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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



JUNE 2020

From 01 June to 08 June

1. What is *Puntius sanctus* that was seen in news as a recently discovered species?

[A] Spider

[B] Turtle

[C] Fish ☒

[D] Snake

✓ Recently, a new silver fish species has been discovered by the Head of the Zoology Department from a Kollam-based College, Kerala at Velankanni, Tamil Nadu. The small freshwater fish belongs to the family Cyprinidae and it has been named as '*Puntius sanctus*'.

✓ His research was funded by the Department of Science and Technology. The new fish is deposited in Zoological Survey of India. It has also been registered with ZooBank of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature.

2. Which state is set to launch Virtual queue management application named Bev Q?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala ☒

[C] Andhra Pradesh

[D] Odisha

✓ Bev Q, a virtual queue management app developed by a Kochi based startup Faircode Technologies, has recently been approved by Google after 2 level testing. This is to be implemented to manage queues of liquor shops.

✓ The state government of Kerala announced that liquor shops would not be opened until a queue management system is implemented. The staff working at the shops are being trained through online and video tutorials in coordination with the Kerala State Beverages Corporation.

3. Who is the author of the book 'The Ickabog', that was seen in news recently?

[A] John Green

[B] J K Rowling ☒

[C] Margaret Atwood

[D] Bill Bryson

✓ The Harry Potter fame author J K Rowling recently unveiled her story online for the kids across the world,. The title of the story is 'The Ickabog' and it is her first children's story not linked to Harry Potter.

✓ The chapters of the story will be published daily until July 10, in an exclusive website recently created for the story. The author also announced that she had written this story a decade ago.

4. Which ridesharing company's subsidiary has acquired Netherlands based manufacturer Etergo BV?

[A] Uber

[B] Ola ☒

[C] Lyft

[D] Didi

✓ Ola Electric, the subsidiary of the India ridesharing platform Ola, has recently acquired Netherlands-based OEM (Original Equipment manufacturer) Etergo BV.

✓ By this acquisition, Ola Electric is set to enter the premium electric 2 wheeler market, both domestic and global. Ola Electric is to use the design and engineering capabilities of Etergo to build its smart electric two-wheeler and launch in India in the year 2021.

5. 'CatchUp' application that was seen in news, has been launched by which major technology company?

[A] Microsoft

[B] Facebook ☒

[C] Amazon

[D] Apple

✓ Facebook has recently launched CatchUp application, that lets the users make free phone calls. The application developed by internal R&D group of Facebook - NPE Team, allows the users to make phone calls up to 8 people simultaneously.

✓ It uses the Facebook account in the phone to coordinate the service. It is launched at the US as a pilot service and expected to be launched across the world soon.

6. What is the target year to achieve 220 lakh metric tons of fish production, as per Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)?

[A] 2021-22

[B] 2022-23

[C] 2023-24

[D] 2024-25 ☒

- ✓ The Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Giriraj Singh addressed a conference on the "PMMSY – A scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India".

- ✓ The scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet on May 20. It aims to increase fish production to 220 lakh metric tons by 2024-25 from 137.58 lakh metric tons in 2018-19 at an average annual growth rate of 9%. There will be an estimated investment of Rs. 20,050 crores divided by the centre, states and beneficiaries.

7. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) partnered with Narmada Basin Projects Company Ltd. (NBPL) to fund power projects in which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh ☒ [B] Bihar
[C] Himachal Pradesh [D] Uttar Pradesh

- ✓ Narmada Basin Projects Company Ltd is a wholly owned company of Madhya Pradesh government. Central PSU under Ministry of Power, Power Finance Corporation has recently partnered with NBPL to fund projects worth ₹22,000 crore in Madhya Pradesh.

- ✓ Hydroelectric projects and power components of 12 major multipurpose projects are to be set up by deploying the funds. Major multipurpose projects, which are to be financed include Basaniya Multipurpose Project, Chinki Boras Multipurpose Project Dudhi Project, among others.

8. Which international toy brand has collaborated with NITI Aayog and Save the Children, to support children impacted by COVID-19 in India?

- [A] Fisher-Price [B] Barbie
[C] Hot Wheels [D] LEGO ☒

- ✓ World's leading toy brand the LEGO Group has recently collaborated with NITI Aayog and Save the Children, to support children impacted by COVID-19 in India.

