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1. Which Indian state is set to depute 'Arogya Mitra' at Primary health centres to inform people about government's health-related schemes?

- [A] Odisha [B] Andhra Pradesh
[C] Uttar Pradesh ☒ [D] Bihar

- ✓ The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath recently announced that one 'Arogya Mitra' each is to be deputed at all Primary health centres in the state to inform people about health-related schemes of the government.
- ✓ The Chief Minister also 'Kaushal Satrang' programme of the Department of Vocational Education and Skill Development and Department of Labour & Employment Exchange. The programme is aimed at generating employment and self-employment opportunities for the youth of the state.

2. What is the Current Account Deficit (in terms of percentage of GDP) in the April to December of 2019-20, as per the recent notification of the RBI?

- [A] 1% ☒ [B] 2% [C] 3% [D] 5%

- ✓ As per the recent notification of the Reserve Bank of India, Current Account Deficit (CAD) was 0.2% of GDP in December quarter when compared to 0.9% of GDP in the September quarter.
- ✓ It also stated that the CAD narrowed to 1% of GDP in April to December of 2019-20 when compared to 2.6% in April-December of 2018-19. The main reason for the easing was the reduction in the trade deficit which decreased to \$118.9 billion in April-December 2019-20.

3. The Rajya Sabha passed 'The Mineral Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020', which proposes to commercialise the mining of which mineral?

- [A] Iron [B] Coal ☒
[C] Copper [D] Bauxite

- ✓ The Rajya Sabha passed 'The Mineral Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020', which proposes amendments to the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation)

Act 1957 and The Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015. The Lok Sabha had passed this Bill last week and it will come into force after the President's assent.

- ✓ It seeks to allow companies which do not possess any prior coal mining experience in India to participate in coal auctions. It also seeks to remove the 'specified end-use criterion' of the companies.

4. Which Indian institution is to infuse Rs.7250 Cr into Yes Bank as per the reconstruction plan of the Reserve Bank of India?

- [A] LIC India [B] State Bank of India ☒
[C] HDFC Ltd [D] ICICI Ltd

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India drafted a reconstruction plan of Yes Bank recently. As per the plan, the investor bank shall buy 49% stake in Yes Bank.
- ✓ Recently, the State Bank of India announced that the executive committee of its central board approved for purchase of 725 Crore shares in YES Bank at a price of Rs 10 per share subject to all regulatory approvals. The shareholding of SBI will remain within 49 per cent of the paid-up capital of YES Bank

5. The US Congress approved a resolution to restrain US President Donald Trump from attacking which country?

- [A] Iraq [B] Iran ☒
[C] Sudan [D] Libya

- ✓ The US Congress approved a resolution to restrain the US President Donald Trump from attacking Iran. The House of Representatives joined the Senate in support of the resolution.
- ✓ As per the resolution, no military action shall be taken against Iran without an explicit vote from the Congress. Earlier, a rocket fired on a military base north of Baghdad killed an American soldier, a British soldier and a US contractor.
- ✓ In January 2020, Trump ordered a drone strike that killed Iran's military general, Qassem Soleimani, at the Baghdad airport of Iraq.

6. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shardul carried essential food and relief materials to be handed over to which flood-hit country?

- [A] Mauritius [B] Madagascar ☒
[C] Malaysia [D] Maldives

✓ India recently handed over 600 tonnes of rice and relief material to flood-hit Madagascar. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shardul carried 600 tonnes of rice, as per directives of Indian Government.

✓ In the month of January this year, the Indian Navy launched 'Operation Vanilla' in support of the national disaster in Madagascar, to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster through INS Airavat.

7. The World Athletics Council imposed a USD 10 million fine on the Athletics Federation of which country, for doping scandals?

- [A] China [B] Russia ☒
[C] USA [D] Australia

✓ World Athletics Council imposed a USD 10 million on the Athletics Federation of Russia (RusAF) for breaching anti-doping rules.

✓ World Athletics has capped the number of Authorised Neutral Athletes (ANA) allowed to compete in the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and other specified senior events at 10. However, the number of authorised neutral athletes that can compete in international events is not restricted.

8. What is the name of the indigenous glucometer, which was developed with the assistance from Indian Council of Medical (ICMR)?

