

MAY

2020

winmeen.com

THIRD WEEK

CURRENT AFFAIRS

15 MAY - 21 MAY



www.winmeen.com

1. The TVS group and the Sundaram Medical Foundation collaborated with which institution to develop a respiratory device called 'The Sundaram Ventago'?

[A] AIIMS

[B] IISC

[C] IIT-Madras ☒

[D] IIT-Guwahati

✓ The TVS group and the Sundaram Medical Foundation collaborated with IIT-Madras to develop an affordable and automated respiratory assist device called The Sundaram Ventago.

✓ This device has been developed in collaboration with hospitals like Madras Medical College and Cauvery Hospital along with guidance from institutions like MIT-Boston. The device uses automated squeezing of a self-inflating bag or AMBU bag to provide respiratory support to patients.

2. The national public health institute of which country has committed \$3.6 million to assist India's response to the Covid-19 pandemic?

[A] China

[B] South Korea

[C] Germany

[D] United States ☒

✓ The national public health institute of the United States, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has committed \$3.6 million to assist India's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

✓ This initial tranche of funding will help India to strengthen and support the efforts of India to increase laboratory capacity for SARS-COV-2 testing. The CDC India program will also provide technical assistance for India's response for the ongoing crisis emergency.

3. Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous organisation of which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Culture

[B] Ministry of External Affairs ☒

[C] Ministry of Home Affairs

[D] Ministry of Tourism

✓ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous organisation of Union Ministry of External Affairs. Its main objective is to build cultural relations with other countries.

✓ Recently, ICCR released a song titled "United We Fight" featuring famous musicians like Usha Uthup and Joe Alvares, as a part of its efforts to instil hope among Indians in their fight against COVID-19. The song was written and composed by Joe Alvares and sung by several famous singers from across the country.

4. What is the quantum of the special economic package "Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" announced by the Government of India?

[A] Rs. 5 lakh crore

[B] Rs. 10 lakh crore

[C] Rs. 20 lakh crore ☒

[D] Rs. 30 lakh crore

✓ The Prime Minister of India recently unveiled a special economic package titled "Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" to the tune of Rs. 20 lakh crore. It aims to stimulate the economic activities of the country, ahead of the 4th phase of the lockdown.

✓ The stimulus package also includes Rs 1.7 lakh crore package of free food grains to poor and cash to poor women and elderly, that was announced in the month of March in the name of PM Karib Kalyan Yojana. It also includes the liquidity measures and interest cuts announced by RBI. The Prime Minister said the package will focus on land, labour, liquidity and laws.

5. Which official index of India recently declined sharply to 16.5% in the month of March, 2020?

[A] Consumer Price Index

[B] Index of Industrial Production ☒

[C] Wholesale Price Index

[D] Net national Income

✓ The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), every month. It shows the growth rate of industry groups in the economy such as manufacturing and electricity.

- ✓ Recently, the IIP of March recorded a sharp decline of 16.7 per cent to 120.1 in the month of March. The data also showed that the industrial growth during the fiscal year 2019–20 slipped 0.7 per cent, against the 3.8 per cent rise in 2018–19.

6. Which is the venue of the FIFA U–17 Women’s World Cup that has been rescheduled for Feb–March 2021?

- [A] Brazil [B] India ☒
[C] Japan [D] China

- ✓ The FIFA U–17 Women’s World Cup was originally scheduled to be held in India from November 2–21 in 2020 and was subsequently postponed due to the pandemic.

- ✓ Recently, FIFA announced that the World Cup tournament has been rescheduled to Feb.17–March 7, 2021. It was originally planned to be held across five host cities of India namely – Navi Mumbai, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Bhubaneswar.

7. Who is the head of the six–member committee formed by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to draft procedures for resuming training after lockdown?

- [A] Rohit Bharadwaj ☒ [B] Jay Shah
[C] Mushtaque Ahmad [D] Dr Narinder Dhruv

- ✓ The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has formed a six–member committee to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure for resuming the training of sportspersons across several disciplines, after the lockdown would be lifted.

- ✓ The Secretary of Sports Authority of India (SAI) Rohit Bharadwaj will head the panel. It will also include preventive measures to be observed by all stakeholders, including trainees, coaches and staff. The recommendations will be sent to the Sports Ministry for approval.

