



CURRENT AFFAIRS

AUGUST 2020



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1. India–Indonesia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue was held in which city?

- [A] New Delhi ☒
- [B] Guwahati
- [C] Lucknow
- [D] Ahmedabad



- ✓ **The India–Indonesia Defence Ministers’ Dialogue was held in New Delhi. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh led the Indian delegation while Indonesia’s Defence Minister General Prabowo Subianto led their delegation. Both the countries affirmed to further expand defence and military ties between the countries in areas including technology sharing. The countries had signed a new defence cooperation agreement in 2018 for a comprehensive strategic partnership.**

2. India has pledged to end the HIV/AIDS pandemic by which year?

- [A] 2030 ☒
- [B] 2025
- [C] 2045
- [D] 2100



- ✓ **At the 2016 high–level meeting at the UN General Assembly, India pledged to fast track efforts towards ending HIV/AIDS as a public health threat in the next five years, and to end the epidemic by 2030. Recently, a study published by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) stated that India may miss the national target to end AIDS by 2030. The decline in annual new HIV infections is only 27% from 2020 to 2017 against the national target of 75% by 2020.**

3. When is ‘Global Tiger Day’ celebrated across the world every year?

- [A] July 29 ☒
- [B] July 30
- [C] July 31
- [D] August 01



- ✓ **During the Saint Petersburg declaration on tiger conservation that was signed by Tiger range countries in 2010, it was decided to celebrate 29th July as Global Tiger Day across the world. The countries had pledged to double the tiger population by the year 2022. Global Tiger Day aims to create awareness on tiger conservation. Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar has released the All India Tiger Estimation Report–2018 and said that India has nearly 70 per cent of the global tiger population.**

4. State Bank of India (SBI) has provided USD 16.20 million for local businesses in which country?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] Maldives ☒
- [C] Afghanistan
- [D] Mauritius



- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has provided a liquidity support of USD 16.20 million for local businesses in Maldives. SBI has also deferred loan repayment for over 200 retail accounts. On the occasion of Independence Day of the Maldives on July 26, SBI's Covid relief measures have been announced. India had earlier made an assistance of USD 400 million to Maldives through extended currency swap arrangement.

5. What is the name of the Medical Bed Isolation System developed by the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT)?

- [A] Aashray ☒
- [B] Abhimanyu
- [C] Arjun
- [D] Arya



- ✓ Pune based Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) has developed a Medical Bed Isolation System named Aashray, to fight COVID-19. The system has individual envelopes made up of specialized material that stops the virus spread from patient to others. It consists of negative pressure suction near exhale and tools to filter and disinfect aerosol. The portable and reusable system can be used in quarantine facilities.

6. Which state has the highest tiger population, as per the recent report of the Environment Ministry?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Madhya Pradesh ☒
- [D] Rajasthan



- ✓ The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar released an updated report on India's Tiger Survey from 2018. As per the updated report, India's tiger population stood at 2967, the same number given by the Government last year. India has 70% of

the world's total tiger population. Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of tigers at 526, followed by Karnataka and Uttarakhand.

7. Which is India's first Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approved drone training school?

- [A] Madras Flying Club
- [B] Bombay Flying Club ☒
- [C] Hyderabad Flying Club
- [D] Delhi Flying Club



- ✓ **One of the oldest flying clubs in India, the Bombay Flying Club has become the first drone training school approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). DGCA has approved the application of the club for conducting remote pilot training for remotely piloted aircraft systems. All drones should be registered with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and should receive Drone acknowledgement numbers (DANs).**

8. India is to collaborate with which country for new anti-microbial resistance (AMR) projects?

- [A] Brazil
- [B] United Kingdom ☒
- [C] Germany
- [D] Switzerland



- ✓ **India is collaborating with the United Kingdom for five new projects worth eight million pounds, to tackle anti-microbial resistance (AMR). All the five projects are planned for September this year, after they receive clearances. The United Kingdom is to contribute four million pounds from the UK Research and Innovation Fund for the partnership. The UK has also partnered with India's Serum Institute to manufacture the vaccine for COVID-19.**

9. Thierry Bollore has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of which automobile company?

- [A] Mercedes Benz
- [B] Jaguar Land Rover ☒
- [C] BMW
- [D] Aston Martin



- ✓ **The Chairman of Tata Sons N Chandra Sekaran announced that Thierry Bollore would be appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tata's British luxury arm Jaguar Land Rover**

(JLR). Thierry Bollere, who was previously working with the Renault, will assume office with effect from September 10. He is to succeed Professor Sir Ralf Speth, who would take up the position of Non-Executive Vice Chairman of Jaguar Land Rover.

10. Thudiyurulippara hill, which was announced as a biodiversity heritage site, is located in which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala ☒

[C] Karnataka

[D] Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **Thudiyurulippara hill in the Pramadam grama panchayat of Kerala has been announced as a biodiversity heritage site. The Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) has formally announced the ecologically sensitive hill as a biodiversity heritage site on the recommendations of the Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB). This has been announced on the occasion of World Nature Conservation Day.**
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1. Who has been presented the Life Time Excellence Award of Ministry of Earth Sciences National Awards?

- [A] Ashok Sahni ☒
- [B] S V Karanjkar
- [C] Ashok Kumar Sharma
- [D] S Suresh Babu



- ✓ Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has recently announced the National Awards for excellence in Earth System Science. The Life Time Excellence Award is being awarded to Professor Ashok Sahni for his contribution in the field of Geology and Biostratigraphy. The National Award for Ocean Science and technology is being awarded to Dr. V. V. S. S. Sarma and Dr. M. Ravichandran.

2. What is the target to be achieved in Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) by 2035, as per the National Education Policy?

- [A] 25 %
- [B] 50 % ☒
- [C] 75 %
- [D] 100 %



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has recently approved the National Education Policy 2020. It has introduced several major reforms in higher education. As per the policy, a target of 50 per cent Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) by 2035 has been fixed. It also provides academic, administrative and financial autonomy for institutions and proposes a single regulator for all higher education.

3. Jin Liqun has been re-appointed as the President of which international institution?

- [A] Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank ☒
- [B] Asian Development Bank
- [C] World Bank
- [D] New Development Bank



- ✓ Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) elected Jin Liqun for a second term as President, during the annual meeting. His second five-year term will begin from January 2021. The board of governors of AIIB also approved the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to host the 2021 AIIB Annual Meeting, from October 27–28, 2021, in Dubai.

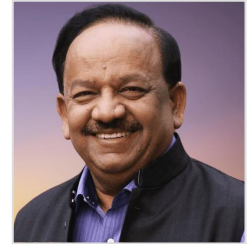
4. Which Union Minister released e-book on Standard Treatment Guidelines for Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Behavioural Addictions?