- [A] GlucoCheck [B] GluCheck
[C] SugarCheck [D] SuCheck ☒

✓ SuChek is a completely indigenous and affordable glucometer which is suitable for varied climatic conditions. It is validated as per International

standards and has been developed with financial assistance from Indian Council of Medical Research.

✓ An application called 'mDiabetes' has been launched for generating awareness about the non-communicable disease, promoting adherence to treatment and instructing healthy habits among the general public.

9. Crime Multi Agency Centre (Cri-MAC), which was seen in news, is associated with which organisation?

- [A] Central Bureau of Investigation
[B] National Crime Records Bureau ☒
[C] National Investigation Agency
[D] Narcotics Control Bureau

✓ National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) celebrated its 35th Inception Day on March 12, 2020.

✓ The Chief Guest of the occasion, Union Minister of State for Home Shri Nityanand Rai launched Crime Multi Agency Centre (Cri-MAC).

✓ It is a centre for sharing information on dreadful crime and other issues related to inter-state coordination. The Minister also launched National Cybercrime Training Centre for professional e-Learning services on cyber crime investigation.

10. Which is the first Indian airline to partner with a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for setting up warehousing facility?

- [A] IndiGo [B] SpiceJet ☒
[C] Vistara [D] Jet Airways

✓ Gurgaon based India's air carrier SpiceJet recently announced its partnership with GMR Hyderabad Aviation SEZ Limited (GHASL) for setting up a warehousing, distribution and trading facility.

✓ GAHSL is a fully owned subsidiary of GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd. The facility is to be set up in the industrial park. This pact is expected to improve the operations of cargo industry in the country.

1. Union Cabinet approved the RoDTEP scheme, which is set to replace MEIS (Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme). What does R stand for, in the new RoDTEP scheme?

[A] Reduction

[B] Remission ☒

[C] Reception

[D] Remuneration

- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP). It is a scheme for exporters to reimburse taxes and duties paid, like value added tax, coal cess and electricity duties which are not exempted or refunded under existing mechanism.
- ✓ Last year, the RoDTEP scheme was announced by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at an estimated cost of Rs 50,000 crore, to incentivise exporters. It will replace the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) which will be phased out.

2. As per the recent notification of the Reserve Bank of India, what is the limit for urban cooperative banks to lend to a single borrower?

[A] 15% of tier-I capital ☒

[B] 10% of tier-I capital

[C] 20% of tier-I capital

[D] 25% of tier-I capital

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the single borrower and group exposure limit for urban cooperative banks to 15% and 25% of tier I capital, respectively. This reduction in limit is to mitigate concentration risks arising out of large loans.
- ✓ Existing norms allowed 15% for single borrowers and 40% to group exposures of a bank's total capital (tier I and tier II capital). The banks will have to bring their existing exposures to the new limits by 31 March 2023.

3. The Government has declared face masks and hand sanitizers as essential commodities by placing them under which act?

[A] The Consumer Protection Act, 2019

[B] The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 ☒

[C] The Epidemic Act, 1897

[D] Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016

- ✓ Union Consumer Affairs Ministry announced that the government has declared face masks and hand sanitizers as essential commodities up to June 30, 2020, by amending the schedule of the Essential Commodities Act 1955.
- ✓ This decision will enable the government and States / Union Territories to regulate the production, quality and distribution of masks and hand sanitizers. Hence these commodities would be made available to all common citizens in affordable prices without hoarding and black-marketing.

4. The Reserve Bank of India issued guidelines for implementation of Ind AS by Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and Asset reconstruction companies (ARCs). What does Ind AS stand for?

[A] Indian Accounting Standards ☒

[B] International Accounting Standards

[C] Indian Asset Standards

[D] International Asset Standards

- ✓ The Reserve Bank on Friday issued regulatory guidelines for implementation of Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) by Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and Asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) when they prepare their financial results from FY20.
- ✓ Indian Accounting Standards is the Accounting standard adopted by companies in India and they are issued under the supervision of Accounting Standards Board. The Ind AS have been formulated to converge our standards with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

5. In the Green Highways Project, what percentage of the total project cost are spent for highway plantation and its maintenance?

[A] 0.5%

[B] 1% ☒

[C] 1.5%

[D] 2%

- ✓ The Cabinet has recently approved building 780-km Green National Highway project at a cost of Rs 7,660

crore. It includes upgradation of various National Highways in four states – Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

- ✓ The aim of the 'Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification & Maintenance) Policy' is to promote greening of Highway corridors with participation of the community. 1% of the total project cost of all highway projects will be kept aside for highway plantation and its maintenance.