8. National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), that has ‘SwasthVayu’ ventilator, is an aerospace laboratory of which organisation?

- [A] DRDO [B] CSIR ☒ [C] ISRO [D] HAL

- ✓ India’s first aerospace firm and a laboratory of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) has developed a portable non–invasive ventilator, ‘SwasthVayu’.

- ✓ SwasthVayu is a microcontroller–based control system that has a potential use to treat moderate or mid–stage patients. It can be used in wards, Make shift Hospitals, dispensaries and homes. The ventilator has been developed by NAL in record 36 days.

9. Telia Rumal handloom cloth, that recently received G.I tag, is associated with which state / UT?

- [A] Jammu & Kashmir [B] Himachal Pradesh
[C] Telangana ☒ [D] Karnataka

- ✓ Recently, the Geographical Indication (GI) tag has been provided to Jharkhand’s Sohrai Khovar painting and Telangana’s Telia Rumal handloom cloth. The painting is a traditional art that is created by tribal women with locally available soils of different colours.

- ✓ It is predominantly done in Hazaribagh district of Jharkhand. Telia Rumal cloth has intricate handmade work with cotton loom, with designs in red, black and white colours. Thanjavur Netti (pith) works that uses Aeschynomene aspera plant and Arumbavur Wood Carving also got G.I tag from Tamil Nadu.

10. Which bureaucrat has been appointed as the new chief of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)?

- [A] V. Vidyavathi ☒ [B] P K Sharma
[C] I V Subba Rao [D] Nripendra Misra

- ✓ A 1991 batch Karnataka cadre officer Ms. Vidyavathi has been recently appointed as the new Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

- ✓ According to the order of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, she will be serving in the rank of Additional Secretary to the Govt of India. Usha Sharma was the previous DG of ASI that is headquartered at New Delhi.

1. As per the announcement of the Finance Minister, what is the limit of government procurement, up to which global tenders will be disallowed?

[A] ₹50 Crore [B] ₹100 Crore

[C] ₹200 Crore ☒ [D] ₹500 Crore

✓ The Union Finance Minister announced the details of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Yojana package launched by the Prime Minister. One of the features was the global tenders being disallowed in government procurement up to Rs 200 crore.

✓ This would reduce unfair foreign competition for MSMEs and support the 'Make in India' initiative. She also announced Rs 3 lakh crore Emergency Working Capital Facility for Businesses, including MSMEs.

2. What is the liquidity infusion fund allotted for DISCOMs (Distribution Companies), in the recent economic stimulus package?

[A] ₹50000 Crore [B] ₹75000 Crore

[C] ₹90000 Crore ☒ [D] ₹1 lakh Crore

✓ The Union Minister announced ₹90,000 crore one-time liquidity for DISCOMs. This will be used to pay the central public sector power generation companies, transmission companies, independent power producers and renewable energy generators.

✓ PSUs Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation will infuse the liquidity by raising an amount of about ₹90,000 crore from the market against the receivables of DISCOMs. The state govts are expected to provide a guarantee for the fund.

3. What is the rank of India in the recently released global 'Energy Transition Index' (ETI) of the World Economic Forum?

[A] 52 [B] 68 [C] 74 ☒ [D] 82

✓ The World Economic Forum has recently released the global 'Energy Transition Index'. The index ranks 115 economies on the current performance of their energy

systems and their readiness for transition to secure and sustainable energy systems.

✓ India has moved up two positions to rank 74th from previous year, and has improved on all key parameters. Sweden has topped the Energy Transition Index for the third consecutive year. Switzerland and Finland were ranked in the next two positions.

4. Which city is the venue of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit 2020?

[A] St. Petersburg ☒ [B] Moscow

[C] Beijing [D] New Delhi

✓ The video-conference of foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was recently held in the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic. Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar represented India.

✓ SCO has eight member states including namely India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, China, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The SCO summit which was scheduled to be held in the month of July, 2020 at the Russian city St. Petersburg is expected to be held as per the schedule.

5. Which organisation released a report titled 'Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA 2020)'?

[A] World Food Programme

[B] Food and Agriculture Organization ☒

[C] International Fund for Agricultural Development

[D] World Wide Fund for Nature

✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), a specialised agency of the United States has recently released a report titled 'Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA 2020)'. The report examines the status of 236 countries in the period 1990–2020.

