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# SECOND WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



## JUNE 2020

From 09 June to 14 June

1. What is the name of the scheme that was launched in 2015, to promote organic farming among small and marginal farmers?

[A] Pradhan Mantri KISAN Vikas Yojana

[B] Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana ☒

[C] Organic Farming Mission

[D] Operation Greens

✓ Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was launched by the Agriculture Ministry under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) in 2015. It was launched with an aim to promote organic farming among small and marginal farmers.

✓ Recently, the NITI Aayog organised an online high level roundtable, which was attended by several national and international experts and policy makers. It aims to boost agroecological and natural farming practices in India. The Agriculture Minister said that PKVY covered 7 lakh hectares and 8 lakh farmers.

2. Which state-owned organisation has developed a multipurpose disinfection unit named Ultra Swachh?

[A] DRDO ☒

[B] CSIR

[C] HAL

[D] BARC

✓ Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), the Delhi based laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a disinfection unit named Ultra Swachh.

✓ It is a multipurpose unit, which can be used to disinfect a wide range of objects and materials including Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), fabrics among others. The system is compliant with international standards of personal and environmental safety. The system will be available in two variants namely Ozonated Space and Trinetra Technology

3. What are the large group of asteroids that share the Jupiter's orbit around the Sun, commonly called as?

[A] Trojan asteroids ☒

[B] Dragon Asteroids

[C] Migrant Asteroids

[D] Queen Asteroids

✓ The large group of asteroids that share the Jupiter's orbit around the Sun are commonly called as Trojan asteroids or Jupiter Trojans. The trojans follow the same orbit of planet but stay either around 60° ahead or 60° behind along the orbit.

✓ Recently, a team of astronomers from the University of Hawaii and Queen's University Belfast have found that 2019 LD2 is the first known Jupiter Trojan asteroid to have a comet like tail. It was first discovered in June 2019 by the ATLAS system funded by NASA. But it could not be observed then, as it passed behind the sun.

4. As per the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the southwest monsoon occurs during which period of the year?

[A] July–August

[B] June–September ☒

[C] June–December

[D] August–November

✓ As per the recent announcement from the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the southwest monsoon arrived on time over the Kerala coast.

✓ The southwest monsoon usually occurs in the period of June–September. IMD declares the start of the monsoon when 60% of the 14 meteorological stations in Kerala record 2.5mm of more rains for two consecutive days. The other two factors are the westerlies (winds) and the outgoing longwave radiation. IMD also revised the forecast for rains to 102% of long period average.

5. As per the recent change in the definition of MSMEs, what is the investment limit for an enterprise to be classified as a medium enterprise?

[A] Rs 20 crore

[B] Rs 25 crore

[C] Rs 50 crore ☒

[D] Rs 75 crore

✓ The Union Cabinet has approved further changes to the definition of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Earlier, the Union Minister had proposed that Micro units can have up to Rs 1 crore investments and turnover up to Rs 5 crore while Small units can have up to Rs 10 crore investments and turnover up to Rs 50 crore. The investment limit of a medium unit has been

increased from Rs 20 crore to Rs 50 crore and the turn over limit from Rs 100 crore to Rs 250 crore.

- ✓ The Cabinet also approved Rs 20,000–crore fund for stressed entities and equity infusion of Rs 50,000 crore.

6. The recent income tax return (ITR) forms notified for AY 2020–21, captures information on cash deposits above which limit?

- [A] Rs 10 lakh [B] Rs 50 lakh  
[C] Rs 1 crore ☒ [D] Rs 2 crore

- ✓ The Union government has notified the income–tax return (ITR) forms for the assessment year (AY) 2020–21 for individual, professional and corporate tax payers.
- ✓ For the first time, the form separately captures information on cash deposits exceeding ₹1 crore, expenditure on foreign travel exceeding ₹2 lakh and electricity expenses exceeding ₹1 lakh.
- ✓ It was earlier announced that the taxpayers may avail the benefits of investments in tax–saving instruments for an extended period up to June 30. Deadline for filing returns was also extended from July 31 to November 30.