[A] Dr Harsh Vardhan ☒

[B] Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank

[C] Jitendra Singh

[D] Amit Shah



- ✓ **Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan has released e-book on Standard Treatment Guidelines for the Management of Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and Behavioural Addictions. The Minister cautioned that the World Drug Report 2020 suggests that COVID-19 will induce disorders in the country. The substance use is associated with non-communicable disorders like cardiovascular, cancer and mental health. He also highlighted that smoking increases the risk for COVID-19.**

5. Ambala airbase, where the first batch of Rafale fighter jets arrived, is located in which state/UT?

[A] Uttarakhand ☒

[B] Haryana

[C] Sikkim

[D] West Bengal



- ✓ **The first batch of five Rafale fighter jets have landed at the Ambala Air Force Base, located in the state of Haryana. The Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria received the fighter jets, which will be inducted in the No. 17 Squadron 'Golden Arrows'. The jets were flown by Indian Air Force pilots for seven hours with the help of the mid-air refuellers.**

6. Unnat Bharat Abhiyan centre of which institution has partnered with CSIR and Vijnana Bharti for promoting rural development?

[A] IIT Madras

[B] IIT Delhi ☒

[C] IIT Kharagpur

[D] IIT Guwahati



- ✓ **A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (UBA-IITD) and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA), New Delhi.**

- ✓ The objective of the MoU is to provide joint action in the area of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) for rural development of India. UBA is a flagship program of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) by connecting academic institutions with local communities.

7. Which Power producer is the first to complete all wind power projects awarded by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)?

[A] Sembcorp Energy India ☒

[B] Tata Power

[C] JSW Energy

[D] Adani Power



- ✓ Sembcorp Energy India Limited (SEIL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Singapore-based Sembcorp Industries, announced the completion of its latest 800MW wind power projects. It has become the first independent power producer to commission the projects awarded in the wind auctions conducted by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). Union Power Minister R K Singh has dedicated Sembcorp's SECI 1, 2 and 3 wind projects to the nation.

8. Which country has claimed 'Diaoyu islands' as its territory and declared its right to conduct law enforcement activities?

[A] United States of America

[B] China ☒

[C] Germany

[D] India



- ✓ China has recently claimed that the Diaoyu islands are Chinese territory and it has the right to conduct law enforcement activities in the area. The Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin denied the criticism of the U.S. of incursions of China. The islands located in the East China sea has also been claimed by Japan for several year. Japan calls the territory as Senkaku and China calls as Diaoyu.

9. Which two cities are additionally selected by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs to be made as smart cities?

[A] Leh and Kargil ☒

[B] Ludhiana and Amritsar

[C] Tenkasi and Virudunagar

[D] Gangtok and Namchi



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs has formed a five-member central team under Smart Cities Director Rahul Kapoor. The panel will formulate project reports for both the cities, to improve infrastructure and employment opportunities in Ladakh. These cities have been selected in addition to the 100 smart cities in different states. This idea was initially proposed by the Home Affairs Ministry.

10. 'Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar' is awarded by which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Home Affairs ☒

[B] Ministry of Defence

[C] Ministry of Corporate Affairs

[D] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs presents the 'Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar' award. The award recognises individuals as well as institutions for their contributions in the field of disaster management. The Government of India has recently invited the nominations for the award, which is presented on the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, on January 23.
-

1. Which technology company released the 'Security Endpoint Threat Report 2019'?

[A] Google

[B] Microsoft ☒

[C] Amazon

[D] Apple



- ✓ Major technology company Microsoft has unveiled the latest edition of its Security Endpoint Threat Report 2019. As per the report, India has been placed among the countries with the highest cryptocurrency mining encounters in the last year. India registered the seventh highest malware encounter rate in the past year and the third highest ransomware encounter rate across the Asia-Pacific region.

2. What will be the effective contribution by the employees and employers to the Employee's Provident Fund (EPF) from August 2020?[A] 24% ☒

[B] 50%

[C] 60%

[D] 70%



- ✓ In the month of May, the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had reduced EPF contribution by 4% for three months of May, June and July. 2% of employer's contribution and 2% of employee's contribution were reduced. This step was taken as a part of relief measures announced by the Government during the Covid-19 pandemic. From the month of August, the effective contribution will come back to the old deduction rate of 24%.

3. Which financial institution has launched the 'MSME Saksham' portal, in association with TransUnion CIBIL?[A] SIDBI ☒

[B] RBI

[C] NABARD

[D] NHB



- ✓ The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched a knowledge portal named 'MSME Saksham', in association with TransUnion CIBIL.

- ✓ The comprehensive financial education and knowledge platform will provide financial awareness to the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) and assist them in getting quick access to formal and affordable credit facilities.

4. When is 'World Day against Trafficking in Persons' observed?

[A] July 30 ☒

[B] August 01

[C] August 02

[D] August 03



- ✓ 'World Day against Trafficking in Persons' is observed every year on July 30 across the world, to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for protection of their rights. In the year 2013, the United Nations General Assembly held a high-level meeting to review the Global Plan of Action and designated July 30 as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) assists member countries in their efforts.

5. Which country has approved a law that gives more power to regulate social media content?

[A] India

[B] Turkey ☒

[C] Sri Lanka

[D] China



- ✓ The Parliament of Turkey approved a new legislation that gives its authorities more power to regulate social media content. As per the law, major social media companies such as Facebook and Twitter will have to keep representative offices and also would store user data in Turkey. The government said this law will combat cyber-crime and protect users and Authorities can remove cyber bullying posts.

6. Which trade association organised the "National Digital conference on Ease of Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat"?

[A] FICCI

[B] CII ☒

[C] ASSOCHAM

[D] NASSCOM



- ✓ **Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) organised the “National Digital conference on Ease of Doing Business for Atmanirbhar Bharat”. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated the conference and said that the country is heading towards a complete digital eco-system. He also said that the govt is aiming to cover the entire nation through optic fibres in the next two years.**

7. India has imposed restrictions on the import of which electronic gadget after two decades?

- [A] Smartphones
[B] Color Television Sets ☒
[C] Speakers
[D] Microwave Ovens



- ✓ **India has recently imposed restrictions on the import of Colour Television sets, in an effort to promote its domestic production. The import of the TV sets was freed from previous restrictions two decades ago and since then there has been no amendments in the import policy. Now the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified to change the policy from free to ‘restricted’. However, there is no restriction on importing monochrome TVs.**

8. What is the name of the mobile application launched by the Directorate of Cashew Research?

- [A] Cashew Care
[B] Cashew India ☒
[C] Cashew Credit
[D] Quality Cashew



- ✓ **The Directorate of Cashew Research (DCR) located in the state of Karnataka has developed the ‘Cashew India’ application for farmers of cashew in India. The app gives information on cashew grafts, cultivation, post-harvest processing, and market information to stakeholders such as farmers, researchers and processors. The app is available in 11 languages and funded by the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.**

9. Which is the first Armed Police Force to partner with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to procure products for its personnel?