✓ The report highlighted that the forest area has declined all across the world in the past three decades. The rate of forest loss in 2015–2020 declined to an estimated 10 million hectares, down from 12 million hectares in 2010–

2015. The report also revealed that the world lost 178 mha of forest since 1990, which is the size of Libya.

6. Which organisation is the implementing agency of 'Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme'?

[A] Coir Board

[B] National Small Industries Corporation Limited

[C] Khadi and Village Industries Commission ☒

[D] National Institute for MSME's

✓ The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), a statutory organization under the Ministry of MSME is the implementing agency of 'Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

✓ After the Prime Minister announced to support the local products, KVIC announced a set of guidelines to fast track the implementation of projects under the program PMEGP. The concerned agencies will have to scrutinize the applications and forward it to banks within 26 days. It was also instructed to bring down the time frame to 15 days.

7. As per the recent study of CMIE, what is the number of Indian workers in the age group of 20–39, who lost their jobs in April 2020?

[A] 50 lakhs

[B] 1 Crore

[C] 2 Crore

[D] 6 Crore ☒

✓ As per the recent report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), nearly 6 Crore Indian workers in the age group of 20–39 lost their jobs in April.

✓ It revealed that 12 crore jobs had been lost because of the lockdown. As per the report, more than 2.7 crore young people in the age group 20–29 lost their jobs last month. Also, more than 3.3 crore people in the age group 30–39 lost their jobs.

✓ 11% of the young workers in the age group of 20–24 years, who accounted for 8.5% of total employed people in the country in 2019–20, lost their jobs.

8. Which state has commenced training for primary schoolteachers via its KITE Vickers channel?

[A] Karnataka

[B] Kerala ☒

[C] Jammu & Kashmir

[D] Andhra Pradesh

✓ The state of Kerala has commenced training for primary schoolteachers via its KITE Vickers channel.

✓ Minister of General Education and Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction of UN Environment Programme addressed the inaugural classes. More than 81,000 primary and upper primary teachers are expected to participate in this training exercise. Prior to this, the teachers were given training to use online and virtual facilities.

✓ Under this program, classes on social consciousness and social science will be held. Besides the channel, the programmes will be available on their website and KITE VICTERS mobile app.

9. What is the name of the first automated testing machine procured by the Government of India, for testing of COVID–19 cases?

[A] CDC 6800

[B] COVID 6800

[C] COBAS 6800 ☒

[D] NCDC 6800

✓ Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan recently dedicated the first testing machine that has been procured by the Government called COBAS 6800.

✓ It has been installed in the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). It is an institute under the Indian Directorate General of Health Services, Health Ministry.

✓ COBAS 6800 is a fully automated, high end machine which performs real time PCR testing for COVID–19. It will also provide high–quality testing and can perform around 1200 samples in 24 hours. This is expected to increase the testing capacity in the country.

10. 'HOPE' – Helping Out People Everywhere, portal is an initiative of which Indian state?

[A] Odisha

[B] Uttarakhand ☒

[C] Punjab

[D] Kerala

- ✓ Uttarakhand government has recently launched a portal named 'HOPE' – Helping Out People Everywhere, to assist the workers of the state to find suitable employment. The portal has started to collect data on the youngsters of the state and migrant workers returned from other states.
 - ✓ The workers can upload their skill-sets on the website and based on that, they will be able to find suitable jobs at home-state. The data collected will be used for implementing the Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojana, implemented by the state earlier.
-

1. The Chief Minister of which state has been recently elected unopposed to the State Legislative Council?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh [B] Maharashtra ☒
[C] Jammu & Kashmir [D] Karnataka

- ✓ The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray and eight other candidates were recently declared to be elected unopposed to the State Legislative Council.
- ✓ Uddhav Thackeray, who was sworn in as the Chief Minister on November 28 last year, required to become a member of either Houses of the state legislature before May 27, 2020. The 8 other candidates also include Council Deputy Chairperson Dr. Neelam Gorhe among others. They would be officially sworn-in after the official notification is released.