7. Who are the beneficiaries of the newly launched scheme PM SVANIDHI?

- [A] MSMEs [B] Migrant Labourers  
[C] Street vendors ☒ [D] Textile Industries

- ✓ The Union Government has recently launched a new micro–credit facility scheme named PM SVANIDHI – Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor’s Atmanirbhar Nidhi.
- ✓ Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry launched the scheme, which aims to provide affordable loans to street vendors. The duration of the scheme is till March 2022 and is expected to benefit over 50 lakh street vendors. The vendors can avail a working capital loan of up to Rs 10000, which is repayable in monthly instalments in one–year tenure.

8. What is the name of the technology–based platform launched by the Indian Prime Minister, for MSMEs?

- [A] CHAMPIONS ☒ [B] JEEVAN  
[C] NIRBHAR [D] UDYOG

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently launched a technology–based platform named as CHAMPIONS, for MSME sector. ‘CHAMPIONS’ stands for Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength.
- ✓ The platform aims to provide a comprehensive solution including Grievance redressal, financial access, Permissions among others will be addressed in the platform. It also provides latest communication tools and is enabled by Artificial Intelligence.

9. Which subordinate office of Agriculture Ministry recommends the change in minimum support price (MSP) to the Union Cabinet?

- [A] Commission for Agricultural Costs & Price ☒  
[B] Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre  
[C] National Centre of Organic Farming  
[D] Directorate of Pulses Development

- ✓ The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) is an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Based on the recommendation of CACP, the Union Cabinet fixes the minimum support price (MSP).
- ✓ Recently, the government raised the minimum support price (MSP) of paddy marginally by Rs 53 per quintal to Rs 1,868 per quintal for the 2020–21 crop year. It also hiked the rates for oilseeds, pulses cereals and commercial crops. This is expected to give 50–83 percent higher return over the cost of production to farmers.

**10.** What is the name of the cyclone that has intensified into a cyclonic storm that is expected to cross Maharashtra and Gujarat coasts?

[A] Amphan

[B] Nisarga ☒

[C] Harold

[D] Amanda

- ✓ As per the recent announcement of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the deep depression in the Arabian Sea has intensified into a cyclonic storm named as Cyclone Nisarga.
  - ✓ It will further turn into a severe cyclonic storm by tonight and cross north Maharashtra and Gujarat coasts between Raigad district and Daman.
  - ✓ When the storm crosses the coast, the severe cyclonic storm will have a wind speed of 90–105 kmph. Earlier, the cyclone Amphan hit the state of West Bengal and caused severe damages.
-

1. Which state recently celebrated its statehood day on June 2?
- [A] Chhattisgarh [B] Telangana ☒
- [C] Uttarakhand [D] Jharkhand
- ✓ The state Telangana recently celebrated its statehood day on June 2. All national leaders including the Prime Minister wished the state and its people. In the year 2014, Telangana was carved out of the state of Andhra Pradesh as the 29<sup>th</sup> state of India under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. The capital of the state is Hyderabad and its population is about 3.5 crore.
2. Which Union Ministry launched the schemes named PLI, SPECS and EMC 2.0?
- [A] Ministry of Defence
- [B] Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- [C] Minister for Electronics and IT ☒
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- ✓ Union Minister for Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched three major schemes to boost manufacture of electronics in the country.
- ✓ Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) aims for large scale electronics manufacturing. Other two schemes namely Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS) and Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme were also launched. This will generate manufacturing of electronics components worth Rs 10 lakh crore by 2025.
3. Which country has announced its eleventh outbreak of Ebola virus disease?
- [A] Democratic Republic of the Congo ☒ [B] Nigeria
- [C] Rwanda [D] Uganda
- ✓ The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo recently announced that it has witnessed a new outbreak of Ebola virus disease.
- ✓ The country located in Central Africa has seen its 11<sup>th</sup> outbreak since the virus was first discovered in the country in 1976. At present, the disease is occurring in the Equateur province. The World Health Organisation (WHO) also announced about the disease.
4. Which state has launched a month long drive to spread awareness about COVID-19 pandemic under Mission Fateh?
- [A] Rajasthan [B] Punjab ☒
- [C] Odisha [D] Jharkhand
- ✓ During April, the state of Punjab launched an operation to contain the outbreak of COVID-19 named 'Mission Fateh'. Recently, the CM of Punjab Amarinder Singh has launched a month long drive to spread awareness about COVID-19 pandemic under Mission Fateh.
- ✓ This campaign will expand the coverage of the original mission beyond the frontline workers to include all general public of the state in fighting the crisis. Various awareness programmes are to be held across the state.
5. Which player has been nominated for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award by Hockey India?
- [A] Vandana Kataria [B] Monika
- [C] Rani Rampal ☒ [D] Lalremsiami
- ✓ Hockey India has recently nominated national women's team captain Rani Rampal for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award. She played an important role in the FIH Olympic Qualifiers in 2019. Hockey India also nominated other players Vandana, Monika and Harmanpreet Singh for the Arjuna award.
6. What is the name of the initiative launched by the Sports Ministry to train Physical Education teachers and Community Coaches?
- [A] Bharat Coach Development Programme
- [B] Khelo India Community Coach Development Programme ☒
- [C] Khelo India Sports Development Programme