6. As per the reconstruction scheme of Yes Bank, what is the bank's new authorised capital?

[A] Rs. 2,200 crores [B] Rs. 4,200 crores

[C] Rs. 6,200 crores ☒ [D] Rs. 8,200 crores

- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved a reconstruction plan proposed by the RBI for providing financial assistance to the Yes Bank.
- ✓ Union Finance Minister announced that the authorised capital of Yes Bank has been increased to Rs 6,200 crore. Under the plan, SBI will infuse Rs 7,250 crore in the Yes bank and take 49 % equity.
- ✓ ICICI Bank shall invest Rs 1,000 crore and HDFC will infuse Rs 1,000 crore, while Axis Bank will invest up to Rs 600 crore. Federal Bank and Bandhan Bank will invest Rs.300 crore each.
- ✓ Former non-executive chairman of Punjab National Bank Sunil Mehta is appointed as Yes bank's non-executive chairman.

7. The government has invoked Epidemic Disease Act to make the health advisories enforceable. When was the act enacted?

[A] 1897 ☒ [B] 1921 [C] 1947 [D] 1987

- ✓ All the states and union territories of India are advised by the government to invoke the provisions of Section 2 of the Epidemic Disease Act 1897.
- ✓ This Section empowers state governments/UTs to take special measures and formulate regulations to control any outbreak. The 123 year old act also includes the detention of people or any vessel that come from

international shores and are probable to spread the epidemic in the country.

- ✓ According to reports, the Act was invoked in 2018 to contain the spread of cholera in a village in Gujarat.

8. The 'BhoomiRashi' Portal, which was sometimes seen in news, comes under which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

[B] Ministry of Home Affairs

[C] Ministry of the Road Transport and Highways ☒

[D] Ministry of Earth Sciences

- ✓ The 'BhoomiRashi' Portal is a land acquisition portal launched in March 2018 by the Ministry of the Road Transport and Highways.
- ✓ It was seen in news as the Ministry announced that the portal has significantly accelerated the process of land acquisition for National Highways, by reducing the processing time to less than two weeks in a majority of cases. The acquisition process is made error-free and more transparent as it has been integrated with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

9. India has appealed against the closure of Ambedkar House memorial. It is located in which country?

[A] France [B] United Kingdom ☒

[C] Russia [D] Japan

- ✓ India has appealed against the closure of Ambedkar House memorial to the United Kingdom government.
- ✓ Recently the UK accepted the proposal and announced that the memorial in north London will remain open to visitors. Earlier, the memorial faced closure due to a breach of planning norms for residential area.
- ✓ Dr. Ambedkar lived in 1921–22 when he was studying at London School of Economics in Camden. The home was bought by the Maharashtra government and it was renovated into a memorial.

10. Jaydev Unadkat is the captain of which regional cricket team that won its maiden Ranji trophy?

[A] Bengal cricket team

[B] Saurashtra cricket team ☒

[C] Mumbai cricket team

[D] Karnataka cricket team

- ✓ The Saurashtra cricket team led by an inspiring skipper Jaydev Unadkat recently won the maiden Ranji trophy of the team.
 - ✓ At the final clash on the fifth and final day at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot, the team stopped Bengal cricket team from clinching the trophy.
 - ✓ There were several outstanding performers in the tournament including Arpita Vasavada, who scored a hundred in both semi-final and final, all-rounder Chirag Jani and Sheldon Jackson, who scored over 800 runs for the second successive season.
-

1. The flagship "Ganga Amantran Abhiyan" programme is conducted by which organisation?

[A] National Mission for Clean Ganga ☒

[B] Ganga Flood Control Mission

[C] National Water Development Agency

[D] Central Water Commission

✓ National Mission for Clean Ganga which functions under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation–Ministry of Jal Shakti organised its rafting and kayaking expedition programme called "Ganga Amantran Abhiyan".

✓ The exploratory open–water rafting programme was organised from Devprayag (Uttarakhand) to Gangasagar (West Bengal). The programme which was recently concluded.