2. Which Union Ministry has successfully patented the affordable personal protective equipment (PPE)?

- [A] Ministry of Science and Technology
[B] Ministry of Defence ☒
[C] Ministry of Textiles
[D] Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

- ✓ A patent was filed by the Defence Ministry in association with the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) for the low cost personal protective equipment (PPE) developed by the Indian Navy.
- ✓ The Defence Ministry has successfully patented PPEs, which would fast-track mass production of PPEs. The equipment developed by the Navy is made of a special fabric which provides high quality & high breathability, unlike other PPEs available in the market. A pilot batch of PPEs has already been produced at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

3. What is the estimated growth rate of India in 2020, as per the UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects report?

- [A] 3.2 % [B] 2.2 % [C] 1.2 % ☒ [D] 0.2 %

- ✓ The United Nations recently released the World Economic Situation and Prospects report. As per the report, the global gross domestic product (GDP) is estimated to shrink by 3.2 percent in 2020.

- ✓ The report also estimated that India would grow by 1.2 percent by 2020 due to the effect of the national lock down. UN had already projected a lower growth rate of 4.1 percent for the year 2019. The organisation also projected that India would slowly regain its growth rate and reach 5.5 percent in the year 2021.

4. Who represented India in the G-20 Virtual Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting through Video-conferencing?

- [A] Nirmala Sitharaman [B] Piyush Goyal ☒
[C] S Jai Shankar [D] Amit Shah

- ✓ Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal participated in the G-20 Virtual Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting through video-conferencing.

- ✓ The Minister also said in the meeting that India has provided medical supplies to over 120 countries to fight the coronavirus pandemic, out of which 43 countries received them as a grant. He also highlighted that India has been sharing the medical and public health capacity with them via digital technologies.

5. CAMPA Funds that was seen in the economic stimulus package is associated with which Union Ministry?

- [A] Finance
[B] Corporate Affairs
[C] Environment, Forest & Climate Change ☒
[D] Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

- ✓ Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) was set up under Environment Ministry to promote afforestation activities as a way of compensating for forest land diverted to non-forest uses.

- ✓ In the economic stimulus package, it was proposed that plans worth Rs 6000 crores of CAMPA funds will be approved shortly.

- ✓ The funds will be used for afforestation and plantation works, forest protection and job opportunities in urban, semi-urban and rural areas and for Tribals /Adivasis.

6. Which global organisation has approved USD 1 billion 'Accelerating India's COVID-19 Social Protection Response Program'?

[A] World Bank ☒ [B] IMF

[C] ADB [D] New Development Bank

- ✓ World Bank has recently approved USD 1 billion 'Accelerating India's COVID-19 Social Protection Response Program'.
- ✓ The program aims to support India in fighting COVID-19 and providing assistance to the poor and vulnerable people of the country who are affected by the pandemic. Last month, the World Bank had announced a USD 1 billion support for India and hence this step raises its total commitment for India to USD 2 billion, as of now.

7. What is 'Eventbot', that was seen in news recently?

[A] Disinfectant Robot [B] Cryptocurrency

[C] Malware ☒ [D] Chatbot

- ✓ According to the Computer Emergency Response Team of India (CERT-In), the national technology arm to prevent cyber-attacks, android users who use mobile banking in mobile phones might be vulnerable to a new malware called 'EventBot'.
- ✓ The authorities also announced that the new malware steals personal and sensitive information of the users. It also warned that the Trojan virus may project itself as a genuine application such as MS Word and enter into the victim's device. To combat the malware, CERT-in has advised users not to download applications from untrusted sources.

8. SAMARTH (Enterprises Resource Planning) is an e-governance platform, launched by which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of MSME

[B] Ministry of Human and Resource Development ☒

[C] Ministry of Defence

[D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

- ✓ Ministry of Human and Resource Development has developed an e-Governance platform, SAMARTH - Enterprises Resource Planning (ERP).
- ✓ The platform has been developed under National Mission of Education in Information & Communication Technology Scheme. SAMARTH is an open source automation engine for University & Higher Educational Institutions. It has been launched at National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, to automate the processes of the Institute.

9. What is 'Sachet' that was recently commissioned by the Indian Coast Guard?

[A] Interceptor Boat [B] Ship ☒

[C] Submarine [D] Chopper

- ✓ Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh digitally commissioned a ship and two interceptor boats (C 450 and C 451) of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in Goa.
- ✓ Indigenously built Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Sachet' is the first in the series that has been designed and built by Goa Shipyard Ltd. The Indian Coast Guard has reached a landmark of 150 ships & boats and 62 aircraft.