- [A] Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) ☒
[B] Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
[C] Border Security Force (BSF)
[D] Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)



- ✓ The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) signed a deal with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to procure products for its personnel. ITBP became the first Central Armed Police Force to sign such an agreement with KVIC to procure a range of khadi goods for around 10 lakh personnel. Earlier, the Home Ministry announced that CAPF canteens will only sell local-made products.

10. Who is the head of the Sports Ministry's committee to select this year's National Sports Awards winners?

[A] Mukundakam Sharma ☒

[B] B S Sinha

[C] Markandey Katju

[D] Jagannadha Rao



- ✓ The Sports Ministry has constituted a 12-member committee to select this year's National Sports Awards winners. The committee is to be headed by retired Supreme Court Justice, Mukundakam Sharma. It will select the award winners among both athletes and coaches. The members include Former India Cricketer Virender Sehwag, Hockey star Sardar Singh and Paralympic silver-medallist Deepa Malik.
-

1. What is the name of India's solar-powered ferry that has won the prestigious Gustave Trousé Award?

[A] Aditya ☒

[B] Arunan

[C] Ravikant

[D] Sooriya



- ✓ India's solar-powered ferry Aditya has won the prestigious Gustave Trousé Award for Excellence in Electric Boats and Boating. It has been named the best electric boat in the category of ferries designed for paid passenger service. Aditya was the first solar-powered ferry of the country when it began its operations in 2017 in Kerala. The ferry built by NavAlt Boats belongs to the Kerala State Water Transport Department.

2. Mahatma Gandhi Setu (bridge), that was seen in news, is located in which state?

[A] West Bengal

[B] Bihar ☒

[C] Gujarat

[D] Uttarakhand



- ✓ Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the upstream lane of Mahatma Gandhi bridge, through video conference. The 5.5 km four lane bridge is built over river Ganga connecting Patna and Hajipur of Bihar. The reconstruction work of this bridge started in the year 2017 and the cost outlay is Rs 1742 crore. The downstream lane of the bridge is to be completed by 2021. The concrete structure of the old bridge will be replaced by new steel deck.

3. Which Union Ministry has received SKOCH Gold Award for its IT enabled Scholarship Schemes?

[A] Ministry of HRD

[B] Ministry of Tribal Affairs ☒

[C] Ministry of Women and Child Development

[D] Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment



- ✓ Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) has received SKOCH Gold Award for its "Empowerment of Tribals through IT enabled Scholarship Schemes". The 66th SKOCH award ceremony was organised on the title "India responds to Covid through Digital Governance". The Tribal affairs won the award in 'Digital India & E-Governance' competition. The Ministry had integrated its 5 Scholarship Schemes with Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Portal.

4. Who is the Chairman of the High–Level Group on Agricultural Exports set up by the Fifteenth Finance Commission?

[A] Narendra Singh Tomar

[B] Radha Singh

[C] Sanjiv Puri ☒

[D] Preeti Sudan



- ✓ **The 15th Finance Commission had set up an eight–member High–Level Group on Agricultural Exports headed by the Chairman of ITC, Sanjiv Puri. It was set up to recommend performance incentives for States to encourage agricultural exports. The group has recently submitted the report that recommended a State–led Export Plan for a crop Value chain cluster (VCC). It also suggested to focus on 22 crop value chains.**

5. Which global institution has inked deal with Reliance Power for constructing power plant in Bangladesh?

[A] World Bank

[B] Asian Development Bank ☒

[C] Asian Investment Infrastructure Bank

[D] International Monetary Fund



- ✓ **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a USD 200 million deal with the Reliance Bangladesh LNG and Power Limited (RBLPL). Under the deal, Reliance power would build and operate a 718–megawatt combined–cycle power plant in Bangladesh. USD 100 million would be provided by the ADB while the other 100 million would be sourced from the Leading Asia’s Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP) of Japan International Cooperation Agency.**

6. Which global firm became the world’s most valuable publicly listed company, after surpassing Saudi Aramco?

[A] Google

[B] Apple ☒

[C] Amazon

[D] Reliance



- ✓ **Apple surpassed multinational petroleum company Saudi Aramco to become the world's most valuable publicly listed company. The market capitalisation of the technology company surged to**

USD 1.82 trillion, as per the regulatory filing of the company. Whereas, the market capitalisation of Aramco stood at USD 1.760 trillion.

7. India observed the 100th death anniversary of which freedom fighter, on August 1?

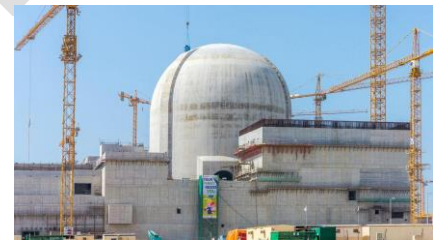
- [A] Lala Lajpat Rai
- [B] Bal Gangadhar Tilak ☒
- [C] Tiruppur Kumaran
- [D] Subhramanya Bharathi



- ✓ The 100th death anniversary of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak is being observed on 1st August, across the country. Tilak was a prominent extremist leader in the Indian National Congress. Being an integral part of the Lal–Bal–Pal trio, he proclaimed “Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it”. Tilak was born on July 23, 1856 in Maharashtra and passed away on August 1 in the year 1920.

8. Which country successfully operated Arab world’s first nuclear power reactor?

- [A] Kuwait
- [B] United Arab Emirates ☒
- [C] Qatar
- [D] Oman



- ✓ The United Arab Emirates has successfully commenced operation of the Arab world’s first commercial nuclear power plant. The Barakah reactor is located in the oil-rich city of the UAE, Abu Dhabi. With the commission, the UAE joins the group of 30 countries that can generate nuclear energy. It is built and run by a joint venture with Korea Electric Power Corporation.

9. How many States/UTs implement the ‘One Nation One Ration Card scheme’, as on August 4, 2020?

- [A] 20
- [B] 24 ☒
- [C] 25
- [D] 27

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- ✓ The Ministry of Consumer Affairs has integrated four additional states Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttarakhand to the One Nation One Ration Card scheme. With this, the scheme has been enabled in a total of 24 States/UTs across the country. Around 80 percent of the beneficiaries of National Food Security Act (NFSA) have been covered. The Ministry aims to integrate all states/UTs to the scheme by March 2021.

10. What is the theme of 'World Breastfeeding Week' 2020?

- [A] Support Breastfeeding for a Healthier Planet ☒
- [B] Innocenti Declaration Anniversary
- [C] Exclusive Breastfeeding
- [D] Support Lactating Mothers



- ✓ **World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated during the first week of August (August 1–7) across the world in many countries. The campaign was initially organised by the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) in association with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF in 1992. The week also marks the signing of the Innocenti Declaration. The theme of this year is “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”.**
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1. What is the name of the Incubator enhancement program launched by the Atal Innovation Mission?

