada Railway Station
- C) Mahuamilan Railway Station ☒
- D) Ranchi Railway Station

✓ Jharkhand's Mahuamilan railway station has become the latest among these to get the facility. Mahuamilan station becomes the country's 5500th station to get free wifi facility.

✓ Free Wi-Fi service to passengers are being provided under RailWire. The Railways began the service of providing free WiFi at their stations from January 2016 from the Mumbai Central station.

5. The provisions of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 are not applicable to tribal areas of which state?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh B) Nagaland
- C) Meghalaya ☒ D) Sikkim

✓ Indian Government will introduce the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 in Parliament. The Bill proposes to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955.

✓ The Bill seeks to grant citizenship to undocumented non-Muslims (Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Parsi, Jain and Sikh) from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan who came to India on or before December 31, 2014.

✓ Purpose of the Bill is to enable acquisition of Indian citizenship by persons who were forced to seek shelter in India due to persecution on grounds of religion.

✓ The Bill shall not apply to: Tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura as included in the sixth schedule of the Constitution.

6. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of National Stock Exchange?

- A) Vipin Anand B) Ashok Chawla
C) T C Suseel Kumar D) Girish Chandra Chaturvedi ☒

- ✓ Leading stock exchange NSE on December 6, appointed Public Interest Director Girish Chandra Chaturvedi as its new chairman. The appointment comes following the approval of the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- ✓ The position was vacant since Ashok Chawla resigned as the chairman of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in January 2019.

7. Global Migration Report 2020 is published by which organization?

- A) UNESCO
B) International Organisation for Migration ☒
C) League of Nations
D) UNICEF

- ✓ India continues to be the largest country of origin of international migrants with a 17.5 million-strong diaspora across the world. It received the highest remittance of \$78.6 billion from Indians living abroad.
- ✓ The International Organisation for Migration said in its 'Global Migration Report 2020' that the number of international migrants in 2019 is now estimated at 270 million and the top destination remains the US, at nearly 51 million.

8. Armed Forces Flag Day is observed on which date?

- A) December 7 ☒ B) December 5
C) December 6 D) December 8

- ✓ Armed Forces Flag Day is observed on 7 December. It is observed every year in India. The day is observed to honor the martyrs and the men of the Armed Forces who valiantly fought on the borders to safeguard India's honor.

- ✓ On this day, the three branches of the Armed Forces of India, the Indian Army, the Indian Air Force, and the Indian Navy, organized a variety of programmes to showcase their efforts towards national security.

9. Who has been appointed as the Plogging Ambassador of India?

- A) Ravi Duhan B) Jayshree Laxman
C) Ravish Kumar D) Ripu Daman Bevli ☒

- ✓ Ripu Daman Bevli has been appointed as the Plogging Ambassador of India. The appointment was announced by the Union Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Kiren Rijiju on the Fit India Plogging Run.
- ✓ The minister also launched the nation-wide Plogging Ambassador Mission under which, Indians who have been running and cleaning their cities, towns or districts, will be nominated as Plogging Ambassadors of their region. Run to make Litter Free India which is in line Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat campaign.

10. Who has been awarded with the Siu-Ka-Pha Award-2019?

- A) Janaki Ammal B) Ram Kumar Seewan
C) George Bentham D) Dr. Padmeswar Gogoi ☒

- ✓ The Siu-Ka-Pha Award was presented to noted educationist, Botanist and folklore researcher Dr. Padmeswar Gogoi. It was presented at a programme held at Siu-Ka-Pha Samannay Kshetra in Golaghat.
- ✓ The award recognized his effort and contribution in the field of botany and science. The inaugural edition of the award carried a citation, a memento, a cheleng chador and Rs.10,000. It was presented by Golaghat Deputy Commissioner Dhiren Hazarika.

1. Which country has recently recorded the first polio case in 27 years?

- A) Vietnam B) Singapore
C) Malaysia ☒ D) Indonesia

- ✓ Malaysia has reported the first case of Polio in 27 years, when a three-month-old Malaysian infant boy was diagnosed with polio.
- ✓ The last polio case in Asia-Pacific country occurred in 1992, and in 2000, after which the country was declared polio-free. In this recent case, the child was confirmed to be infected with vaccine-derived poliovirus Type 1 (VDPV1) on 6 December 2019.