10. "GOAL (Going Online as Leaders)" is an initiative of which Union Ministry of India?

[A] Ministry of HRD

[B] Ministry of Tribal Affairs ☒

[C] Ministry of MSME

[D] Ministry of Finance

- ✓ "GOAL (Going Online as Leaders)" programme is an initiative of the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA). Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda launched the scheme was launched in partnership with Facebook.
 - ✓ The programme aims to provide mentorship and training to tribal youth through digitally enabled programs. The scheme is expected to promote and empower 5,000 tribal youths in the current phase.
-

1. Which global organisation signed a USD 145 million agreement with the Government of India & West Bengal?

[A] World Bank

[B] Asian Development Bank

[C] Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank ☒

[D] International Monetary Fund

✓ Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed a USD 145 million agreement with the Government of India and West Bengal Government for a project.

✓ The project aims to improve the irrigation services and flood management in the Damodar Valley Command Area in West Bengal. The total value of the project is over \$413 million dollars and will benefit about 27 lakh farmers from five districts of the state.

2. 'INLCU L57' ship that was recently commissioned to the Indian Navy, has been built by which ship builder?

[A] L & T Shipyard

[B] Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) ☒

[C] Cochin Ship yard

[D] Mazagon Dock Limited

✓ B S Rajeshwar, The Commander in Chief A&N Command recently commissioned INLCU L57 into the Indian Navy at Port Blair. INLCU L57 is the 7th Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK-IV class to be inducted into the Indian Navy.

✓ The ship has been indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. The amphibious vessels are based at the Andaman and Nicobar Command and is to be deployed for transporting and deploying tanks and equipment, search and rescue, disaster relief operations.

3. What is the term of the 'Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)' that was recently approved by the Defence Ministry?

[A] 3 years [B] 5 years ☒ [C] 7 years [D] 10 years

✓ The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the launch of 'Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)'.

✓ The outlay of the scheme is Rs.400 crore and the scheme would be implemented for a term of five years. The scheme aims to set up six to eight new test facilities in partnership with private industry and boost the domestic defence and aerospace manufacturing.

4. Which institution published the corona studies series titled "Psycho-Social Impact of Pandemic & Lockdown and How to cope with"?

[A] NCERT – National Council of Education, Research and Training

[B] CBSE – Central Board of Secondary Education

[C] NBT – National Book Trust ☒

[D] IGNOU – Indira Gandhi National University

✓ National Book Trust (NBT) India has published the corona studies series titled "Psycho-Social impact of pandemic & lockdown and how to cope with". Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal recently virtually launched the print and e-editions of the 7 titles of the series.

✓ The series was prepared by a Study Group that also has recommended strengthening of 'Preventive Mental Health component' of the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP), as a long-term strategy to prepare a post-Corona society.

5. Which state is set to implement sensor-based service delivery monitoring system for rural drinking water under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)?

[A] Punjab [B] UP [C] Gujarat ☒ [D] MP

✓ The state of Gujarat is set to implement sensor-based service delivery monitoring system for rural drinking water under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).

✓ It has already implemented a pilot project in two districts of the state to monitor whether potable water in prescribed quantity and quality is provided to every rural household regularly.

- ✓ The state has planned to provide 11.15 lakh household tap connections in the rural areas during 2020–21.

6. Debesh Roy, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?

- [A] Literature ☒ [B] Politics
[C] Sports [D] Business

- ✓ Veteran Bengali author Debesh Roy passed away recently at the age of 84. He was actively writing articles in several Bengali dailies and had participated in protests against the attack on liberals.

- ✓ He was conferred the Sahitya Akademi award for his novel 'Teesta Parer Brittanto'. His other famous works are 'Borisaler Jogen Mondal', 'Manush Khun Kore Keno' and 'Samay Asamayer Brittanto'.

7. What is the name of the scheme proposed for the development of marine and inland fisheries, in the stimulus package?

- [A] Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana ☒
[B] Pradhan Mantri Samudra Sampada Yojana
[C] Pradhan Mantri Machli Sampada Yojana
[D] Pradhan Mantri Samudra Samridhi Yojana

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has given its approval for implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

- ✓ This is a scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India under two components namely, Central Sector Scheme and Centrally Sponsored Scheme at a total estimated investment of Rs. 20,050 crore. The Scheme will be implemented during a period of 5 years from FY 2020–21 to FY 2024–25.