[A] AIM Incubate

[B] AIM iCREST ☒

[C] AIM Support

[D] AIM Enhance



- ✓ **NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has recently launched an Incubator Capabilities enhancement program named 'AIM iCREST'. AIM has collaborated with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Wadhvani Foundation for support and expertise in entrepreneurship and innovation. The program aims to support start-ups in knowledge transfer and reaching global markets.**

2. Where is the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) located?

[A] Mumbai

[B] New Delhi ☒

[C] Varanasi

[D] Chennai



- ✓ **The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) is an apex Ayurveda medicine and research institution located in New Delhi. It was seen in news as the institute has started providing free testing and treatment to patients in its COVID 19 Health Centre (CHC). AYUSH Minister Shri Naik inaugurated the ventilator-equipped Intensive Care Unit of the centre as well as a COVID Call Centre at AIIA.**

3. Which Indian journalist has been named the winner of Prem Bhatia Award for political reporting?

[A] Dipankar Ghose ☒

[B] Ravish Kumar

[C] Siddharth Varadarajan

[D] Malini Parthasarathy



- ✓ **Indian journalist and Special Correspondent of the Indian Express Dipankar Ghose has won the Prem Bhatia Award for political reporting. He covered various issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic including the migrant labour crisis. People's Archive of Rural India (PARI), a journalism website has been selected for the award for the reporting on environmental and development issues.**

4. What is the name of the programme launched by the Health Minister to promote scientific temper among school students?

- [A] India Science
- [B] Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan ☒
- [C] Science Bolta Hai
- [D] Vigyan hi Vikas



- ✓ **Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan launched a national– level programme named 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan' 2020–21. This initiative aims to promote scientific temper among school students of Class 6 to 11. It is jointly organised by Vijnana Bharati, in collaboration with Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organisation under Science and Technology Ministry and NCERT of Education Ministry. It identifies and trains bright students with interest in Science.**

5. Which state has launched a cyber–crime awareness programme named 'e–Rakshabandhan'?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Andhra Pradesh ☒
- [D] Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy launched a cybercrime awareness programme e–Rakshabandhan. It is a first virtual programme of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and the State Police. The one–month–long programme aims to create awareness among the public, especially women, youth and children in cyberspace.**

6. Who is set to become the first non–white person to feature on a British coin?

- [A] Babasaheb Ambedkar
- [B] Mahatma Gandhi ☒
- [C] Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- [D] Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



- ✓ **The United Kingdom is set to imprint the image of Mahatma Gandhi in a new set of coins, as a part of efforts to celebrate the contributions of non–white individuals. Rishi Sunak, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has sent the recommendation to the Royal Mint Advisory Committee (RMAC). It is conducting a campaign called "We Too Built Britain". If the coins are minted with Gandhi's image, he would be the first non–White person to feature on a British coin.**

7. Where is the headquarters of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) located?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] New Delhi ☒
- [C] Gandhi Nagar
- [D] Kolkata



Indian Council for Cultural Relations

- ✓ **Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is an autonomous organisation of the Government of India head-quartered in New Delhi. It promotes India's external cultural relations by cultural exchange. The council was founded by the first Education Minister of independent India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in the year 1950. ICCR recently organised a two-day international webinar on the theme of 'Lokmanya Tilak – Swaraj to Self-reliant India'.**

8. Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has launched a programme for Agarbatti artisans under which scheme?

- [A] Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
- [B] Gramodyog Vikas Yojana ☒
- [C] Start-up India Scheme
- [D] Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana



- ✓ **Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has recently approved a programme for artisans who make Agarbatti. The programme aims to develop village industry under 'Gramodyog Vikas Yojana'. Under the programme, four pilot projects will be started that includes one in the North Eastern part of the country. Each cluster of artisans will be provided with automatic Agarbatti making machines.**

9. Which zone of the Indian Railways operated the first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train?

- [A] Southern Railway
- [B] Northern Railway ☒
- [C] Central Railway
- [D] East Coast Railway



- ✓ **Northern Railway operated the first-ever Vyapar Mala Express train from Delhi to Jirania in Tripura. It has 46 wagons and 34 of them were loaded with wheat and the remaining with rice and pulses. Railways is said to have earned more than 94 lakh rupees from this Vyapar Mala Express train. This is an express service which aims to reach its destination in a shorter time, as the train will be monitored on a real-time basis.**

10. What is the name of the hurricane that has hit the US state North Carolina?

[A] Dolly

[B] Bertha

[C] Isais ☒

[D] Gonzalo



- ✓ **As per the National Hurricane Center of the United States, North Carolina has recently witnessed a Hurricane Isaias. The hurricane has made a landfall near Ocean Isle Beach in North Carolina. More than a dozen tornadoes have been reported in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. At least 2 people is said to have been killed in the hurricane.**
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1. When is Sanskrit Diwas (Sanskrit Day) 2020 celebrated?

- [A] August 03 ☒
- [B] August 04
- [C] August 05
- [D] August 06

संस्कृत

- ✓ Sanskrit Diwas also known as 'Vishva samskrita dinam' is celebrated on the full moon of the 'Shravana' month of Hindu calendar. This year, Sanskrit Day that promotes the revival of the language is celebrated on August 3. All India Radio broadcasted the first special program in Sanskrit titled 'Bahujan Bhasha – Sanskrit Bhasha' to mark the occasion.

2. Which oil company has formed a Joint Venture to manufacture Bitumen Derivatives?

- [A] Indian Oil ☒
- [B] Hindustan Petroleum
- [C] Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- [D] Bharat Petroleum



- ✓ State-owned oil and gas company and the largest commercial oil company in the country, Indian Oil has partnered with France's Total. The Joint Venture has been formed to make Superior Quality Bitumen derivatives and specialty products for India's road construction industry. The Joint Venture would initially take over the existing plant of Total at Jodhpur, Rajasthan and then invest Rs 226 crore to set up six new plants across India.

3. What is the name of the Crew Dragon spacecraft from which NASA astronauts landed back on the Earth?

- [A] Victor
- [B] Endeavor ☒
- [C] SpaceX Plus
- [D] NASA Craft



- ✓ The United States astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley, who flew to the International Space Station in SpaceX's new Crew Dragon, landed back on the Earth. The astronauts splashed down aboard Crew Dragon 'Endeavor' in the Gulf of Mexico after a 64-day voyage in space. This is NASA's first crewed mission from American soil in nine years. This splash down is the first of its kind by NASA in 45 years.