- ✓ Under the partnership, LEGO will promote 'Learning through Play' and support home based learning for children aged 3-8 years during the lockdown times.

- ✓ The initiative will improve access to quality pre-school education through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and pre-school centres.

9. Which country announced a 'Bug bounty programme', to incentivise those who identify flaws in its COVID-19 contact tracing app?

- [A] United States [B] India ☒
[C] United Kingdom [D] Brazil

- ✓ India's COVID-19 contact tracing app 'Aarogya Setu' was made an open source application by its think tank NITI Aayog. After several privacy concerns were raised over the app, it has been open sourced so that researchers can identify any vulnerability in the app to make it more secure.

- ✓ National Informatics Centre (NIC), which had developed the app has announced a bug bounty programme to incentivise those who find flaws in the app.

10. Who has been appointed as the new President of New Development Bank (NDB)?

- [A] Urjit Patel [B] Marcos Troyjo ☒
[C] Christine Lagarde [D] Arundhati Bhattacharya

- ✓ Former Deputy Economy Minister of Brazil, Marcos Prado Troyjo has been selected as the new President of the Shanghai-based New Development Bank's (NDB). He is to replace the veteran Indian banker KV Kamath as the President of the multilateral financial institution set up by the BRICS countries.

- ✓ Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the special board of Governors of NDB meeting through video-conference. Another Indian Anil Kishora was selected as the Vice President of NDB during the conference.

1. Which country's survey team recently became the first to reach the peak of Everest this year?

[A] Nepal

[B] India

[C] China ☒

[D] Thailand

✓ The Survey team of China became the first to climb and reach the peak Mt. Everest this year. This is a part of the project to remeasure the exact height of the Everest.

✓ Both China and Nepal cancelled the 'spring' climbing season on the world's tallest mountain in order to prevent the expedition teams from getting infected by coronavirus. Hence the Chinese survey team is likely the only team to reach the peak of Everest, this year.

2. Which country has commenced the development of its first stealth bomber named 'PAK DA'?

[A] China

[B] Russia ☒

[C] South Korea

[D] United States

✓ According to the government-backed news agency of Russia, the country has started developing its first stealth bomber named 'PAK DA'.

✓ It is estimated the aircraft would be completed next year and it would be able to carry an array of advanced missiles and bombs, including hypersonic weapons. This will compete with the B2 strategic stealth bomber of the United States. China is also in the process of developing its own stealth bomber, Xian H20.

3. As per a recent study by Deloitte, which country is placed at the top spot in Global anxiety index?

[A] Spain

[B] Italy

[C] India ☒

[D] Brazil

✓ Multinational service network Deloitte recently conducted 'Global State of the Consumer Tracker' survey using an online panel, among the people across the world aged above 18.

✓ As per the study, consumers in India are the most worried during these uncertain times and are placed at the top of the Global anxiety index with a score of 33.

✓ India was followed by Mexico and Spain. However, the anxiety score of India has gradually declined during the month of May.

4. When is, 'World Hunger Day' celebrated every year?

[A] May 26

[B] May 28 ☒

[C] May 30

[D] May 31

✓ World Hunger Day is an initiative by 'The Hunger' Project, which is a New York based organisation committed to end hunger across the world, through programmes in various parts of the world.

✓ It is celebrated on May 28 every year across the world. According to the UN's recent data, the number of people suffering from hunger is rising continuously after 2015. The aim of World Hunger Day is to spread awareness about the impact of acute hunger and solutions to solve hunger and poverty.

5. Which organisation has launched an artificial intelligence (AI) based chatbot named 'PAI'?

[A] National Payment Corporation of India ☒

[B] Food Corporation of India

[C] Securities Exchange Board of India

[D] Confederation of Indian Industries

✓ National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI), that operates retail payments and settlement systems in India has recently launched an artificial intelligence (AI) based chatbot named 'PAI'.

✓ The virtual assistant has been launched with an aim to create awareness about its flagship products like FASTag, RuPay, UPI, and AePS on a real time basis. Users can send queries about the products and they get verified automated responses. Global RuPay Card holders can access the chatbot.