8. Operation Greens is a scheme under which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
[B] Ministry of Food Processing Industries ☒

- [C] Ministry of MSME [D] Rural Development

- ✓ Operation Greens was introduced in 2018, under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

- ✓ In the recent stimulus package, it was announced that Operation Greens will be extended from Tomatoes, Onion and Potatoes (TOP) to ALL fruits and vegetables. 50% subsidy on transportation from surplus to deficient markets and 50% subsidy on storage, including cold storages will be provided.

9. Roberto Azevedo, who was in news recently, is the Chief of which international organisation?

- [A] IMF [B] WB [C] WTO ☒ [D] UN

- ✓ The World Trade Organisation recently announced that its Director-General of Roberto Azevedo will step down on August 31, 2020 on personal grounds.

- ✓ The Geneva-based World Trade Organisation (WTO) was founded in the year 1995 and India is one of the founder members of this body. The main objective of WTO is to frame rules for global exports and imports and regulate international trade by reducing barriers.

10. 'Families in Development: Copenhagen & Beijing + 25' is the theme of which special day, celebrated by United Nations?

- [A] International Day of Families ☒
[B] International Day of Growth and Development
[C] International Migrants Day
[D] International Day of Migrant Families

- ✓ International Day of Families celebrated by the United Nations on May 15, every year across the world. This year, it is celebrated with a theme of 'Families in Development: Copenhagen & Beijing + 25'.

- ✓ This year marks the 25th anniversary of Copenhagen Declaration and Beijing Platform for Action. The day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in the year 1993, to highlight the importance attached with families by the international community.

1. In the NMIS online dashboard recently developed by the National Disaster Management Authority, what does 'M' stand for?

- [A] Maintenance [B] Migrant ☒
[C] Ministry [D] Movement

- ✓ The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has developed an online dashboard named 'National Migrant Information System (NMIS)'. The objective of launching this portal is to capture the information about movement of migrants and to enable them to transit across the states in a better manner.
- ✓ As per the communication from the Home Ministry, the portal equipped with a central repository will help in faster communication between the states.

2. When the International Day of Light celebrated every year by the UNESCO?

- [A] May 15 [B] May 16 ☒
[C] May 17 [D] May 18

- ✓ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has celebrated the International Day of Light on 16th May to mark the role light plays in our daily lives.
- ✓ This day aims to raise awareness of the critical role light based technologies play in our lives, elevating science, technology, art, and culture to help achieve the goals of UNESCO – education, equality, and peace. This day marks the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser beam in 1960 by famous physicist and engineer – Theodore Maiman.

3. Which GIF-making and sharing website has been recently acquired by the social-media giant Facebook?

- [A] Gifmaker [B] Giphy ☒
[C] Easygif [D] Tenor

- ✓ The Social-media giant Facebook has recently acquired the popular GIF-making and sharing website GIPHY. Facebook is also planning to integrate its GIF library Instagram, its photo-sharing app.

- ✓ GIPHY, one of the most popular GIF-making and sharing sites on the internet, allows users to create, share and remix GIFs. Several platforms including Apple, Twitter, Pinterest and Reddit use Giphy's API for providing GIFs.

4. Which day is observed by the Health Ministry on May 16, across the country?

- [A] National Anaemia Day [B] National Dengue Day ☒
[C] National Stunting Day [D] National Obesity Day

- ✓ Every year, May 16 is being observed by the Union Health Ministry as 'National Dengue Day' across the country. Dengue is a viral disease, which is transmitted by the bite of a specific mosquito called Aedes Aegypti.
- ✓ It is commonly spread during rainy season. The Health Ministry recently released a list of measures to be followed in order to prevent the disease.

5. The 36th amendment of Indian constitution made which territory as a full state of India?

- [A] Manipur [B] Sikkim ☒
[C] Assam [D] Mizoram

- ✓ The Prime Minister of Sikkim appealed to the Indian Parliament for making Sikkim a state of India, in the year 1975. A referendum was held in Sikkim and 97.5% of the people voted to abolish the monarchy.
- ✓ Sikkim became the 22nd state of the Indian Union, on 16 May 1975. The 36th amendment of the Indian constitution made Sikkim as a full state of India and added its name into the 1st Schedule of the Constitution. Every year, the state celebrates May 16 as Sikkim state hood day.