4. **Ciro Immobile, who was seen in news recently, is associated with which sports?**

- [A] Cricket
- [B] Football ☒
- [C] Hockey
- [D] Basket Ball



- ✓ **Ciro Immobile is an Italian professional footballer who plays for the football club Lazio and the national team of Italy. Ciro Immobile was seen in news, as he has won the domestic Golden Boot and the European Golden Shoe award. In a recent match, he matched Gonzalo Higuain's record of 36 goals in a single season. The striker had a record 14 penalties out of the total goals.**

5. **What is the name of the book that has been released with essays on Swachh Bharat Mission?**

- [A] Swachh Bharat Kranti ☒
- [B] SBM Chronicles
- [C] Swachh Bharat Kitab
- [D] Swachh Bharat Records



- ✓ **Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Union Minister of Textiles and Women & Child Development Smriti Irani officially launched the book with essays on the journey of Swachh Bharat Mission. Named the 'Swachh Bharat Kranti' (Swachh Bharat Revolution), it has been edited by the Secretary of the Department of Water and Sanitation and has been translated to Hindi. The book has as many as 35 essays by several stake holders involved in the mission.**

6. **What is the name of the official YouTube channel of the National Cooperative Development Corporation?**

- [A] NCDC Coop
- [B] Sahakar Co-optube NCDC ☒
- [C] Agri NCDC Sahayata
- [D] NCDC Krishi Jagran



- ✓ **Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has recently launched the official YouTube channel of the National Cooperative Development Corporation. It is called the 'Sahakar Cooptube NCDC Channel and is a new initiative by NCDC, a statutory Corporation under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. The Union Minister also launched instruction videos produced by NCDC on 'Formation and Registration of a Cooperative'.**

7. Which technology company is to set up Robotics Laboratory at IISc, Bengaluru to study about 5G technology?

[A] Amazon

[B] Nokia ☒

[C] Huawei

[D] Jio



- ✓ **Nokia is set to establish a robotics lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru to study about 5G technology. Nokia Center of Excellence (CoE) for networked robotics lab will be deployed to research on socially-relevant use cases based on 5G and emerging technologies. This will promote cooperation between colleges and industries.**

8. Which company has been approved to set up the third Power exchange of India?

[A] PTC India ☒

[B] REC Ltd

[C] Oil India

[D] Tata Power



- ✓ **PTC India Limited, previously called as Power Trading Corporation of India has been approved to set up the third Power exchange of India. At present, India has two power exchanges namely Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) and Power Exchange India (PXIL), to enable over-the-counter sale and purchase of power. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has approved the proposal of PTC India made along with BSE Investments and ICICI Bank.**

9. The Information & Broadcasting Ministry has launched a dedicated DoorDarshan channel for which state?

[A] Meghalaya

[B] Assam ☒

[C] Sikkim

[D] Manipur



- ✓ **Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar has virtually launched 'DD Assam' channel, jointly with the Chief Minister of Assam. The 24x7 channel will showcase the rich history of the state with programs like music programmes, travelogues, reality shows and feature films focussing on folk culture and tribal life. Door Darshan has already been running channels in several north eastern states.**

10. Which Union Ministry signed MoU with DARPG and IIT Kanpur for analysis of grievances using Artificial Intelligence?

[A] Ministry of Finance

[B] Ministry of Defence ☒

[C] Ministry of Tourism

[D] Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ **Union Ministry of Defence, IIT Kanpur and the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding. The MoU is for developing Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to analyse public grievances. The grievances received on the web-based Centralised Public Grievances Redress and Monitoring System of the Ministry would be subjected to predictive analysis.**
-

1. Which Indian state has signed an MoU with leading MNCs such as ITC, P&G and Hindustan Unilever, for women empowerment?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Andhra Pradesh ☒

[C] Karnataka

[D] Kerala



- ✓ **The state government of Andhra Pradesh signed an MoU with leading Multinational companies such as ITC, Procter and Gamble and Hindustan Unilever Limited. The MoU seeks to conduct skill-based training programmes for women in rural areas of the state aged between 45–60 years. The state would also launch a scheme called YSR Cheyutha to provide financial assistance to women belonging to backward and scheduled communities.**

2. Which Indian state is to set up the country's first snow leopard conservation centre?

[A] Arunachal Pradesh

[B] Uttarakhand ☒

[C] Sikkim

[D] Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ **The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat announced that the state will set up the country's first snow leopard conservation centre. The centre will be opened in the Uttarkashi forest division in the state. It is to set up jointly with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a part of its six-year long project called 'SECURE Himalayas'. It was started in 2017 to conserve snow leopards and other endangered species in the Himalayas.**

3. Mohamed Irfaan Ali has been sworn in as the new President of which South American country?

[A] Guyana ☒

[B] Venezuela

[C] Brazil

[D] Columbia



- ✓ **Mohamed Irfaan Ali has been sworn in as the new President of the South American country Guyana, five months after the General Elections. The 40-year-old former housing minister and lawmaker will succeed the previous President David Granger.**

4. IIM Sirmaur that was seen in news recently, is located in which state?

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



- ✓ **Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank laid the foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Sirmaur. The Minister inaugurated it virtually along with the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Jai Ram Thakur, in Dhaulakuan, Himachal Pradesh. The institute has been operationalised by IIM Lucknow from August 2015 as the mentor Institution. The Union Government has sanctioned Rs 531.75 Crore for the construction and functioning of the institute.**

5. Which country has witnessed a massive blast that occurred by explosives stored at a port?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Lebanon ☒
- [C] France
- [D] Germany



- ✓ **As per the Health Minister of Lebanon, at least 137 people were killed and more than 5000 people were wounded in a massive blast by seized explosives stored at its port. An estimated 2,750 metric tons of the explosive ammonium nitrate stored at a warehouse in its port allegedly exploded. The government declared the capital of Lebanon, Beirut a 'disaster city' and imposed a two-week state of emergency.**

6. Which Indian bank is set to launch an Artificial-Intelligence powered multilingual voice bot 'AXAA'?

- [A] HDFC Bank
- [B] ICICI Bank
- [C] Yes Bank
- [D] Axis Bank ☒



- ✓ **Axis Bank has launched an Automated Voice Assistant 'AXAA'. AXAA is an artificial intelligence-powered conversational voice BOT. 'AXAA' can converse in English, Hindi. It has the capacity to address 1 lakh customer queries and requests per day. Hence, it will enhance customer experience by enabling in-depth understanding of their queries, its context and the intent of the call.**

7. Over 44 lakh tonnes of food grains were taken by the States and UTs under which scheme?

[A] Pradhan Mantri Annadata Yojana–2

[B] Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana–2 ☒

[C] PM Cares Yojana

[D] PM KISAN Maan Dhan Yojana



- ✓ As per a recent statement by the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry, over 44 lakh tonnes food grains were lifted by States and Union Territories till date. The food grains were taken under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana–2. Under the scheme, around 201 lakh tonnes food grains will be distributed among 81 crore beneficiaries. The scheme has been implemented from July 1 will be implemented till November 2020.