2. Chameli Devi Jain Award is an annual award presented to outstanding performers of which field?

[A] Politics

[B] Sports

[C] Journalism ☒

[D] Social Service

✓ Chameli Devi Jain Award is an annual award which has been presented since 1981 for outstanding performers in the field of Journalism. Chameli Devi Jain was a legendary freedom fighter and community reformer.

✓ This year, the award for outstanding woman journalist was presented jointly to the Journalist of 'The Wire'–Arfa Khanum Sherwani and a freelance journalist named Rohini Mohan.

✓ Arfa was chosen for her reporting from Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh while Rohini was awarded for her investigative coverage on the NRC exercise in Assam.

3. Which state cabinet recently passed an ordinance which seeks to recover losses caused by damage to public property from rioters?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] Uttar Pradesh ☒

[C] Chhattisgarh

[D] Gujarat

✓ The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet recently passed the 'Recovery of Damage to Public Properties Ordinance 2020' for recovery of losses caused by damage to public property during violent protests.

✓ The decision which was taken in a cabinet meeting headed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath aims to prevent loss of public property in the state.

✓ The damages in the violence shall be recovered from the rioters, as per the ordinance. This comes at the backdrop of several violent protests in the state against Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

4. In context with the new recruitment system to be followed from 2021 for various government jobs, what does CET stand for?

[A] Common Eligibility Test ☒

[B] Common Entrance Test

[C] Central Eligibility Test

[D] Central Entrance Test

✓ As per the recent announcement from Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh, there shall be a common eligibility test (CET) from 2021 for applicants for jobs in railways, banks and lower levels of Central government jobs.

✓ The Central government is to set up an autonomous National Recruitment Agency to conduct this online test. The CET is expected to replace the first level tests conducted by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and the Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS).

5. Sahitya Akademi award winner Puthussery Ramachandran, who passed away recently, was a poet and scholar in which language?

[A] Tamil

[B] Malayalam ☒

[C] Kannada

[D] Telugu

✓ Renowned poet and Malayalam scholar Puthussery Ramachandran recently passed away at the age of 91. He played an instrumental role in making Malayalam

getting recognised as a classical language by the union government in 2013.

- ✓ Ramachandran has won several prestigious awards, including the Sahitya Akademi award, the Ezhuthachchan Puraskaram in 2015, Kerala Sahitya Akademi award among others. He was also associated with the Communist movement of Kerala.

6. 'Akshay Urja Portal' is an initiative of which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Power

[B] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

[C] Ministry of New & Renewable Energy ☒

[D] Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

- ✓ The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy has recently launched its new website to make information about new schemes and projects presented in a better manner to the stakeholders.
- ✓ The newly launched website includes optimized user interface and facilitates better access from various devices including mobile phones. The website has additional portals such as 'Akshay Urja Portal' and 'India Renewable Idea Exchange' (IRIX).

7. According to the Gender Social Norms Index report, released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), how many countries have achieved gender equality?

[A] Two [B] Three [C] Five [D] Zero ☒

- ✓ According to the Gender Social Norms Index report, released recently by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), no country in the world has achieved gender equality.
- ✓ The report also revealed that the world is not on track to achieve gender equality by 2030 and it would take 257 years to close the gender gap in economic opportunity. Pakistan tops a list of countries of people holding biased views against women.

8. In the video conference held between the leaders of SAARC member countries, which country proposed a "COVID-19 emergency fund"?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] India ☒

[C] Pakistan

[D] Bangladesh

- ✓ A meeting of the heads of countries of the SAARC alliance was held via video conferencing recently. Last time the leaders had a meeting together in Nov. 2014.
- ✓ During the meeting, the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi proposed a "COVID-19 emergency fund" to which India would provide \$10 million as an initial contribution. He offered the services of a rapid response team of doctors armed with testing kits.
- ✓ The Prime Minister also offered online training for health workers in SAARC countries for upgrading skills to tackle COVID-19.

9. Who was appointed as the fourth advisor to Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor G C Murmu?

[A] Baseer Ahmed Khan ☒

[B] Muneer Khan

[C] Anandi Venkateswaran

[D] Vijay Kumar

- ✓ The Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir, Baseer Ahmed Khan, a 2000-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the fourth advisor to Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor G C Murmu.
- ✓ An order regarding the appointment was issued by Deputy Secretary, Union Ministry of Home Affairs. The other three advisors are former CRPF DG Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, who was appointed as the advisor on January this year, IPS officer Farooq Khan and IAS officer K K Sharma.