6. Which day is celebrated on May 28th by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights?

[A] International Day of Action for Women's Health ☒

[B] International Day of Women's reproductive rights

[C] International Day of Population

[D] International Day of Gender Equality

- ✓ International Day of Action for Women's Health is celebrated on May 28 every year by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights. Several women's health advocates and their communities have been leading the celebration of the day since 1987.
- ✓ During the International Women's Health Meeting in Costa Rica, Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN) proposed to celebrate May 28 as International Day of Action for Women's Health.

7. Who is the head of the 11 member annual grant and affiliation committee constituted by the Indian Olympic Association?

[A] Adille Sumariwala ☒

[B] D R Saini

[C] Vagish Pathak

[D] Abu Mehta

- ✓ The Indian Olympic Association has constituted an 11 member committee led by Adille Sumariwala, the President of Athletics Federation of India.
- ✓ The committee has been constituted to review and monitor annual grant and affiliation fee of its members for the 2020–2021 cycle, in coordination with the finance department. The committee is also required to send a report on all pending issues regarding previous year to IOA President.

8. Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently signed a USD 177 million loan agreement with India to upgrade road connectivity of which state?

[A] Madhya Pradesh

[B] Andhra Pradesh

[C] Maharashtra ☒

[D] West Bengal

- ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently signed a USD 177 million loan agreement with the Government of India to upgrade 450 kilometers (km) of state highways and major district roads in the state of Maharashtra.

- ✓ The project is expected to improve road connectivity between rural areas and urban centres in the state and enable rural communities to access markets and employment opportunities. The project will also develop a road safety audit framework and strengthen road safety measures.

9. What is the new name of Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET)?

[A] Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engg & Tech ☒

[B] National Institute of Petrochemicals Engg & Tech

[C] National Institute of Plastics Engg & Tech

[D] Bharat Institute of Plastics Engg & Tech

- ✓ Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) has been renamed as Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET).
- ✓ CIPET is a premier national institution under the Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. It is located at SIDCO Industrial Estate, Chennai. With expanded coverage, CIPET will undertake efforts to promote the entire petrochemical sector with a focus on Academics, Skill improvement and Research.

10. Which e-Commerce platform has partnered with Karnataka Mango Board to sell fresh produce of fruits online?

[A] Amazon

[B] Flipkart ☒

[C] Snapdeal

[D] Shopclues

- ✓ Leading e-commerce platform Flipkart has signed a MoU with Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation, to enable farmers to sell their fresh fruits online.
- ✓ Under the agreement, India Post would function as the delivery partner. Mango Board, Farmer Producer Organisations, sellers, growers, and traders can enrol themselves in the Flipkart platform to supply several varieties of mangoes across the state.

1. Which Indian state has proposed to launch a first-of-its kind "State Health Register" project?

- [A] Odisha [B] Andhra Pradesh
[C] Rajasthan [D] Karnataka ☒

- ✓ The state government of Karnataka recently announced that it would launch a first-of-its kind project called "State Health Register".
- ✓ The aim of the project is to maintain the health database of all its citizens in the register. As per the state's release, a survey of all 6.5 crore people in the state using ASHA team, Primary Health Centre, members from Revenue & Education Departments. It'll be implemented in Chikkaballapur district on a pilot basis.

2. Which country was the largest source of FDI in India during 2019–20 financial year?

- [A] United States [B] Singapore ☒
[C] Mauritius [D] France

- ✓ As per the recent data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Singapore was the largest source of FDI in India during 2019–20 with USD 14.67 billion worth investments. It was followed by Mauritius and the Netherlands.
- ✓ The data also showed that FDI in India grew by 13% to a record high USD 49.97 billion in 2019–20. Maximum foreign inflows were in service sector (USD 7.85 billion), followed by computer software and hardware.

3. Who is the Chairperson of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)?

- [A] RBI Governor [B] Finance Minister ☒
[C] Finance Secretary [D] Corporate Affairs Minister

- ✓ Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 22nd Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) and reviewed the current global and domestic macro-economic situation and financial stability in the nation.

- ✓ Union Finance Minister is the chairperson of FSDC, an autonomous regulatory body setup in the year 2010. Besides the ten members which includes the RBI Governor, Finance Secretary, Chief Economic Adviser, Chairpersons of SEBI, IRDAI, PFRDA, and IBBI among others, the Finance Minister may invite any other required person.