8. Which technology company launched a new file–sharing feature ‘Nearby Share’?

[A] Microsoft

[B] Google ☒

[C] Samsung

[D] Apple



- ✓ Technology major Google launched a new file–sharing feature named ‘Nearby Share’ for its Android users. Using the feature, users can share content seamlessly with others in close range. The sender’s phone emits a low energy Bluetooth signal, which will be picked by the receiver’s phone. It can also use wi–fi to transfer files. It creates a reliable and fast connection in both online and offline modes.

9. The first anniversary of the creation of which Union Territory/ies was observed on August 5?

[A] Dadra & Nagar Haveli

[B] Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh ☒

[C] Chandigarh

[D] Goa



- ✓ On August 5 2019, the special status of Article 370 and 35–A of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was abrogated and it was bifurcated into two Union Territories. The first anniversary of the event was observed on the same day this year. During the past year, several initiatives carried out in the UTs include National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS), Extension of all allowances of Central Government employees, J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission.

10. As per the Petroleum Ministry, what is the minimum net worth to be eligible for obtaining license to sell petrol and diesel?

- [A] Rs.100 Crore
- [B] Rs.200 Crore
- [C] Rs.500 Crore ☒
- [D] Rs.1000 Crore



- ✓ **The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has recently revised the guidelines to be eligible for obtaining the liberalised licence to sell petrol and diesel to retail and bulk consumers. As per the new guidelines, a net worth of at least Rs 500 crore at the time of application is eligible for selling both bulk and retail.**
 - ✓ **The net worth of Rs 250 crore can get a license for either retail or bulk selling. The simplified guidelines aim to increase private sector participation in the marketing of petrol and diesel.**
-

1. Which Indian film won the best film award at the New York Indian Film Festival 2020 (NYIFF)?

[A] Moothon ☒

[B] Kumbalangi Nights

[C] Uyare

[D] Unda



- ✓ Malayalam movie 'Moothon' has won the best film award at the New York Indian Film Festival 2020 (NYIFF). In addition to the best film award, Malayalam star Nivin Pauly won the best actor award and Sanjana Dipu won in the best child artist category. The Malayalam–Hindi bilingual movie was directed by Geetu Mohandas and was released in the year 2019.

2. The Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) is being implemented under which programme?

[A] PM Swasthya Suraksha Yojana

[B] Ajeevika

[C] Indra Dhanush

[D] National Health Mission ☒



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing the Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) under the National Health Mission (NHM). It is an innovative technological solution that aims to strengthen immunization supply chain system across the country. It aims to provide real-time information on vaccine stocks and storage temperatures. At present the network has been used in 22 states and will be rolled out in all states.

3. Which country successfully launched an intercontinental ballistic missile named 'Minuteman 3'?

[A] China

[B] United States of America ☒

[C] India

[D] Russia



- ✓ The United States has successfully launched an intercontinental ballistic missile named Minuteman 3 from California. The missile was test flighted from the Vandenberg Air Force Base to a target in the Pacific Ocean. The unarmed missile and its three vehicles travelled over 6750 kilometers to the Marshall Islands as a part of the test.

4. The 'COVID19BWM' mobile app that was seen in news recently, has been developed by which organisation?

[A] Central Pollution Control Board ☒

[B] National Green Tribunal

[C] National Institute of Virology

[D] Bureau of Indian Standards



- ✓ The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has recently developed a mobile application named 'COVID19BWM'. Municipal corporations and state pollution boards are directed to upload data regarding collection and disposal of Covid-19 biomedical waste from residences and quarantine centres, in the app. This was also mandated by the Supreme Court.

5. Which technology company has partnered with Prasar Bharati for AI-enabled Independence Day celebration?

[A] Microsoft

[B] Google ☒

[C] Facebook

[D] Twitter



- ✓ Technology Giant Google India has collaborated with Prasar Bharati and Virtual Bharat for AI-enabled Independence Day celebration of India. It seeks to recreate the feeling of singing the National Anthem in schools by using Artificial Intelligence Technology. Participants can download the mentioned application and record themselves singing the anthem. It would convert the voice into traditional instrumental music.

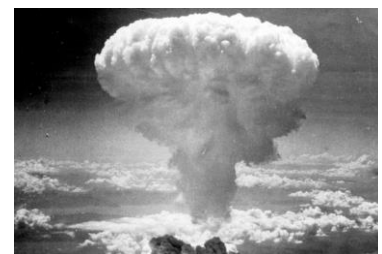
6. The 75th anniversary of which event was observed on August 6, 2020 across the world?

[A] First Atomic Bomb attack ☒

[B] First World War

[C] Second World War

[D] First Landing on Moon



- ✓ On August 6, seventy-five years ago, the world's first nuclear weapon used in wartime was dropped over the Japanese city of Hiroshima. The world joined hands with Japan to observe the 75th anniversary of the first Atomic Bomb attack. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was broadcast online. The bomb attack killed around 1,40,000 people and caused severe injuries. The second bomb was dropped by the US three days later.

7. Which financial institution has announced to set up an 'Innovation Hub' for financial inclusion?

- [A] SEBI
- [B] RBI ☒
- [C] NABARD
- [D] SIDBI



- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently announced that it will establish an innovation hub to assist start-ups to tackle the challenges of financial inclusion. The hub seeks to provide solutions for efficient banking transactions. This has been introduced in the bi-monthly monetary policy statement released by the RBI. The funds allocated for the project and its location will be disclosed by the Central Bank.**

8. India extended a Line of Credit of USD 18 million to which country, to expand fishing facilities?

- [A] Malaysia
- [B] Maldives ☒
- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Bangladesh



- ✓ **Indian Government has recently extended a Line of Credit worth 18 million US dollars to the Government of Maldives. LoC has been extended for expanding fishing facilities at Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company (MIFCO). This is a part of the Line of credit worth USD 800 million Line of credit offered by India to the country.**

9. Which Indian Armed Police Force took over security of the Leh Airport?

- [A] Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) ☒
- [B] Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- [C] Border Security Force (BSF)
- [D] Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (ITBP)



- ✓ **The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security at the strategic Leh airport from local Police. The Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport is one among the country's highest-altitude commercial aerodromes. It is also the 64th civil airport to be brought under the security cover of the CISF. Around 185 CISF personnel will provide round-the-clock armed security in the airport.**

10. Who is the Chairperson of the Expert Committee on Debt resolution, constituted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

[A] Usha Thorat

[B] Urjit Patel

[C] K V Kamath ☒

[D] N K Singh



- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India has constituted an expert group on Debt resolution under the chairmanship of KV Kamath. The committee would recommend to the RBI on the financial parameters and their sector-specific benchmark ranges, for deploying in Debt resolution plans. RBI will provide a window under the 'Prudential Framework on Resolution of Stressed Assets'.**
-