6. In the recent economic stimulus package, it was announced that India is to become a global MRO hub. In this context, MRO is associated with which sector?

- [A] Education Sector [B] Aviation Sector ☒
[C] Power Sector [D] Mineral Sector

- ✓ In the recent economic stimulus package, the Finance Minister announced that the government is taking steps

to make India a global Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) hub of aircraft.

- ✓ As the aircraft component repairs and airframe maintenance is set to increase from Rs 800 Cr to Rs 2,000 Cr in 3 years, India can make use of the opportunity. Major engine manufacturers in the world are expected to set up engine repair facilities in India in future. The Minister also announced auctioning of six more airports on public-private partnership (PPP) basis.

7. The Electricity distribution companies in which category of territories are proposed to be privatised, as a part of the Economic Stimulus package?

- [A] Hilly states [B] North-Eastern states
[C] Union Territories ☒ [D] Coastal states

- ✓ As a part of the economic stimulus package, the Union Finance Minister proposed that the Electricity distribution companies (DISCOMs) in the Union Territories (UTs) would be privatised.
- ✓ As of now, Delhi is the only Union Territory which has private power DISCOMs namely Reliance Infrastructure's BSES & TATA Power Delhi Distribution. Earlier, the draft amendments to the Electricity Act, 2003 were announced, which included the proposal of private participation in electricity distribution.

8. When is the International Day of Living Together in Peace celebrated by the United Nations?

- [A] May 12 [B] May 14
[C] May 16 ☒ [D] May 18

- ✓ The UN General Assembly declared 16 May the International Day of Living Together in Peace, with an objective of sensitising the international community to promote peace, tolerance and solidarity.
- ✓ Every year, May 16 has been celebrated as the International Day of Living Together in Peace. The year 2000 was declared as the "International Year for a Culture of Peace" and the decade 2001-2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for Children of the World".

9. What is the name of the scheme recently launched by the Indian Government, with an aim to promote digital education in the country?

- [A] Vidya Bharati [B] PM e-Vidya ☒
[C] Padhe Bharat [D] Study India

- ✓ The Union Finance Minister launched a scheme named 'PM e Vidya', as a part of the Stimulus package, in order to promote digital education in the country.
- ✓ This comprehensive program will include DIKSHA (one nation-one digital platform), through which quality e-content will be provided to all school children; a dedicated educational channel for each class from 1 to 12; Community Radio and CBSE's Shiksha Vani podcast.
- ✓ It also includes study material for the differently abled developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY).

10. What is the theme of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day celebrated on May 17, 2020?

- [A] Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ☒
[B] Information and Communication embracing the world
[C] ICTs deployed during the pandemic
[D] ICTs: Vital for inclusive development

- ✓ The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day is observed across the globe every year on May 17 to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. The 2020 theme is Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ✓ The day also marks the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention (ITC) and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union.

1. Which country recently sworn in its new government led by the PM Benjamin Netanyahu and Benny Gantz?

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

- ✓ The parliament of Israel recently sworn in its new government led by the Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Benny Gantz. Israel was functioning without a stable government for over 500 days.
- ✓ The law makers of the country have approved the coalition of Netanyahu–Gantz. Benny Gantz was a former rival of Netanyahu. This step is expected to end the longest political crisis in the country's history.

2. Which recently discovered micro-organism has been named after Twitter?

- [A] Bacteria [B] Virus
[C] Fungus ☒ [D] Protozoa

- ✓ According to a recent study published in the journal MycoKeys, the researchers found an image of a millipede in Twitter and noticed some tiny dots near the creature's head.
- ✓ It has never been seen on the American millipedes and the newly discovered parasitic fungus has now been officially named as Troglomyces twitteri in Latin. The team discovered several specimens of the same fungus on some American millipedes found in the Natural History Museum.

3. Bundesliga, the first tournament to resume after the COVID-19 pandemic, is associated with which sports?

- [A] Basketball [B] Football ☒
[C] Hockey [D] Wrestling

- ✓ Bundesliga, the professional football league in Germany is the first tournament to resume after the COVID-19 pandemic. The German Football Association (DFL) has planned to complete the season by June 30.
- ✓ The German government approved the league to conduct the matches. On March 13, the Bundesliga was

suspended owing to the pandemic. Now, all games will be held behind closed doors as there is a ban in Germany for mass gatherings. They will also be televised live.