4. Which realtime facility has been launched by the Union Finance Minister that uses Aadhaar number-based e-KYC?

- [A] Instant Demat Account
[B] Instant Permanent Account Number (PAN) ☒
[C] Instant Passport
[D] Instant Udyog Aadhar

- ✓ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has officially launched the instant Permanent Account Number (PAN) facility which uses Aadhaar number based e-KYC.

- ✓ This was announced during the 2020 budget along with an interchangeable Aadhar and PAN feature. The Income tax department launched the beta facility on their e-filing website in February 2020. As this a paperless and realtime facility, the turn around time taken for allotting the PAN through this facility is only about 10 minutes.

5. Which association of India recently organised the 'Digital Summit on Exports' through video conferencing?

- [A] FICCI [B] CII ☒
[C] NASSCOM [D] FCI

- ✓ Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal participated in the Digital Summit on Exports organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). During his address through video conferencing, the Minister said that he expects the decline in exports to narrow to 8–10 per cent in the month of June.

- ✓ In the month of April, 28 out of 30 major product groups have witnessed huge decline in exports up to 99 per cent.

6. What is the theme of the 'World Menstrual Hygiene Day' observed on May 28 every year?

[A] Healthy Menstruation

[B] Periods in Pandemic ☒

[C] Menstrual Hygiene Management

[D] Access to safe menstruation

- ✓ Every year, May 28 has been celebrated as the World Menstrual Hygiene Day across the world. It is a global platform initiated by the German non-profit organisation WASH United.
- ✓ This year, the theme of Menstrual Hygiene Day is 'Periods in Pandemic'. Several government agencies, individuals, non-profits and media join hands to create awareness about the safe menstruation practices and hygiene management.

7. Which famous technology company has launched a short music videos application called 'Collab'?

[A] Amazon

[B] Facebook ☒

[C] Microsoft

[D] Google

- ✓ Facebook has recently launched an experimental short music videos application called 'Collab'. The videos created using Collab app can be published on other platforms including Instagram and Facebook Stories.
- ✓ The research team of Facebook, NPE Teams has developed this application. Earlier, the team had developed some other apps including CatchUp & Hobbi.

8. Which Indian personality has been selected by the UNICEF to spread awareness on menstrual hygiene?

[A] Priyanka Chopra

[B] Deepika Padukone

[C] Manushi Chhillar ☒

[D] Smriti Mandana

- ✓ Manushi Chhillar, who won the title of Miss World in 2017 has joined hands with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to spread awareness about menstrual hygiene. Manushi runs an initiative on menstrual hygiene named Project Shakti.

- ✓ With this partnership, she will promote the efforts to educate girls about menstrual hygiene and to construct sanitation facilities. On May 28, World Menstrual Hygiene Day, she participated in UNICEF global initiative called the Red Dot Challenge.

9. Top Executive Thierry Delaporte has been appointed as the MD and CEO of which major IT firm of India?

[A] Tata Consultancy Services

[B] Wipro ☒

[C] Infosys

[D] HCL

- ✓ India's leading Information Technology firm announced that top Capgemini executive Thierry Delaporte has been appointed as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD). He is to replace the present head of Wipro Abidali Neemuchwala.
- ✓ Prior to this assignment, Thierry Delaporte had been associated with Capgemini and held several roles including the Chief Operating Officer and a member of its Group Executive Board. This is the first non-Indian appointment of chief, made by Indian firms.

10. Which country is the last among G7 nations to join the association's Artificial Intelligence (AI) group?

[A] Canada

[B] France

[C] United Kingdom

[D] United States ☒

- ✓ The United States has recently joined the G7 Artificial Intelligence group, an international panel for setting ethical guidelines for usage of artificial intelligence.
- ✓ As per the announcement from the White House, this move was to counter China in threatening civil liberties using technologies. The heads of France and Canada proposed this global group to guide the adoption of AI, which was rejected by the US President Trump. Now US is the last nation to join the Global Partnership on AI.

1. What is the theme of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, 2020?

[A] Women in Peacekeeping: A Key to Peace ☒

[B] Honouring Peacekeeping

[C] Women, Peace and Security

[D] Risk of COVID-19 in peacekeeping

✓ The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is celebrated on 29 May every year, to pay tribute to the contribution of the peacekeepers. This year the theme of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, 2020 is "Women in Peacekeeping: A Key to Peace".