1. Who was the Chairperson of the All India Handicrafts Board, which has been abolished?

[A] Prime Minister

[B] Ministry of Textiles ☒

[C] Ministry of MSME

[D] Ministry of Culture



- ✓ **The Government of India has abolished All India Handicrafts Board, as per the recent notification of the Textiles Ministry. The Board was constituted on January 23, 1992 under the chairmanship of the Union Textiles Minister. It has Secretaries in Ministries of Rural development and Micro small & medium enterprises and various states as members. It had been advising the Government on creation of development programmes in the handicrafts and handloom sectors.**

2. Where is the Headquarters of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) located?

[A] Chennai

[B] New Delhi ☒

[C] Mumbai

[D] Hyderabad



- ✓ **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) is the apex institution to implement the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. It is headquartered at New Delhi.**
- ✓ **IBBI has recently amended regulations related to liquidation process and provided clarifications on fee payable to liquidators. At present, the Committee of Creditors (CoC) fixes the fee payable to the liquidator. The liquidator is entitled to the fee corresponding to the amount realised or distributed by him.**

3. Which organisation signed an MoU with IIT Delhi to set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for using Artificial Intelligence in Decision making?

[A] Airports Authority of India

[B] National Highways Authority of India ☒

[C] NHPC Ltd

[D] Union Public Service Commission



- ✓ **The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), an organisation under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.**

- ✓ The MoU seeks to set up a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for using Artificial Intelligence in Decision making and Advance Data Management System for Highways. IIT Delhi will develop simulation models in this regard and provide space and infrastructural facility for the CoE.

4. Genoa San Giorgio Bridge, which was seen in news, is located in which country?

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



- ✓ The San Giorgio Bridge, that has been found in news, was inaugurated in Genoa, one of the largest cities in Italy. Designed by the world-famous architect Renzo Piano, the bridge is the replacement for the Morandi Bridge that collapsed in a storm two years ago in Italy. The 1,100-metre-long motorway bridge was inaugurated by the Italian prime minister.

5. What is the name of the new interactive centre on the Swachh Bharat Mission, located near Raj Ghat, Delhi?

- [A] Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra ☒
[B] SBM Kendra
[C] Swachhata Kranti
[D] SBM House



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to inaugurate the 'Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra', an interactive experience centre on the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). It was first announced by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the year 2017, on the occasion of the centenary celebrations of Gandhiji's Champaran Satyagraha. The Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra complex comprises of audio-visual show explaining the journey of the country in implementing the SBM.

6. 'Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education' was organised by Education Ministry along with which institution?

- [A] UGC ☒
[B] AICTE
[C] National Testing Agency
[D] NITI Aayog



- ✓ The Union HRD Ministry organised 'Conclave on Transformational Reforms in Higher Education under National Education Policy' along with the University Grants Commission (UGC).
- ✓ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the Conclave through video conferencing. He also highlighted various aspects of the National Education Policy. Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal also participated in the event.

7. Who has been appointed as the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?

[A] G.C. Murmu ☒

[B] Vinod Rai

[C] N K Singh

[D] Ranjan Gogoi



- ✓ As per the recent notification of the Department of Economic Affairs, Girish Chandra Murmu has been appointed as the next Comptroller and Auditor General of India. G C Murmu was the former Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir. He was replaced by Manoj Sinha. The 60-year-old Indian Administrative Service Officer has replaced the previous Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Rajiv Mehrishi.

8. Which Indian state/UT has launched its own Electric Vehicle Policy?

[A] Andhra Pradesh

[B] New Delhi ☒

[C] Karnataka

[D] Telangana



Government of the National
Capital Territory of Delhi

- ✓ The Delhi government has launched the UT's own Electric Vehicle Policy that aims to boost the economy and reduce the pollution level.
- ✓ The Government will also introduce financial incentives for people to buy e-vehicles in the range of Rs 30000 for two-wheelers and auto-rickshaws and Rs 150,000 for cars. The policy also offers subsidies and waive road tax and registration fee for electric vehicles.

9. What is the corpus offered by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to NABARD and NHB, to boost rural lending and affordable housing?

[A] Rs.10,000 Crore ☒

[B] Rs.20,000 Crore

[C] Rs.30,000 Crore



[D] Rs.40,000 Crore

- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has offered a credit facility of Rs 10000 crore to the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the National Housing Bank (NHB).**
- ✓ **The fund of Rs 5,000 crore each is provided at policy lending rate to the banks, its will be deployed to boost rural lending and affordable housing across the country. Under this facility, small NBFCs and micro-lenders will extend small loans to the poor. Earlier, NABARD got a refinance support of Rs 35,000 crore and NHB got Rs 10,000 crore.**

10. Which Indian organisation releases Business Confidence Index (BCI)?

[A] National Council of Applied Economic Research ☒

[B] NITI Aayog

[C] National Development Council

[D] Centre for Policy Research



- ✓ **The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) releases the Business Confidence Index (BCI) and Business Expectation Survey (BES). As per the recent survey conducted by NCAER, the Business Confidence Index fell to 62% from the last year's level. The index recorded in the first quarter of this fiscal is the lowest index since 1991. During the period, the BCI for North India increased by 25.1% and decreased by 89.3% and 68.1% for East and West India.**

1. Which Union Ministry implements the PM SVANidhi Scheme?

[A] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒

[B] Ministry of Home Affairs

[C] Ministry of Finance

[D] Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment



**Ministry of Housing
and Urban Affairs**
Government of India

- ✓ **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs implements the PM SVANidhi Scheme. It was launched in June 2020, to provide affordable Working Capital loan to Street vendors to resume their livelihoods. Recently, the Ministry has launched Letter of Recommendation (LoR) module for the scheme. It enables the vendors who do not possess Identity Card (ID) and Certificate of Vending (CoV), to avail benefits under the scheme.**

2. The Export Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) has extended a USD 250 million worth LoC to which country, to improve its power supply quality?

[A] Mozambique ☒

[B] Maldives

[C] Malaysia

[D] Mauritius



- ✓ **Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a USD 250-million worth Line of credit (LOC) to Mozambique to improve power supply quality in the country. With the signing of this LoC Agreement, India has so far extended 14 LoCs to Mozambique worth USD 772.44 million. A total of 264 LoCs have been extended to as many as 62 countries across the world around USD 25.98 billion.**

3. Which Indian pharmaceutical industry has partnered with GAVI and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, to produce 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines?