2. Who won the Miss Universe 2019 title?

- A) Tyler Perry B) Vartika Singh
C) Zozibini Tunzi ☒ D) Catriona Gray

- ✓ Miss South Africa Zozibini Tunzi was crowned as Miss Universe 2019 at the event held at Tyler Perry Studios in Atlanta, United States.
- ✓ The 26-year-old Zozibini Tunzi was presented the crown by Philippines' Catriona Gray, who was the Miss Universe winner in 2018. India was represented by Vartika Singh in the beauty pageant. After Lara Dutta had won the crown in 2000, no Indian contestant has been able to win Miss Universe title in all these 19 years.

3. Who has been recently elected the youngest-ever as PM of Finland?

- A) Sanna Marin ☒ B) Katri Kulmuni
C) Li Andersson D) Antti Lindtman

- ✓ Sanna Marin has been elected as the Prime Minister of Finland. She became the world's youngest Prime Minister ever. She also became the third female government leader of the country. She defeated Antti Lindtman to take over the government's top post from incumbent Antti Rinne.
- ✓ The new government will be approving her appointment quickly. Marin was a lawmaker since 2015.

She was the Social Democratic Party's vice chairwoman. She served as the minister for transport and communications.

4. International Anti-Corruption Day is being observed on December 9, 2019 under which theme?

- A) The Power of People's pressure
B) United Against Corruption ☒
C) Fight Corruption
D) End of corruption

- ✓ International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on 9 December. The day aims to raise awareness about corruption and the measures that can be taken to combat corruption. The theme for the year 2019 is "United against Corruption".

5. Which city in Karnataka recently conducted a Human Library event?

- A) Bangalore B) Mysore ☒
C) Hubli D) Mangalore

- ✓ Karnataka conducted a Human Library event in Mysuru on 8 December 2019. Human Library is spread across various metropolitan cities including Hyderabad, Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore in India.
- ✓ The aim of the Human Library event is to break long-standing prejudices and stereotypes of the past and create a safe framework for conservation by using a library analogy of lending people rather than books. The event aims to generate greater human cohesion across various social, religious and ethnic diversities.

6. According to a recent report, which Indian River has become one of the top 10 cleanest rivers of the world?

- A) Cauvery B) Tamirabarani
C) Yamuna D) Ganga ☒

- ✓ Minister of Jalshakti said that Ganga has become one of 10 cleanest rivers in the world among the major rivers category. The announcement was made by the Jalshakti

Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at the 4th India Water Impact Summit, 2019 in New Delhi.

- ✓ The Centre is committed to ensuring the cleanliness and uninterrupted flow of the Ganga. India has only 4% of the world's drinking water while 18% of the world's human and equivalent livestock population.

7. The satellite Duchifat 3, which is to be launched from India, belongs to which country

- A) USA B) Russia
C) Netherlands D) Israel ☒

- ✓ Three youngsters, Alon Abramovich, Meitav Assulin and Shmuel Aviv Levi, from an Israeli school, will travel to India to launch a satellite, Duchifat 3. The three 17 to 18 years old are the students of Sha'ar HaNegev High school in Israel's southern region.
- ✓ The satellite was designed and built by the students aboard PSLV C48 from ISRO's Sriharikota launch site. The satellite is to be launched on 11 December.
- ✓ Duchifat 3: Duchifat 3 is the third satellite made by the Israeli student. The satellite was designed to serve children from across the country to observe the Earth. It is an imaging satellite that will be used for ecological research of Earth from space.

8. SAARC Charter Day was celebrated on December 8.

The association was established in which year?

- A) 1967 B) 1987 C) 1985 ☒ D) 1991

- ✓ On December 8, 1985 at the first SAARC Summit in Dhaka, the leaders of the seven South Asian states – the Maldives, India, Bhutan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka – signed a charter to establish the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Afghanistan became the eight SAARC member in 2007.

9. All India Conference of Director Generals / Inspector Generals of Police was organized in which city?

- A) Mumbai B) Pune ☒
C) Indore D) Faridabad

- ✓ All India Conference of Director Generals / Inspector Generals of Police was organised in Pune from December 6 to 8, 2019. The theme of the conference was scientific and forensics-based investigation and technology-enabled policing.