✓ This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace & Security. UN honours more than 3,900 UN peacekeepers who have lost their lives during their service, since 1948.

2. Which state has launched the 'Rozgar Setu' scheme for skilled migrant workers?

[A] Maharashtra [B] Madhya Pradesh ☒

[C] Uttar Pradesh [D] Odisha

✓ The state of Madhya Pradesh has recently launched a new scheme called 'Rozgar Setu' scheme, with an aim of providing employment to the skilled workers who have returned to the state.

✓ The state is surveying the skilled workers who were employed at industries in other states and have returned now. The government will contact the owners of industries and factories and contractors associated with infrastructure projects such as road and bridge construction.

3. How many additional Minor Forest produce items were included in Minimum Support Price List by the Tribal Affairs Ministry?

[A] 25 [B] 35 [C] 23 ☒ [D] 33

✓ Ministry of Tribal Affairs has announced Inclusion of 23 additional Minor Forest Produce (MFP) items in the Minimum Support Price List.

✓ Under the "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce through Minimum Support price and development of Value Chain of MFP" scheme of 2011, the forest dwellers are safeguarded by a minimum price. This inclusion has increased the coverage from 50 to 73 items in the list.

4. The foundation stone for a Missile park named "Agneprastha" was laid in which city?

[A] Cochin [B] Mumbai

[C] Visakhapatnam ☒ [D] Ahmedabad

✓ The foundation stone for setting up a Missile Park 'Agneprastha' was recently laid at INS Kalinga, Visakhapatnam by Commodore Rajesh Debnath, who heads INS Kalinga. A 2 MW solar photovoltaic plant was also commissioned at INS Kalinga by the Vice Admiral of Eastern Naval Command.

✓ This is the largest plant in the Eastern Naval Command and has an estimated life of 25 years. This step is in line with the National Solar Mission proposed by the Union Government to achieve 100 GW of solar power by 2022.

5. Labour Ministry partnered with which firm to launch an online "Career skills training" on National Career Service portal?

[A] Larsen & Toubro [B] TCS iON ☒

[C] Infosys [D] Accenture

✓ The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has partnered with TCS iON to offer free online "Career Skills Training" on its National Career Service (NCS) portal. This scheme is to be implemented under the Ministry's National Career Service (NCS) project, which provides several employment related services.

✓ This course also includes soft skills required by several industries. The training module is available to the registered job seekers in both Hindi and English.

6. National Geographic channel in collaboration with Drinking Water Ministry has released a film about which government scheme?

[A] Swachh Bharat Mission ☒

[B] Secure Himalaya Project

[C] Green Skill Development Programme

[D] National Clean Air Programme

- ✓ The National Geographic channel has released a film titled 'Swachh Bharat: India's Sanitary Revolution', in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation.
- ✓ The film was recently premiered at a special screening for the Indian President and also on the NatGeo channel. The film is also made available on the YouTube channel of Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen. Many 'Ambassadors of cleanliness' share their connection with the scheme in the film.

7. What was the real fiscal deficit of India, as a percentage of GDP, for the previous financial year 2019–20?

[A] 3.8% [B] 4.0% [C] 4.25% [D] 4.59% ☒

- ✓ As per the data from the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), India's fiscal deficit was 4.59% of gross domestic product (GDP) for the year 2019–20. Fiscal Deficit is the gap between the government's revenue and expenditure the govt's revised target for its fiscal deficit was 3.8%, and the real deficit has exceeded it.
- ✓ However, the budget estimate was 3.5% of GDP. The Union Finance Minister invoked the escape clause in the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act to peg the deficit 0.5% higher than the Budget estimate.

8. Which global organisation has adopted a new voting procedure involving secret ballots for its elections, amidst COVID–19 pandemic?

[A] FAO [B] UN ☒ [C] WHO [D] NATO

- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly has recently adopted a new voting procedure for the upcoming election of new members of the Security Council.

- ✓ This change is due to the restrictions for large gathering and to ensure social distancing during the COVID–19 pandemic. Usually, the assembly meet in a horseshoe-shaped assembly chamber at UN headquarters. But now, the ambassadors from 193 UN member nations will cast secret ballots at predetermined places & time slots.