## [D] National Sports Mission

- ✓ The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju has recently launched a 25 day Khelo India Community Coach Development Programme.
- ✓ The programme seeks to train about 15,000 Physical Education Teachers and Community Coaches across India. Sports Ministry will collaborate with the Human Resources Ministry to implement this programme in all school in India.

**7.** The Union Government has launched a drive to issue Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to which category of farmers?

- [A] Dairy farmers ☒ [B] Poultry farmers  
[C] Horticulture farmers [D] Pisciculture farmers

- ✓ The Union Government has recently launched Kisan Credit Card campaign to help dairy farmers. The Government will provide Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to about 1.5 crore dairy farmers who belong to Milk Unions and Milk producing Companies.
- ✓ The drive seeks to provide KCC to the farmers within the next two months before July 31, under a special drive. The special drive to provide KCC is part of the Prime Minister's Atma Nirbhar Bharat package.

**8.** Who has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom?

- [A] Gaitri I. Kumar ☒ [B] Ruchi Ghanshyam  
[C] Vinay Kumar [D] Alok Kumar Sinha

- ✓ Veteran diplomat Gaitri I. Kumar has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom. She is a 1986 batch Indian Foreign Service officer and is presently serving as the Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union.
- ✓ Gaitri I. Kumar is to replace Ruchi Ghanshyam who just retired. In her 3 decade long career, the diplomat has served in many Indian missions including in Paris, Kathmandu, Lisbon and Geneva.

**9.** Which state has made Aadhaar card mandatory for services like Salons and beauty parlours, to facilitate contact tracing?

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

- ✓ The Government of Tamil Nadu released the standard operating procedure for the salons, beauty parlours and spas, when they resume their service after the lockdown. As per the rules, the mentioned service providers will have to maintain a record of the name, phone number, and address and Aadhaar number of the customers as a preventive measure against COVID-19. It would also facilitate contact tracing.

**10.** Which Union Ministry has recently fixed the limit of local content in public procurement of 55 products?

- [A] Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers ☒  
[B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
[C] Ministry of MSMEs  
[D] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers recently fixed the minimum percentage of local content in public procurement of 55 chemical and pesticide products.
- ✓ This step is a part of the government's effort to boost domestic manufacturing and the Make in India programme. As per the new norm, the minimum local content has been fixed at 60 per cent for 2020-21, 70% for 2021-23 and 80% during 2023-25. Dept., of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade had revised the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017 for implementing this norm.

1. What is the estimate of horticulture production in 2019–20, as per the second estimate of Agriculture Ministry?

- [A] 270.48 million tonnes    [B] 290.48 million tonnes  
[C] 300.48 million tonnes    [D] 320.48 million tonnes ☒

✓ The Agriculture Ministry has released its second advance estimates of total horticulture production in 2019–20. As per the estimate, the total horticulture production would be 320.48 million tonnes in this year, which is 3.13% higher than last year.