- ✓ A number of sessions on these subjects were held during the three-day conference and the home minister also held sessions with the top brass of police.

10. Who has been appointed as chief design consultant for TRIFED?

- A) Rohit Bal B) JJ Valaya
C) Neeta Lulla D) Ritu Beri ☒

- ✓ Tribes India has announced the association with Ritu Beri Designs to promote Indian tribal crafts and culture. Ritu Beri has very graciously accepted to be the Chief Design Consultant for Tribes India.
- ✓ TRIFED has established a chain of 117 unique showrooms under the brand name of Tribes India, located all over the country, which provide artisans the platform for marketing and promotion of their products.

1. Human Rights Day is celebrated on which date?

- A) Dec.7 B) Dec.8 C) Dec.9 D) Dec.10 ☒

- ✓ The International Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10 to commemorate the day when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris in 1948. The 2019 theme is "Youth Standing Up for Human Rights".

2. Which one is the rank of India in Human Development Index-2019?

- A) 95 B) 117 C) 129 ☒ D) 179

- ✓ India climbed one spot to 129 among 189 countries in the 2019 human development index (HDI), according to a report by the United Nations Development Programme.
- ✓ In India, 27.1 crore people were lifted out of poverty from 2005-06 to 2015-16, UNDP India resident representative Shoko Noda said. The steady progress was due to nearly three decades of rapid development, which saw a dramatic reduction in absolute poverty, along with gains in life expectancy, education, and access to health care. As per the HDI, no other region had experienced such rapid human development progress.

3. Who became the first Indian to play 150 Ranji matches?

- A) Sairaj Bahutule B) Amol Muzumdar
C) Wasim Jaffer ☒ D) Devendra Bundela

- ✓ Veteran opener Wasim Jaffer on December 9, became the first player in Indian cricket to feature in 150 Ranji matches. The 41-year-old from Maharashtra, who has been an important part of the title-winning Vidarbha team in the last two years, achieved the rare distinction during their 'Group A' opener against Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The former India opener is now just 853 runs away from completing 20,000 runs in first class cricket. Jaffer is followed by Madhya Pradesh batsman Devendra Bundela (145 matches) and Amol Muzumdar (136 matches), who have played for Mumbai and Assam.

4. Who is to get the 'Gangadhar National Award' 2019?

- A) Suryakumar Pandey B) Phoolchand Gupta
C) Viswanath Prasad Tiwari ☒ D) Ashok Chakradhar

- ✓ Eminent Hindi poet Viswanath Prasad Tiwari would be honoured with the prestigious 'Gangadhar National Award' during the 53rd Foundation Day celebrations of the Sambalpur University.
- ✓ The award, carrying a cash prize of Rs 50,000, a shawl and citation, would be presented to Tiwari in January. Instituted in memory of Odisha's renowned bard Gangadhar Meher, the award is conferred on a poet of national repute every year since 1991.

5. Which city organized the FICCI ARISE Conference 2019?

- A) Gurugram B) Sonipat
C) New Delhi ☒ D) Noida

- ✓ FICCI ARISE Conference 2019 in New Delhi on December 9-10 with theme, "Future Ready Learners and Schools". Inaugurating the FICCI ARISE Conference on School Education, Muppavarapu Venkaiah called for value-based education and said that education is not just for employment but also for empowerment and enlightenment of individuals and the society.
- ✓ He stressed upon inculcating values such as patience, honesty, respect, tolerance and empathy in the students.

6. A MoU has been signed between NSIC and Aramco for the development of MSME Ecosystem in India in Oil & Gas Sector. Aramco belongs to which country?

- A) UAE B) Saudi Arabia ☒
C) Russia D) Israel

- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and Saudi Aramco (Asia) for the development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Ecosystem in India in Oil & Gas Sector.

- ✓ The MoU will pave a way for accredited Indian MSMEs to carve out a space as vendors in Global space. Saudi Aramco: It is a Saudi Arabian national petroleum and natural gas company based in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. It is world's largest Oil & Gas Company and is one of the largest companies in world by revenue.