9. What is the 2020 theme of World No Tobacco Day?

[A] Tobacco: deadly in any form or disguise

[B] Tobacco – a threat to development

[C] Tobacco kills, don't be duped

[D] Protecting Youth ☒

- ✓ The World No Tobacco Day is observed every year on May 31 to encourage a 24 hour period of abstinence from all forms of tobacco consumption around the globe.
- ✓ The day is further intended to draw attention to the widespread prevalence of tobacco use and to negative health effects, which currently lead to nearly 6 million deaths each year worldwide, including 600,000 of which are the result of non-smokers being exposed to second-hand smoke. The 2020 theme is "Protecting Youth".

10. Which country has terminated its relationship with World Health Organization over its handling of the Corona virus pandemic?

[A] India [B] France [C] UK [D] USA ☒

- ✓ The President of the United States Donald Trump has recently announced that US is terminating its relationship with World Health Organization over its handling of the COVID–19. The President has been blaming WHO and China for the deaths and damages caused by the pandemic across the world. The President also said that the funds provided by the US to WHO will be redirected to other global public health needs. He also issued directions to deny entry to certain Chinese nationals and tightened regulations against Chinese investments in America.

1. Which sports personality was ranked at the top spot in the annual Forbes ranking of highest-paid athletes?

- [A] Cristiano Ronaldo [B] Lionel Messi
[C] Virat Kohli [D] Roger Federer ☒

- ✓ Swiss Tennis legend Roger Federer has been ranked at the top spot in the annual Forbes ranking of highest-paid athletes. As per the magazine, the total earning of Federer amounts to USD 106.3 million.
- ✓ He is the winner of record 20 Grand Slam singles titles, the prize money of which gave him USD 6.3 million. Federer is followed by the football trio in next three ranks: Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi and Neymar. Two female Tennis stars Naomi Osaka and Serena Williams were found in the top 100 list.

2. The Union Government has approved Rs 445 Crore for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in which state/UT?

- [A] Jammu & Kashmir [B] Chhattisgarh ☒
[C] Uttar Pradesh [D] Odisha

- ✓ The Union Government has approved 445 crore rupees for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in Chhattisgarh during 2020–21, to provide tap connections to 20 lakh households.
- ✓ The aim of Jal Jeevan Mission is to provide potable drinking water on a long-term basis to every rural household of the country by 2024. During the Union Budget 2020, 3.6 lakh crores has been allocated for this scheme. The migrant labours returned to Chhattisgarh will be involved in the jobs related to water supply.

3. Which country, that currently holds the BRICS Presidency, hosted the Meeting of the BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities?

- [A] Brazil [B] Russia ☒
[C] China [D] South Africa

- ✓ Russia, that currently holds the BRICS Presidency, hosted the meeting of the Heads of Tax Authorities of the BRICS countries. Though the meeting was originally

scheduled to be held in Moscow, owing to COVID-19 restrictions, it was held through video conferencing.

- ✓ The Finance Secretary of India Ajay Bhushan Pandey represented India at the meeting. Possibilities of exploring areas of cooperation in tax matters and response of tax authorities were discussed.

4. Which major technology company has launched a new application named 'Sodar', to help people maintain distancing?

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

- ✓ Major technology firm Google has launched a new application named 'Sodar', to help people maintain social distancing. The application uses Augmented Reality (AR) for this purpose.
- ✓ It creates a visual boundary using the user's smartphone camera and show who is breaching that distance, on a realtime basis. Earlier, the UN Technology Innovation Labs released a free mobile social distancing app 1point5 which uses Bluetooth signal.

5. K-FON project, that is to be implemented in Kerala this year, is associated with which field?

- [A] Nutrition-added food [B] Internet access ☒
[C] Water conservation [D] Space Science

- ✓ The Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan has announced that Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project would be launched by December 2020.
- ✓ The objective of the Rs 1,500 crore scheme is to provide free internet access to the poor and at affordable rates to others. It is being implemented by Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited and Kerala State Electricity Board. Using the KSEB posts, optical fibre cables are being laid across the state.