✓ The production of fruits is estimated to be 99.07 million tonnes as compared to 97.97 million tonnes in 2018–19. The total production of vegetables is estimated to be 191.77 million tonnes as compared to 183.17 million tonnes in 2018–19.

2. Which association celebrated its 125th Annual session on the theme “Building India for a New World: Lives, livelihood, growth”?

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

✓ The Prime Minister has recently delivered the inaugural address at the 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) through video conference. The theme of this year’s annual conference is “Building India for a New World: Lives, livelihood, growth”.

✓ The Prime Minister addressed the conference on “Getting Growth Back”. He congratulated the industry body on completing 125 years of the organisation and said Intent, Inclusion, Investment, Infrastructure and Innovation important to build an Aatma Nirbhar India.

3. What is the name of the tropical Storm that has hit El Salvador and Guatemala?

- [A] Amphan    [B] Nisarga  
[C] Harold    [D] Amanda ☒

✓ Central American countries El Salvador and Guatemala have recently witnessed a tropical storm Amanda. The

heavy rains from Tropical Storm Amanda caused many people dead and missing. It has caused extreme damages across the two countries. The countries have set up temporary shelters to accommodate thousands of people after their homes were damaged.

4. Which technology company has announced the launch of a programme for agritech start-ups in India?

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

✓ Major technology company Microsoft has announced the launch of a programme named “Microsoft for Agritech Startups”.

✓ The programme is to focus on the start-ups that are committed to driving transformation in agriculture. The programme seeks to assist start-ups in building industry-specific solutions, access to deep technology and markets. The selected start-ups can also get access to Azure FarmBeats, an aggregation platform available in Azure Marketplace.

5. STIP 2020, which was seen in news, is a scheme related to which field?

- [A] Agriculture    [B] Science & Technology ☒  
[C] SDG’s    [D] Electronics Manufacturing

✓ The Central Government has initiated a consultation process for formulation of a new national Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020).

✓ To formulate this policy, the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) have jointly initiated a decentralised process. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> Science and Technology policy of the country.

6. Google's former Chief financial officer Patrick Pichette has been appointed as the board chairman of which Technology Company?

[A] Amazon

[B] Apple

[C] Twitter ☒

[D] Facebook

✓ Twitter has recently appointed Patrick Pichette, a former chief financial officer at Google as the next chairman of its board. This is the first time in the history of Twitter that an outsider is presiding over the board.

✓ Patrick Pichette served as the lead independent director of Twitter since the end of 2018. He is to replace Omid Kordestani in leading the directors as Chairman.

7. World Bicycle Day is celebrated every year on which date?

[A] June 2

[B] June 3 ☒

[C] June 4

[D] June 5

✓ The UN's General Assembly had declared June 3 as World Bicycle Day. The UN encourage its stakeholders to encourage the use of bicycles as a means of promoting sustainable development and health.

✓ It also welcomes various initiatives to organise bicycle rides at the national and local levels and develop a culture of cycling in society.

8. Who was the Chairman of the Expert Committees on Rationalisation/Closure/Merger of Film Media Units?

[A] Bimal Julka ☒

[B] Rahul Rawail

[C] Shyama Prasad

[D] Nagabharana

✓ The Expert Committees on Rationalisation / Closure / Merger of Film Media Units and the committee on Review of Autonomous Bodies under the aegis of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting submitted their report to the I&B Minister Prakash Javadekar.

✓ The committees were headed by Bimal Julka with an objective of rationalisation and professionalisation of institutes related to film activities.

✓ The committee recommended specific roadmaps for the development of institutes including National Film Development Corporation, Films division, Children's Film Society of India among others.

9. Where are Pharmacopoeia Laboratory for Indian Medicine (PLIM) and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory (HPL) located?