4. What is the name of the super cyclone that has recently developed in the Bay of Bengal?

- [A] Fani [B] Amphan ☒
[C] Maha [D] Nisarga

- ✓ The super-cyclone that has recently developed in the Bay of Bengal named 'Amphan', is claimed to be only the second super-cyclone faced by India in several decades.
- ✓ According to the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), as the cyclone developed into a severe cyclonic storm, massive evacuation of 1.1 million people, who are likely to be hit by the cyclone, would be carried out. Heavy rain and high-velocity winds are expected across coastal Odisha, West Bengal and A & N Islands.

5. 'Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana' is an initiative of which Indian state?

- [A] Manipur [B] Chhattisgarh ☒
[C] Assam [D] Mizoram

- ✓ The state government of Chhattisgarh is set to launch its ambitious Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana on May 21, which marks the death anniversary of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- ✓ The scheme has an aim of boosting the rural economy in the state and to recover them from the slowdown caused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the scheme, the state will infuse Rs 5100 crore through Direct Benefit Transfer into the accounts of farmers. The farmers would be paid Rs 10,000 per acre for paddy, corn and sugarcane crops.

6. Who is the Chairperson of the Committee of Experts (CoE), whose recommendations on Defence Reforms have been accepted and implemented?

- [A] Lt Gen D B Shekatkar ☒
[B] Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain

[C] Lt Gen Surinder Singh

[D] Lt Gen Gurmit Singh

- ✓ The Government has recently accepted and implemented three important recommendations of Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Lt General D B Shekatkar (Retd).
- ✓ The three recommendations are related to border Infrastructure, which focusses on speeding up road construction. Another recommendation was to outsource the road construction projects that were beyond the optimal capacity of BRO. Engineering Procurement Contract (EPC) mode is to be adopted for execution of works costing above Rs 100 crore.

7. What is the theme of the World Hypertension Day observed on May 17?

[A] Measure Your Blood Pressure, Control It, Live Longer ☒

[B] Eliminate Hypertension

[C] Global Hearts for Hypertension

[D] No more risk of Heart-attack

- ✓ The World Hypertension Day observed on May 17 across the world every year. This year the World Hypertension League (WHL) has postponed the celebration of World Hypertension Day (WHD) 2020 to October 17, 2020, due to global COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The theme for World Hypertension Day is "Measure Your Blood Pressure, Control It, Live Longer". Hypertension, also called as elevated blood pressure, is a serious medical condition that increases the risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney failure and blindness.

8. When the International Museum Day celebrated every year?

[A] May 12

[B] May 14

[C] May 16

[D] May 18 ☒

- ✓ The International Museum Day is observed every year on May 18 to raise awareness of the fact that, "Museums

are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples".

- ✓ The 2020 theme is 'Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion'. Development of Museums and Cultural Spaces of the Culture Ministry hosted a webinar on 'Revitalising Museums and Cultural Spaces' on the International Museum Day.

9. Who was the head of the International Cricket Council cricket committee, which has recommended to ban using saliva to polish the ball?

[A] Mahela Jayawardena

[B] Rahul Dravid

[C] Anil Kumble ☒

[D] Andrew Strauss

- ✓ The International Cricket Council (ICC) cricket committee headed by Anil Kumble has recommended the ban of saliva to shine the ball, amidst the coronavirus pandemic. Anil Kumble is the present Chairman of the ICC Cricket committee.
- ✓ After discussion through video-conferencing and consulting with the ICC Medical Advisory Committee, the committee has recommended this ban. It also announced that usage of sweat to polish the ball was not prohibited and the hygiene measures in the field need to be improved.

10. On which date, the 2020 edition of World AIDS Vaccine Day is observed?

[A] May 12

[B] May 14

[C] May 16

[D] May 18 ☒

- ✓ The World AIDS Vaccine Day is observed every year on 18th May to spread awareness about the urgent need for a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS. The day is also known as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day.
- ✓ It is also a day to thank volunteers, researchers, scientists, community member, health professionals and everyone else who is working to eradicate the disease & find ways for safe and effective HIV vaccines.