6. Which is the smallest state of India by area that celebrates its statehood day on May 30?

[A] Goa ☒

[B] Sikkim

[C] Tripura

[D] Meghalaya

✓ Goa is the smallest state of India, by area and the fourth-smallest state by population. It recently celebrated its statehood day on May 30. In 1961, Indian Army invaded and annexed Goa, Daman and Diu into the Indian union, through Operation Vijay.

✓ After that, Goa along with Daman and Diu, was categorised as a centrally administered Union territory of India. On 30 May 1987, the union territory was split and Goa was made the 25th state of India and Daman and Diu remained as a UT.

7. What is the name of the scheme launched by the Uttarakhand state government, to provide loans to migrant workers?

[A] Mukhya Mantri Samridhi Yojana

[B] Mukhya Mantri Yatra Yojana

[C] Mukhya Mantri Pravasi Yojana

[D] Mukhya Mantri Swarojgar Yojana ☒

✓ The state government of Uttarakhand has recently launched a scheme called 'Mukhya Mantri Swarojgar Yojana', to provide loans to the migrant workers amid Covid-19 pandemic. Under the scheme, Uttarakhand government will provide loans worth ₹25 lakh in the manufacturing sector and ₹10 lakh in the service sector.

✓ The migrant workers who are returning to the state are eligible to apply for the loans that will be provided by nationalised banks, scheduled commercial banks and co-operative banks.

8. When is International Everest Day celebrated across the world?

[A] May 28

[B] May 29 ☒

[C] May 30

[D] May 31

✓ International Everest Day is celebrated on May 29, across the world every year. On the same day in the year 1953, Tenzing Norgay of Nepal and Edmund Hillary of New Zealand had successfully scaled the Mt. Everest.

✓ The mountaineer duo were the first human beings to achieve the prestigious feat. Nepal decided to observe the day as International Everest Day since the climber Edmund Hillary passed away in the year 2008.

9. Which state is to launch a project to develop 800 km roads as Herbal roads?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Uttar Pradesh ☒

[C] Himachal Pradesh

[D] Assam

✓ As per the recent announcement of the Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, the state is to develop 800 km roads as Herbal roads in the state. The Herbal roads will have medicinal trees on both sides, including Peepal, Neem, Sehjan and other important herbal trees. The state's Public Works Department will implement the project and rain water recharging system on the roads.

10. What is the name of the Video Blogging Contest, associated with International Yoga Day that was recently announced?

[A] Yoga with Family

[B] My Life-My Yoga ☒

[C] Yoga fights COVID-19

[D] Yoga for the world

✓ The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Mann Ki Baat address announced the Video Blogging Contest named "My Life – My Yoga" (also called "Jeevan Yoga"). It is a collaboration of Ministry of AYUSH and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

✓ The contest is a part of activities related to the 6th International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21st June 2020. The contest is open to participants from all countries.

1. Which file-sharing website has been ordered to be blocked by the Department of Telecom?
- [A] Media Fire [B] We Transfer ☒
- [C] Drop Box [D] One Drive
- ✓ As per the recent order issued by the Department of Telecom, it has directed all internet service providers (ISPs) to block the computer file-sharing website 'We Transfer', due to security reasons.
- ✓ All Internet Service Providers are directed to block two download links on the website WeTransfer as well as the entire website. 'We Transfer' is an Internet-based computer file transfer service platform founded at Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
2. Ashwani Bhatia has been appointed as the new Managing Director of which Indian public sector bank?
- [A] Punjab National Bank [B] Bank of India
- [C] State Bank of India ☒ [D] Union Bank of India
- ✓ The Banks Board Bureau (BBB) has recently recommended the appointment for the toplevel position of three public sector banks. The BBB recommended the appointment of Ashwani Bhatia as the next Managing Director of State Bank of India.
- ✓ Ashwani Bhatia is currently the Deputy Managing Director in SBI. The Board also recommended the appointment of Matam Venkat Rao as the MD & CEO of Central Bank of India and PP Sengupta as the MD & CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.
3. Which venue was originally scheduled for the 47th G7 summit 2020 that has been postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic?
- [A] Brazil [B] United States of America ☒
- [C] China [D] South Africa
- ✓ G7 is an association of seven of the world's largest economies namely the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan. Previously it included Russia and was called the G8.
- ✓ The 47th G7 summit was originally scheduled to be held in the month of June 2020, at Camp David, United States. The US President Donald Trump recently announced that he is postponing the 47th summit to September or November. He also suggested to expand the G7 bloc to include India, Australia, South Korea and Russia.
4. Who has been nominated by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award?
- [A] Shikhar Dhawan [B] Rohit Sharma ☒
- [C] Jasprit Bumrah [D] Ravindra Jadeja
- ✓ The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has nominated Indian cricket star Rohit Sharma for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.
- ✓ Other stars including Ishant Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan and Deepti Yadav have been shortlisted by the BCCI for the Arjuna Award. The period of consideration for the awards is between 2016 January 1 to 2019 December 31. Rohit Sharma has been named the ICC ODI Cricketer of the Year for 2019.
5. What is the name of the programme launched by the Ministry of Electronics and IT, in collaboration with Intel India?
- [A] Responsible AI for Youth ☒
- [B] Sustainable AI for Youth
- [C] Artificial Intelligence for India
- [D] Bharat AI
- ✓ The Union Government has launched a national programme for the youth, called "Responsible AI for Youth". It has been developed by the Ministry of Electronics and IT in collaboration with Intel India, with support from Department of School Education and Literacy. It aims to equip young students with new generation technology.
- ✓ A dedicated portal for Artificial Intelligence, which will be a platform for all AI related developments in India, was also launched to mark the first anniversary of the second tenure of the government. It has been jointly