[A] Mumbai

[B] New Delhi

[C] Ghaziabad ☒

[D] Chandigarh

✓ The Union Cabinet has recently given its approval to re-establish Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) as Subordinate Office under Ministry of AYUSH.

✓ PCIM&H is to be merged with the two central laboratories: Pharmacopoeia Laboratory for Indian Medicine (PLIM) and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory (HPL). The 2 laboratories were established in Ghaziabad in 1975. At present, PCIM&H is an autonomous body under AYUSH ministry.

10. Union Cabinet has approved to rename which major port of India as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port?

[A] Kandla Port

[B] Chennai Port

[C] Cochin Port

[D] Kolkata Port ☒

✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has recently approved to rename Kolkata Port as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port. During the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Kolkata Port trust, the Prime Minister announced that the Port trust would be named after the leader Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

✓ The Port trust's board of trustees passed a resolution to re-name Kolkata Port on February 2020. The Kolkata Port is the first Major Port as well as the only riverine port of the country.



### 1. When was the Essential Commodities act passed?

[A] 1952 [B] 1955 ☒ [C] 1975 [D] 1982

- ✓ The Union Cabinet recently amended the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 in view of helping farmers and transforming the agriculture sector.
- ✓ With the amendment, commodities like cereals, pulses, oilseeds, edible oils, onion and potatoes will be removed from list of essential commodities, thereby attracting private sector and foreign direct investment into agriculture sector. The cabinet also approved two ordinances to promote barrier free inter-state and intra – state trade and commerce and give a level playing field with wholesalers and exporters.

### 2. Union Cabinet recently approved the MoU between India and which country, on cooperation in the field of Environment?

[A] New Zealand [B] Bhutan ☒

[C] Japan [D] Finland

- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Understanding between India and Bhutan on cooperation in the field of Environment.
- ✓ Under the agreement, the countries will work together in the areas of environment protection including air, waste, chemical management, climate change and management of natural resources by taking into account the applicable legal provisions in each country.

### 3. What is the objective of the new initiative SWADES?

[A] Environment [B] Employment Generation ☒

[C] Defence [D] Farmer welfare

- ✓ The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of External Affairs have jointly launched a new initiative named SWADES. SWADES stands for Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support.
- ✓ Since many Indian citizens are returning under Vande Bharat Mission, this scheme aims to conduct a skill

mapping exercise of the qualified people. The information will be shared with the companies for suitable job opportunities in the country.

### 4. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Finland?

[A] Vani Rao [B] Raveesh Kumar ☒

[C] Gaitri I. Kumar [D] Vinay Kumar

- ✓ Veteran diplomat and former spokesperson of the External Affairs Ministry Raveesh Kumar has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to Finland.
- ✓ The 1995 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, served as the spokesperson of the MEA from July 2017 to April 2020 and handled many important issues. He is set to replace Ambassador Vani Rao in Finland.

### 5. Which organisation bagged Rs 1,094 crore order from Defence Ministry to make 156 Tanks?

[A] Defence Research and Development Organisation

[B] Ordnance Factory Board ☒

[C] Hindustan Aeronautical Limited

[D] Bharat Electronics Limited

- ✓ Ordnance Factory Board, which functions under the Ministry of Defence, recently bagged Rs 1,094 crore order from Defence Ministry to make 156 Infantry Combat Vehicles (ICVs).
- ✓ The Infantry Combat Vehicles with upgraded features are to be developed for the use of Indian Army. As per the official statement, the ICVs will be manufactured by Ordnance Factory in Telangana. The vehicles, which will be highly mobile, will also be powered with high-powered engines.

### 6. Which Indian writer won the regional award for Asia of the Commonwealth Short Story Prize, 2020?

[A] Kritika Pandey ☒ [B] Madhuri Vijay

[C] Aravind Adiga [D] Vikram Seth

- ✓ Indian writer Kritika Pandey has won the regional award for Asia of the prestigious Commonwealth Short Story Prize for this year. The writer was selected for her work titled 'The Great Indian Tee and Snakes'.