10. An important personality in Ambedkar's historic conversion to Buddhism passed away recently. What is his name?

[A] Santu Mukherjee

[B] Sadanand Fulzele ☒

[C] H R Bhardwaj

[D] Potturi Venkateswar

- ✓ Sadanand Fulzele (91), the founder secretary of the Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Smarak Samiti, recently passed away. The federation looks after Deekshabhoomi in Nagpur, the site of Babasaheb Ambedkar's conversion to Buddhism in 1956.
 - ✓ Fulzele was a follower of Ambedkar's ideologies and was instrumental in building the stupa at the place. Fulzele was also the Deputy Mayor of Nagpur when the leader converted along with over 6 lakh followers.
-

1. Which city of Rajasthan is also called as the 'Marble city of India', that is recently connected with Indore under RCS-UDAN scheme?

- [A] Kota [B] Bikaner
[C] Kishangarh ☒ [D] Lalgarh

✓ The city of Kishangarh in Ajmer district of Rajasthan is called the 'Marble city of India'. Recently the Ministry of Civil Aviation flagged off the thrice-weekly flight from Indore to Kishangarh, under the RCS-UDAN scheme.

✓ Star Air has been awarded the Indore-Kishangarh route during the UDAN 3 bidding process. With this route, the Civil Aviation Ministry has operationalised 268 routes under the UDAN scheme.

2. Which European country recently imposed a record 1.1 billion euro fine on Apple Company for its anti-competitive behaviour?

- [A] Germany [B] France ☒
[C] Italy [D] Spain

✓ The competition authority of France recently slapped a record 1.1 billion euro (equivalent to \$1.2 billion) fine on US tech major Apple.

✓ The fine was imposed for the firm's anti-competitive behaviour towards its independent retail distributors. The country's authority announced that it found Apple allegedly used its economic power on its independent retail distributors.

3. Which country is set to create a \$4 billion anti-crisis fund to protect its economy from COVID-19 outbreak?

- [A] India [B] Russia ☒
[C] United States of America [D] Pakistan

✓ The Prime Minister of Russia recently announced that the country will create a \$4 billion (300-billion rouble) anti-crisis fund with an aim of protecting its economy from the coronavirus attack.

✓ He also announced that Russia may miss its growth targets this year and international markets have been crashed by the impact of the virus.

✓ Huge drop in the price of Russia's main export, Oil has made its economy dip. The country is set to unveil new support measures would include tax breaks for tourism companies and airlines.

4. Which former Chief Justice of India has been nominated to Rajya Sabha?

- [A] Ranjan Gogoi ☒ [B] Dipak Misra
[C] Jagdish Singh Khehar [D] T. S. Thakur

✓ The former Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi has been nominated to Rajya Sabha by the President Ram Nath Kovind, as per the notification of the Home Ministry.

✓ The nomination is done to fill the vacancy arising due to retirement of one of the members. The maximum strength of Rajya Sabha is 250 members out of which 12 are nominated by the President of India. Gogoi was the 46th Chief Justice in India.

5. What is the share of Indian companies in Defence Ministry's contracts for procurement of defence equipment in 2019-20?

- [A] 25.03 % [B] 50.03 %
[C] 75.03 % ☒ [D] 90.03 %

✓ As per the recent information from the Union Defence Ministry, the share of Indian companies in contracts awarded by the Defence Ministry for procurement of defence equipment is 75.03% in 2019-20.

✓ The share has increased from 39.06 per cent in 2015-16 to 75.03% in 2019-20 as the Ministry tries to procure indigenously manufactured equipment to the maximum extent. In the last 5 years 158 contracts were signed with Indian vendors against 100 foreign contracts.

6. Ravinder Singh Dhillon has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of which Public Sector Undertaking?

[A] Power Finance Corporation ☒ [B] CIL

[C] NLC Ltd. [D] NTPC Ltd.

✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Ravinder Singh Dhillon as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Limited.

✓ It is a 'Navratna' PSU which functions under the aegis of Ministry of Power. Ravinder Singh Dhillon is currently serving as Director (Projects) in the same PSU.

7. The Central bank of which country slashed its benchmark interest rate to almost zero and announced to buy USD 700 billion in bonds?