7. Which film has been named the best film of the year by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association?

- A) Parasite B) The Irishman
C) Leave No Trace D) IT Chapter 2 ☒

- ✓ The Los Angeles Film Critics Association tapped Parasite as its choice for Best Picture and named the film's Bong Joon Ho as Best Director.

8. Which place has been selected as the leading sports tourism destination of world?

- A) Dubai B) Buenos Aires
C) Abu Dhabi ☒ D) Bali

- ✓ Abu Dhabi is selected as the world's leading Sports tourism Destination for the seventh consecutive time. The decision was made at the 26th edition of the World Travel Awards that is being held in Muscat, Oman.
- ✓ Abu Dhabi stands as a premium destination for sports tourism in 2019. It hosted some of the world's top sporting events, such as the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Club World Cup 2017 and 2018, the AFC Asian Cup 2019, the Special Olympics World Games 2019, the 1st edition of the UAE Tour, and the Brazil vs South Korea international friendly match.

9. The Appeal Court of which international organization has been recently shutdown?

- A) WTO ☒ B) FAO C) ICJ D) UNESCO

- ✓ The Appeal Court of the World Trade Organization that acts as trade dispute settlement body for the members was shut down by the United States on December 9, 2019.
- ✓ The seven-member body that was cut down to a 3-member body in 2018 is now completely blocked by the United States. Without WTO's appellate body, the

dispute settlement will return to pre-1995 GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) status quo.

10. Bharti Airtel has recently launched Wi-Fi Calling in which Indian city?

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

- ✓ Bharti Airtel launched the Wi-Fi calling service for its subscribers. The service is currently rolling out in Delhi-NCR, gradually implemented in other cities. This service will significantly enhance indoor calling services without incurring any extra charges.
- ✓ Airtel Wi-Fi to enhance voice calling experience for Airtel smartphone customers, especially when they are indoors.

1. International Mountain Day is observed on which date?
- A) Dec.7 B) Dec.8 C) Dec.9 D) Dec.11 ☒
- ✓ The International Mountain Day is observed every year on December 11 to celebrate and bring awareness to the world's mountain environments and the people and cultures that inhabit them. The 2019 theme is "Mountains Matter for Youth".
2. How many 'Must See Monuments' have been identified by Archaeological Survey of India?
- A) 235 B) 154 C) 138 ☒ D) 338
- ✓ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has identified 138 monuments as 'Must See Monuments'. This information has been made available on 'Must See' portal of ASI. There are 38 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India, which includes 30 cultural sites, 7 natural sites and 1 mixed-criteria site.
- ✓ India has the 6th largest number of sites in the world. Out of 38, the 22 cultural sites including monuments, buildings and caves are under the protection of ASI.
3. Which rank has been achieved by India in the Climate Change Performance Index?
- A) 9 ☒ B) 7 C) 8 D) 12
- ✓ India has ranked 9th in the high category of 2019 Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) presented on 10 December at the COP25 climate summit in Madrid, Spain. This is the first time India has ranked among the top 10 among the list.
- ✓ The current levels of per capita emissions and energy used in India are still comparatively low for the greenhouse gas emissions and energy use categories. The report suggest the Indian government to develop a roadmap for the phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies that would consequently reduce the country's high dependence on coal.
4. 'Iron Union 12', a joint military exercise of USA with which other country?
- A) China B) Nepal
- C) UAE ☒ D) Japan
- ✓ 'Iron Union 12', a joint military exercise between ground forces of United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States, commenced on 10 December 2019 in presence of UAE Commander of Land Forces Major General Saleh Mohamed Saleh Al Amiri and Commander of US Army Central (USARCENT) Lieutenant General Terry Ferrell.
- ✓ It is aimed at enhancing combat efficiency and tactical expertise between two countries.
5. Which country has topped the medal tally of 13th South Asian Games-2019?
- A) China B) Nepal
- C) India ☒ D) Japan
- ✓ South Asian Games 2019 concluded on 10 December, 2019 in Nepal, with India finishing on top with a best-ever medal haul of 312 medals comprising of 174 gold, 93 silver and 45 bronze. Host Nepal remained second and Sri Lanka got third place in the regional multi-sporting.
- ✓ The year 2019 marks the 13th edition of South Asian Games. India finished on top, continuing its undisputed domination in regional multi-sporting event by finishing on top for the 13th time-in-a-row. India has topped the medal tally of every South Asian Games since its establishment in 1984.
6. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has recently added how many species to List of Threatened Species?
- A) 940 B) 1640 C) 1840 ☒ D) 840
- ✓ The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) added about 1,840 new species to its updated "Red List of Threatened Species", a catalogue of plants and animals that risk extinction. The list now contains over 30,000 species under threat of disappearing.
- ✓ The group released its Red List update in the middle of COP25 climate talks in Madrid, Spain. The year 2020 will see two global IUCN gatherings, first in June in