- ✓ The Commonwealth Short Story Prize is awarded for the best unpublished short fiction, every year. She had also been earlier nominated for the Pushcart Prize. To be eligible for the award, one must be a commonwealth citizen aged above 18 years.

7. When is International Sex workers day observed?

[A] June 2 ☒

[B] June 3

[C] June 4

[D] June 5

- ✓ International Sex workers day is celebrated on June 2, every year across the world, to highlight the plight of sex workers. On the same day in the year 1975, hundreds of sex workers gathered in the Church Saint-Nizier in France, to sensitise people about their exploitative living conditions & to demand end to police harassment.

- ✓ The Odisha Human Rights Commission has directed the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation commissioner to provide ration and other assistance to sex workers in Bhubaneswar.

8. Which Indian non-governmental organisation (NGO) has been conferred with the World No Tobacco Day Award 2020 by WHO?

[A] CARE India [B] Goonj

[C] SEEDS ☒ [D] Deccan Development Society

- ✓ Indian non-governmental organisation (NGO), Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS) has been conferred with the World No Tobacco Day Award 2020 by the World Health Organization (WHO), from the South-East Asia Region.

- ✓ The organisation is one among the 3 awardees and has been selected for its efforts to ban pan masala, gutkha, e-cigarettes and hookah in Bihar and Jharkhand. On May 31, World No Tobacco Day, the WHO selects individuals and organisations from its 6 regions for their contribution in the field of tobacco control.

9. As per the State of India's Birds report, 15 birds of which state have been flagged among 'species of concern'?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala ☒

[C] Assam

[D] Himachal Pradesh

- ✓ The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) recently released the State of India's Birds report. As per the report, 15 bird species of Kerala have been flagged among 'species of concern'.

- ✓ The bird species on the list include Banasura, Ashambu laughingthrushes, White-bellied Sholakili, Broad-tailed grassbird, Nilgiri thrush, Nilgiri pipit and White-rumped vulture among others. The authorities said that the entry of 2 bird species – Heart-spotted woodpecker and Forest wagtail is more concerning.

10. What is the name of the tropical storm that has formed in the southern Gulf of Mexico?

[A] Amphan

[B] Amanda

[C] Cristobal ☒

[D] Harold

- ✓ A tropical storm named Cristobal has been formed in the southern Gulf of Mexico. A heavy flood threat has been announced for Mexico. Earlier in the year 2016, a tropical storm named Colin formed in the Gulf.

- ✓ As per the warning from the U.S. National Hurricane Center, the storm is expected to make a northward turn and head towards the US Gulf coast. It was formed from the miscellanies of the recent Tropical Storm Amanda.