developed by the Ministry of Electronics and IT and NASSCOM.

6. What is the theme of the World Milk Day 2020?

[A] Milk connecting nations

[B] Milk for All

[C] Milk for SDGs

[D] 20th Anniversary of World Milk Day ☒

✓ World Milk Day is celebrated on June 1, every year across the world. The first World Milk Day was held in the year 2001.

✓ The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN chose June 1 as the World Milk Day, to highlight the role of milk and to publicise activities connected with milk and the milk industry. This year theme is "20th Anniversary of World Milk Day". A virtual campaign rally named 'Enjoy Dairy Rally' was held from May 29–31.

7. In which scheme, three states–Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram have joined, to bring the total number of implementing states to 20?

[A] PM KISAN

[B] One Nation–One Ration Card ☒

[C] PM Fasal Bima Yojana

[D] PM Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana

✓ As per the recent announcement from the Food and Consumer Affairs Ministry, three more States namely Odisha, Sikkim and Mizoram have recently joined the 'One Nation–One Ration Card' scheme.

✓ This addition has taken the total number of states and union territories that have joined the scheme to 20. In the three states, the necessary infrastructure work for joining the scheme including upgradation of electronic Point of Sale (e–PoS) software have been completed.

8. When is the Global Parents Day celebrated by the United Nations, every year?

[A] May 31 [B] Jun.1 ☒ [C] Jun.2 [D] Jun.3

✓ June 1 was declared as the Global Day of Parents by the UN General Assembly in 2012. Since then, June 1 is being celebrated as Global Day of Parents every year.

✓ The day is celebrated with an objective of honouring all the parents around the world for their commitment and sacrifice they do for their children. Among the efforts to build social development, the UNGA proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family and 15 May of every year as the International Day of Families.

9. Which state / UT is set to produce the high–quality Australian Merino sheep wool indigenously?

[A] J&K [B] Uttarakhand ☒ [C] MP [D] UP

✓ As per the test report of the Animal Husbandry Department of the state of Uttarakhand, the quality of the state's sheep wool compiled was similar to the Merino sheep wool.

✓ The Merino sheep wool of Australia is famous across the world in the textile industry for its fine texture. India imports nearly 8000 MT of fine wool every year. Uttarakhand received 250 Merino sheep under the national livestock scheme last year. With appropriate breeding programmes, Uttarakhand would produce high quality fine Merino wool.

10. Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojna scheme is implemented under which Union Ministry?

[A] Health & Family Welfare [B] Home Ministry

[C] Chemicals & Fertilizers ☒ [D] MSME

✓ Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers implements the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojna scheme through the network of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras. The scheme aims to make quality medicines available at affordable prices to all and reduce out expenses for healthcare.

✓ The scheme was seen in news recently, as it achieved sales of Rs. 100.4 Crores in the first two months of 2020–21. During March, April & May 2020, the Kendras have sold Rs. 144 Crores worth affordable medicines.