[A] China [B] India

[C] United States ☒ [D] Japan

✓ The Central bank of the United States—the Federal Reserve has recently cut its benchmark interest rate to almost zero.

✓ The Fed Reserve also announced that it would buy USD 700 billion in bonds to ease the economic activities. The bank also said that it shall maintain this target range until the economy is on track to achieve its maximum employment and price stability goal.

8. Patil Puttappa, who recently passed away, was associated with which field?

[A] Sports [B] Journalism ☒

[C] Business [D] Research

✓ Veteran journalist Patil Puttappa (99) who was fondly known as 'Papu' has passed away recently. He was an ardent follower of Gandhian principles and a Khadi activist.

✓ He had received several prestigious awards including the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award, T.S.R. Award, and

'Nadoja'. He had recently been presented the 'Basava Award' by the Chief Minister of Karnataka.

9. Which Indian institution has launched a re-skilling programme for women called 'Career Back 2 Women'?

[A] IIT Madras ☒ [B] IIT Mumbai

[C] IIT Ahmedabad [D] IIT Kharagpur

✓ The IIT Madras has recently launched a re-skilling programme for women called 'Career Back 2 Women'. The programme aims at offering 150 hrs of training to re-skill women who've taken a break from their career.

✓ The certification course comprises of artificial intelligence, machine learning, cyber security data science and big data. This programme is done through the Institute's Digital Skills Academy.

10. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, whose birth centenary was celebrated recently, was the Founder President of which country?

[A] Nepal [B] Bangladesh ☒

[C] Thailand [D] Afghanistan

✓ Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, also known as Bangabandhu was the Founder President of independent nation of Bangladesh. He led the movement against the Pakistani rulers in the then, East Pakistan, which led to the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971.

✓ His birth centenary was celebrated on March 17, this year in Bangladesh and across the world. The year long celebration has been named as 'Mujib Barsho'.

1. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a book titled, 'Invincible' based on which Former Union Defence Minister?

- [A] Arun Jaitley [B] Manohar Parrikar ☒
[C] George Fernandes [D] Jaswant Singh

- ✓ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh paid tribute to the late Goa Chief Minister and former Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar ahead of his death anniversary.
- ✓ He also launched a book titled 'Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar'. Manohar Parrikar was the CM of Goa passed away due to an illness and he was succeeded by Pramod Sawant as the next CM. He served as the Defence Minister of India from 2014 to 2017.

2. As per the recent notification from the Reserve Bank of India, 'PA's are to be regulated by the central bank. What does 'PA' stands for?

- [A] Payment Agency [B] Payment Aggregator ☒
[C] Payment Authority [D] Processing Authority

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India recently announced that it will regulate the entire activities of Payment Aggregators (PAs). Payment Aggregators enable the e-commerce sites and merchants to accept various payment instruments from the customers.
- ✓ As per the guidelines on regulation of PAs and Payment gateways, the existing PAs should attain a net-worth of Rs 15 crore by March 31, 2021 and a networth of Rs 25 crore on or before March 31, 2023. Thereafter the net-worth of Rs 25 crore shall be maintained at all times.

3. Who is the author of the recently released book titled 'My Encounters in Parliament'?

- [A] Bhalchandra Mungekar ☒ [B] Hamid Ansari
[C] Sitaram Yechury [D] D Raja

- ✓ Former Vice-President of India Hamid Ansari launched the book authored by Bhalchandra Mungekar, which was titled as "My Encounters in Parliament".

- ✓ The event was attended by NCP chief Sharad Pawar, CPI general secretary D Raja and CPI (M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury.

- ✓ Bhalchandra Mungekar is an Indian economist, Social worker and a former Rajya Sabha member. He is an ardent Ambekarite and an expert in agricultural economics. He has served in several important organisations including the Planning Commission.

4. In context with the recently passed Aircraft (amendment) Bill, 2020, how many regulatory institutions are to be converted into statutory bodies?

- [A] 3 ☒ [B] 4 [C] 5 [D] 6

- ✓ The Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was passed by a voice vote in the Lok Sabha. This bill seeks to amend Aircraft Act, 1934.
- ✓ It aims to convert three existing regulatory bodies under the Civil Aviation Ministry into statutory bodies. The regulatory institutions, which are mentioned in the bill are DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation), BCAS (Bureau of Civil Aviation Security) and AAIB (Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau).