Marseille, France and another in Kunming, China, in October.

7. According to India Skill Report, which state has the highest employable talent?

- A) Gujarat B) Kerala
C) Maharashtra ☒ D) Telangana

- ✓ On December 9, 2019, the India Skills Report was released jointly by the CII (Confederation of Indian Industry), AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education), UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and AIU (Association of Indian University).
- ✓ The report provides employability of citizens in the country across the states and. The report also ranked the cities based on the availability of employment. The report was prepared based on a survey that assessed 300,000 candidates from 35 educational institutes across 28 states and 9 UT's.
- ✓ According to the report, Maharashtra topped the list with the highest employable talent. Following Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh ranked second and third respectively.

8. Greta Thunberg, Aminatou Haidar, Guo Juanmei and Davi Kopenawa Yanomami won Right Livelihood Award-2019. The award was established in which year?

- A) 1987 B) 1981 C) 1980 ☒ D) 1989

- ✓ Four people won the Right Livelihood Award for the year 2019. The awardees are Greta Thunberg, Aminatou Haidar, Guo Juanmei and Davi Kopenawa Yanomami.
- ✓ The award aims to honour Greta Thunberg for her fight against climate change. Davi Kopenawa Yanomami for her commitment and efforts to protect the indigenous rights and land. Guo Juanmei was awarded for her work for women's rights in China for 25 years.
- ✓ The award recognized Aminatou Haidar's efforts for the independence of Western Sahara. She spent four years in a secret prison, isolated from the outside world. The Right Livelihood Award was established in 1980.

9. Social Security Code Bill-2019 has been introduced in Loksabha recently. The bill is to help which category of workers in India?

- A) Social Workers B) Govt. Employees
C) Unorganized Workers ☒ D) ESIC Workers

- ✓ On December 11, 2019, the social security code bill was introduced in Lok Sabha. The bill paves way for universalization of social security of 50 crore workers in the country.
- ✓ The bill proposes setting up of a social security fund to fulfill benefits such as medical cover, pension, death and disablement benefits including gig workers. This will help to tap the corporate social responsibility fund and divert it towards the unorganized sector.

10. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019 has been recently approved by the Indian Government. The IBA was introduced to deal with which sector of Indian Economy?

- A) Infrastructure B) Transport
C) Banking sector ☒ D) Distressed sectors

- ✓ Union Cabinet has approved certain amendments in Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (code), through Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019.
- ✓ The amendments aim to remove certain difficulties being faced during insolvency resolution process to realise objects of code, protect corporate debtors, prevent ill-thought-out triggering of bankruptcy proceedings and to further ease doing of business (ADB).
- ✓ Amendment Bill seeks to amend sections 5(12), 5(15), 7, 11, 14, 16(1), 21(2), 23(1), 29A, 227, 239, 240 of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code) and insert new section 32A in it.

1. The National Energy Conservation Day is observed on which date?

- A) Dec.10 B) Dec.11 C) Dec.12 D) Dec.14 ☒

- ✓ The National Energy Conservation Day is celebrated every year on Dec.14. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under Union Ministry of Power spearheads the celebrations of the day every year since 1991.
- ✓ BEE is also observing National Energy Conservation Week from 9–14 December 2019, in order to drive mass awareness about importance of energy efficiency and conservation.

2. How many deemed Sanskrit universities will be converted into Central universities under Central Sanskrit Universities Bill?