1. Which country played host to the virtual Global Vaccine Summit?
- [A] United States [B] United Kingdom ☒
- [C] Japan [D] South Korea
- ✓ United Kingdom recently hosted the Global Vaccine Summit, which was held virtually due to the restrictions involved amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Indian PM Modi attended the conference and pledged \$15 million as India's contribution to the vaccines alliance GAVI.
- ✓ The British PM earlier urged all nations to pledge funds for vaccinations to save the lives of people across the world from outbreaks of infectious diseases in future.
2. Who has been appointed as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)?
- [A] V K Kirloskar [B] Uday Kotak ☒
- [C] Adi Godrej [D] Sanjiv Bajaj
- ✓ Seasoned banker and Managing director and CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank, Uday Kotak has recently assumed office as the president of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2020-21.
- ✓ As per the chamber, Uday Kotak takes over from the present Chairman and Managing Director of Kirloskar Systems, Vikram Kirloskar. The MD and CEO of Tata Steel, T V Narendran is now the President designate of CII for 2020-21.
3. Which country is set to re-enter the UN Security Council, as a sole contender for the Asia Pacific seat for non-permanent membership?
- [A] Thailand [B] India ☒
- [C] China [D] Sri Lanka
- ✓ India is the sole contender for the Asia Pacific seat in non-permanent category of the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member. The General Assembly of UNSC is to hold elections for the five non-permanent members of the Security Council on June 17.
- ✓ It has also proposed new secret ballot voting arrangements due to the COVID-19 restrictions. India has been elected as a non-permanent member of UNSC for seven terms starting from 1950-51 till 2011-12.
4. 'The Great Reset' is the proposed theme of the summit of which international organisation?
- [A] Food and Agricultural Organisation
- [B] United Nations Children's Fund
- [C] World Economic Forum ☒
- [D] World Health Organisation
- ✓ As per the latest announcement from the World Economic Forum (WEF), it will adopt a new twin-summit format for its next annual summit. The flagship annual Davos summit is proposed to be held in January 2021 with a theme of 'The Great Reset'.
- ✓ The 51<sup>st</sup> summit is to bring together leaders from across the globe either in person or for virtual dialogues. This year, the 50<sup>th</sup> WEF Annual Meeting was held from Jan 21-24, 2020.
5. India has signed 'Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)' with which country?
- [A] Japan [B] Australia ☒
- [C] Finland [D] Germany
- ✓ During his first ever virtual bilateral summit with the Australian head, the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi signed a landmark agreement related to defence.
- ✓ The agreement named 'Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)' will allow the militaries of the two countries to use the bases of each other countries, for the purpose of repair and replenishment of supplies.
- ✓ India has already signed similar agreements with the US, France and Singapore. The countries also decided to re-engage on a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

6. What is the name of the Internship Program launched to provide internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all Urban Local Bodies?

- [A] Champions [B] Tulip ☒  
[C] Bharat Intern [D] Urban Intern

- ✓ Union Minister for Human Resources and MoS Housing & Urban Affairs jointly launched TULIP, an Internship Program with Urban Local Bodies across the country.
- ✓ The initiative TULIP, which stands for 'The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)', provides internship opportunities to fresh graduates in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Smart Cities across the country. It was initially announced under the theme 'Aspirational India'.

7. As per the data from National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), which Indian state reported the maximum tiger deaths?

- [A] Maharashtra [B] Madhya Pradesh ☒  
[C] Uttar Pradesh [D] Karnataka

- ✓ As per the recent data from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), as many as 750 tigers have died in the country in the last eight years. Out of the total mortalities, 369 were due to natural causes and 168 were due to poaching.
- ✓ The state of Madhya Pradesh reported the highest casualties at 173, which is followed by Maharashtra. The data also highlighted that 101 tigers were seized by different authorities across the country between 2012 – 2019. In Dec.2019, there were 2976 tigers in the country.

8. Which organisation has developed a device called 'SUMERU-PACS', to help PPE wearers?

- [A] Hindustan Aeronautical Limited  
[B] Defence Research Development Organisation ☒  
[C] Bharat Electronics Limited  
[D] Ordnance Factory Board

- ✓ The Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a device called SUMERU-PACS that helps the wearers of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to feel comfortable without sweating.

- ✓ After receiving feedback about the discomfort faced by the people wearing PPEs, DRDO has developed a personal air circulation system that can be used inside the PPE. The system is in the form of a small backpack weighing approximately 500 grams.

9. Who has been appointed as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to World Trade Organisation?

- [A] Brajendra Navnit ☒ [B] Nripendra Mishra  
[C] Abhas Jha [D] K V Kamath

- ✓ Veteran Bureaucrat & 1999 batch IAS officer, Brajendra Navnit has been appointed as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India (PRI) to the World Trade Organisation for a period of three years.

- ✓ He had been the Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office prior to this appointment and will be posted at the Permanent Mission of India (PMI) to the WTO in Geneva. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet also gave a nod to the appointment of IRTS officer Anwar Hussain Shaik for the post of Counsellor.

10. When is 'International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression' observed?

- [A] June 2 ☒ [B] June 3  
[C] June 4 [D] June 5

- ✓ The United General Assembly decided to commemorate 4 June of each year as the 'International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression'.

- ✓ The objective of the day is to acknowledge the pain of the children across the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse. UN had also ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child.