5. Which technological firm along with NASSCOM Foundation launched the 'Innovate for Accessible India' campaign?

- [A] Google [B] Microsoft ☒
[C] Amazon [D] Apple

- ✓ Microsoft India and NASSCOM Foundation partnered to launch the 'Innovate for Accessible India' campaign.
- ✓ The campaign aims at empowering people with disabilities with the technology required for better access to equal opportunities. The campaign invites applications from students, citizens and social organisations to build customised solutions that address challenges faced by people with disabilities.
- ✓ The ten best solutions will be provided mentoring support by Microsoft and NASSCOM Foundation, along with financial grants.

6. Air India CMD Ashwani Lohani has been appointed as the Chairman of Tourism Development Corporation of which state?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh [B] Gujarat
[C] Andhra Pradesh ☒ [D] Rajasthan

✓ Former Chairman and Managing Director of Air India Ashwani Lohani has been recently appointed as the Chairman of Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (APTDC).

✓ This was announced in the order released by the Chief Secretary of the state and the appointment has been made for 1 year. He had earlier served in several similar positions including the Chairman of the Railway Board and CMD of the India Tourism Development Corp.

7. 'World Cities Summit' is a global biennial conference hosted by which country?

- [A] United Kingdom [B] Japan
[C] Singapore ☒ [D] United Arab Emirates

✓ 'World Cities Summit' is a global biennial conference hosted by Singapore. This year, World Cities Summit 2020 is scheduled to be held from July 5 to 9.

✓ The theme of this year's summit as announced by the Singapore government is 'Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World'. Leaders from several governments and industry experts discuss on challenges in climate change, social shifts and technological disruptions.

8. Adnan al-Zurfi was appointed as the new Prime minister of which country by its President Barham Salih?

- [A] Iran [B] Iraq ☒
[C] Israel [D] Oman

✓ The President of Iraq Barham Salih has appointed Adnan al-Zurfi as the countrys' new Prime Minister. This announcement has been provided amidst the months-long political crisis prevalent in Iraq.

✓ Within 30 days, Al-Zurfi has to form his cabinet which shall be put to a vote of confidence in Iraq's Parliament. Al-Zurfi would replace caretaker Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi, who quit in December following wide-spread mass demonstrations against the government.

9. Which Indian state uses robots to spread awareness on COVID-19 among the public?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh [B] Telangana
[C] Kerala ☒ [D] Odisha

✓ Kerala has launched an initiative to use robots for creating awareness on COVID-19 among the public.

✓ Two robots have been built by a startup in Kerala called 'Asimov', under the Kerala Startup Mission, an initiative by the state government to promote startup firms. One wears a mask and distributes hand sanitisers, napkins, and masks to people while the other robot responds to queries. They are deployed in Kochi on a pilot basis.

10. The football coach Francisco Garcia, who has recently passed away after contracting coronavirus, belonged to which country?

- [A] United States [B] Spain ☒
[C] South Korea [D] Thailand

✓ Spanish football coach Francisco Garcia has recently passed away after contracting coronavirus, at the age of 21. He is also the youngest victim of the illness in the region.

✓ Garcia was serving as the manager of Atletico Portada Alta's youth team and he was tested positive for COVID-19 last week. During his treatment, it was found out that he was also suffering from leukaemia. All major football competitions like have been suspended due to coronavirus outbreak.