- A) 2 B) 4 C) 3 ☒ D) 7

- ✓ The Lok Sabha passed the Central Sanskrit Universities Bill, 2019. The Bill seeks to upgrade three deemed Sanskrit universities into Central universities.
- ✓ They are: Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Bhopal, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth Tirupati.

3. Parivara, Talwara and Siddi are the Scheduled Tribes of which Indian state?

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

- ✓ Rajya Sabha passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 12 December 2019 by voice vote.
- ✓ The bill seeks to amend Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 to include three tribes namely– Parivara, Talwara and Siddi community of Dharwad and Belagavi districts, in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka. The bill was introduced by Tribal Affairs Minister of State Renuka Singh Saruta in Upper House.

4. Which country has recently left 2050 Climate Neutrality Agreement of European Union?

- A) Ethiopia B) Sudan
C) Poland ☒ D) Greece

- ✓ On December 13, Poland left 2050 Climate Neutrality Agreement of European Union. Poland, whose 80% of energy needs are relied on coal opted out of Climate Neutrality 2050 plan.
- ✓ The country requested to extend the plan execution deadline to 2070 availing longer period to cut emissions according to the plan. But net players like Netherlands refused to agree to the terms that led Poland to leave the plan.

5. Who has topped the Forbes' 2019 edition of 100 World's Most Powerful Women?

- A) Nancy Pelosi B) Ursula von der Leyen
C) Angela Merkel ☒ D) Christine Lagarde

- ✓ German Chancellor Angela Merkel has topped the Forbes' 2019 edition of 100 World's Most Powerful Women for the ninth consecutive year. She was joined in top spots by fellow prominent female political leaders.
- ✓ The 65-year-old German leader has made 14 appearances in Forbes magazine list's 16-year history. She was praised for standing up to US President Donald Trump and for allowing over a million Syrian refugees into Germany.

6. Who has been named as the 2019 Person of the Year by TIME magazine?

- A) Virat Kohli B) Bob Iger
C) Greta Thunberg ☒ D) LeBron James

- ✓ The news magazine Time has named the teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg in 2019 Person of the Year. She was named as she inspired millions of people in 150 countries to protest climate change.
- ✓ Others honoured by TIME for the year 2019: Disney CEO Bob Iger was named the Business Person of the Year. US

Women's Soccer Team has been named as the Athlete of the Year. The US Public Servants was named as the Guardians of the Year Singer Lizzo has been named as the Entertainer of the Year.

7. Which Indian city became the first city to have an online waste exchange for municipal solid waste?

- A) Chennai ☒ B) Indore
C) New Delhi D) Pune

- ✓ Chennai has become the first city to have an online waste exchange for municipal solid waste. Residents who want to sell their waste online will be able to contact 2,600 scrap dealers and other agencies across the city.
- ✓ The Madras Waste Exchange, which is both a web portal and an application, has been conceptualized by the Smart City Mission, with support from the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

8. Who recently won the Presidential election in Algeria?

- A) Ahmed Gaid Salah B) Ali Benflis
C) Ahmed Ouyahia D) Abdelmadjid Tebboune ☒

- ✓ Former Prime Minister Abdelmadjid Tebboune was declared the winner of Algeria's presidential election.
- ✓ Tebboune, who also served as housing minister under Abdelaziz Bouteflika – the former president was forced to step down in April following mass protests. This time he received 58.15 percent of votes.

9. Who has been appointed as the new Information and Broadcasting Secretary?

- A) Praveen Kumar B) Ravi Mittal ☒
C) Rajesh Bhushan D) Amit Khare

- ✓ Ravi Mittal has been appointed as the new Information and Broadcasting Secretary. He will replace Mr. Amit Khare who has been appointed as the new secretary of the Department of Higher Education.

- ✓ Ravi Mittal belongs to a 1986 batch of Bihar Cadre of Indian Administrative Service. He is currently serving as the Special Secretary in the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance.

10. National Tribal Dance Festival is to be held in which city?

- A) Dispur B) Raipur ☒
C) Kolkata D) Patna

- ✓ A three-day National Tribal Dance Festival will be held in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The festival is to be held on 27–29 December 2019.
- ✓ During the event, artists from various states and countries will march past in their traditional attires. Nearly 1,400 artists of 151 art troupes from 23 states and guest artists from 6 countries will participate.