1. Which state announced a ₹20,000 crore economic package to deal with the coronavirus outbreak?
- [A] Maharashtra [B] Kerala ☒
- [C] Uttar Pradesh [D] Telangana
- ✓ The Kerala state government announced a ₹20,000 crore economic package to deal with the coronavirus outbreak. This package includes funds to clear dues which the govt., owes individuals and institutions, providing consumer loans, disbursing welfare pension of 2 months in advance and a health package.
- ✓ The Chief Minister also announced free ration for all of this month, where everyone in the state will be given free food grain up to 10 kg through ration shops.
2. Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved the procurement of 83 Tejas fighter aircrafts, manufactured by which organisation?
- [A] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited ☒
- [B] Bharat Electronics Limited
- [C] Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- [D] Ordnance Factory Board
- ✓ Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved the procurement of 83 Tejas fighter aircrafts, which are manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- ✓ The Lite Combat Aircraft Tejas is indigenously designed by Aircraft Development Agency under the Defence Research and Development Organisation. This order of 83 air-crafts is in addition to the previous order of 43 air-crafts approved earlier.
3. Which state government removed reservation in promotions for SC/ST employees?
- [A] Uttarakhand ☒ [B] Bihar
- [C] Madhya Pradesh [D] Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ The state government of Uttarakhand issued orders to remove reservation in promotions for SC/ST employees.
- ✓ In the month of Feb.2020, the Supreme Court stated that the govt is not bound to make reservations and claiming reservation in promotions is not a fundamental right. Now Uttarakhand govt., has implemented government order which bans reservation in promotion.
4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is conducting an OMO for purchase of Rs 10,000 crore worth government securities. What does OMO stand for?
- [A] Open Money Operations
- [B] Open Market Operations ☒
- [C] Overview of Market Operations
- [D] Overview of Money Operations
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is conducting Open Market Operations (OMO) in the form of purchase of Rs 10,000 crore worth government securities.
- ✓ This important step of the central bank has been announced at the backdrop of the increased risks of COVID-19 pandemic. The operation would increase the liquidity in the Indian economy and would help the financial market segments which are affected by the economic risks.
5. Which social media platform launched 'Coronavirus Information Hub' in partnership with WHO, UNICEF and UNDP?
- [A] Twitter [B] WhatsApp ☒
- [C] Instagram [D] Telegram
- ✓ Facebook-owned WhatsApp has recently announced the global launch of "WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub" in partnership with the World Health Organization, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Development Program.
- ✓ It has also contributed \$1m to the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN), to

enhance the fact-checking network to curb fake news and rumours around coronavirus.

6. Which multi-national bank has announced a USD 6.5 billion package for its member countries to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic?

[A] European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

[B] African Development Bank

[C] Asian Development Bank ☒

[D] Inter-American Development Bank

✓ Manila-based Asian Development Bank recently announced an initial package of \$6.5 billion (₹48,230 crore) to cater the immediate needs of its developing member countries in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

✓ As per the announcement of the Development bank, out of the total package, \$3.6 billion will be made available to governments for addressing health and economic consequences of the pandemic and \$1.6 billion for micro, small & medium enterprises, domestic & regional trade.

7. Roger Mayweather, who recently passed away, was a World Champion and trainer in which sports?

[A] Weight Lifting

[B] Boxing ☒

[C] Wrestling

[D] Chess

✓ Roger Mayweather (58) who passed away recently was a 2 time world champion turned trainer in boxing. He was also the uncle of the boxing star Floyd Mayweather.

✓ Roger Mayweather had won world titles at super feather-weight and super lite-weight categories. During his 20 year boxing career, he gained 59 triumphs.

8. The 'COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force', unveiled by the Prime Minister of India, is to be headed by which Union minister?

[A] Piyush Goyal

[B] Harsh Vardhan

[C] Nirmala Sitharaman ☒

[D] Rajnath Singh

✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his public address, announced the setting up of a COVID-19 economic response task force. The task force is to be headed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to measure the economic impact of the pandemic and take appropriate steps.

✓ The Finance Minister is set to meet the Ministers of animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, civil aviation, tourism and MSME, for getting feedback and assessing the economic impact of COVID-19.

9. The Defence Ministry signed an 880-crore contract for procurement of 16,479 light machine guns (LMGs) from which country?

[A] United States

[B] Israel ☒

[C] France

[D] Russia

✓ The Defence Ministry has recently signed an 880-crore contract with Israel Weapons Industries (IWI) for procurement of 16,479 light machine guns (LMGs).

✓ According to the contract which was signed with the Israel-based arms industry company, it would provide Negev 7.62 x 51 mm light machine guns to the Indian armed forces. This type of LMG is a combat proven weapon and used by several countries around the globe at present.

10. Which financial institution is set to launch 'Swavalamban Express' Train to promote entrepreneurship?

[A] SIDBI ☒

[B] NABARD

[C] NHB

[D] EXIM

✓ The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) said that it will launch Swavalamban Express Train on June 5 this year for budding entrepreneurs.

✓ The Swavalamban Express will travel to 11 cities covering 7,000 km in 15 days. This is a part of its umbrella mission Swavalamban. Under this mission, youths will board the train with an idea and they shall get down with effective business plan after a series of experimental learning.