[A] Serum Institute of India ☒

[B] Sun Pharma

[C] CADILA

[D] Apex Pharmaceuticals



- ✓ **Pune based Serum Institute of India has partnered with international vaccine alliance, GAVI and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to fast track the production of 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines. The vaccines would be developed for India and other low and middle-income countries. Serum Institute of India (SII) is the world's largest vaccine manufacturer. It had bagged the contract with AstraZeneca to supply Oxford University's potential COVID-19 vaccine.**

4. Which country is set to host the 2021 International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 World Cup?

[A] South Africa

[B] India ☒

[C] Sri Lanka

[D] Pakistan



International
Cricket Council

- ✓ As per the recent notification of the International Cricket Council (ICC), India retained the right to host the 2021 T20 World Cup. ICC also announced that Australia will conduct this year's (T20 World Cup 2020) postponed edition of the World Cup Tournament in 2022. Next year's women's ODI World Cup in New Zealand has been postponed till February–March 2022.

5. What is the name of the special campaign launched by the Prime Minister to free India of garbage?

[A] Gandagi Mukta Bharat ☒

[B] Swachh Bharath

[C] Garbage Less India

[D] ODF Free India



- ✓ The Indian Prime Narendra Modi has launched a week-long campaign named 'Gandagi Mukta Bharat' to free India of garbage. While delivering the inaugural address at the launch of the Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra near Raj Ghat, Delhi, the Prime Minister launched the campaign. This week-long campaign to free India of garbage will be till August 15.

6. Rajamalai, where a massive landslide has occurred, is located in which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala ☒

[C] Karnataka

[D] Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ A massive landslide occurred at Rajamalai, Idukki district of Kerala after torrential rains. At least 15 people were said to have been died with several people being injured. More than 50 people among the settlement of tea estate workers in are feared to have been trapped under debris. A team of the National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) has been deployed in the rescue operations.

7. Which country has declared an 'Environmental emergency' after the ship MV Wakashio spilled fuel?

[A] Maldives

[B] Mauritius ☒

[C] Malaysia

[D] Sri Lanka



- ✓ Mauritius has recently declared an 'Environmental emergency' after the Japanese-owned ship MV Wakashio was found spilling tons of fuel. Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth announced the decision as the areas that were declared as 'very sensitive' were found as a dark layer in satellite images. The ship was carrying nearly 4,000 tons of fuel and it had suffered cracks.

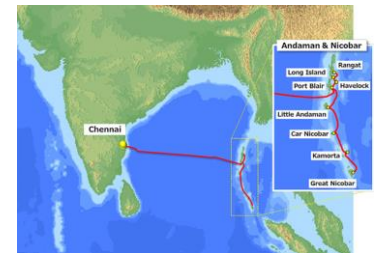
8. The Prime Minister of India is to inaugurate a submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to provide telecom services to which UT?

[A] Jammu and Kashmir

[B] Andaman & Nicobar Islands ☒

[C] Lakshadweep

[D] Puducherry



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi will inaugurate the submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connecting Chennai and Port Blair. This new network will provide fast and reliable mobile and landline telecom services to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The project was announced by the Prime Minister in the year 2018. About 2,300 km of Submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid at a cost of over Rs 1200 crore.

9. Which financial institution releases the 'Consumer Confidence Survey'?

[A] RBI ☒

[B] SEBI

[C] SIDBI

[D] MUDRA



- ✓ India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India releases the 'Consumer confidence Survey'. RBI has recently released the results of the July 2020 edition of the survey. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the survey was conducted online through telephone interviews from over 5000 households in 13 major cities including Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai among others.

- ✓ The current situation index dropped to 53.8 in July, which was at the alltime low since the index was introduced.

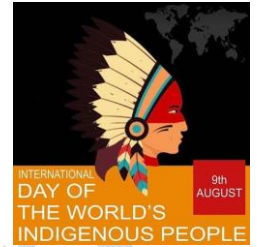
10. When is International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples or World Tribal Day celebrated?

[A] August 9 ☒

[B] August 10

[C] August 11

[D] August 12



- ✓ The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples or World Tribal Day is celebrated on August 9 every year. The United Nations General Assembly declared the World Tribal Day in the year 1994. It marks the day of the first meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations in Geneva in 1982. The day seeks to promote and protect the rights of the indigenous population.
-

1. A new Railway Museum has been inaugurated at which city of Karnataka?

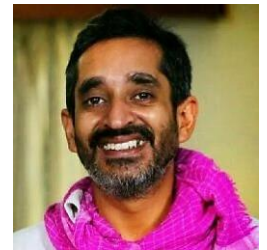
- [A] Bengaluru
[B] Hubballi ☒
[C] Davanagere
[D] Shivamogga



- ✓ **Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal and Minister of Coal & Mines Pralhad Joshi inaugurated a new Railway Museum at Hubballi, through video conferencing. Hubli or Hubballi is a city in North Karnataka and the museum is located near the Hubballi Railway Station on Gadag Road. It aims to preserve the heritage of branches of Railways and exhibit the evolution of advanced system in the Railways ecosystem.**

2. Who won the 'Asian College of Journalism's Award for Investigative Journalism'?

- [A] Nitin Sethi ☒
[B] Siddharth Varadarajan
[C] Malini Parthasarathy
[D] Raghav Bahl



- ✓ **Indian Journalist Nitin Sethi has won the prestigious investigative journalism award, given by the Asian College of Journalism. He has been awarded for his coverage and investigative articles on Electoral Bonds, published on Huffington Post India. K. P. Narayana Kumar Memorial Award for Social Impact Journalism was awarded to the Hindu's Shiv Sahay Singh.**

3. Which is the first Indian city to have female symbols on traffic signals?

- [A] New Delhi
[B] Mumbai ☒
[C] Bengaluru
[D] Chennai



- ✓ **Mumbai has become the first Indian city to display women symbols on traffic signals. The project is headed by the Ministry of Tourism of the state. The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has installed traffic signals that display female icons with triangular frock. This is considered as a change from the default representation of male symbols that ensures gender equality.**

4. The 'Eat Right India' movement that has won the 'Food System Vision Prize', is being implemented by which organisation?

[A] Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) ☒

[B] Food Corporation of India (FCI)

[C] Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

[D] Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)



- ✓ India's food safety regulator, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Sunday has been awarded the 'Food System Vision Prize' for its 'Eat Right India' movement's vision. The award is presented by the Rockefeller Foundation, SecondMuse and OpenIDEO, for recognising the efforts of organisations across the globe for developing a nourishing and sustainable food system. Hyderabad-based NGO Naandi Foundation also won the Food Vision Prize.

5. What is the theme of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (World Tribal Day)?

[A] COVID-19 and Indigenous Peoples' Resilience ☒

[B] Tribal is Treasure

[C] Indigenous Population at their best

[D] Development of Tribal Welfare



- ✓ The International Day of the World's Indigenous People or the World Tribal Day is celebrated on August 9 every year. It marks the date of the inaugural session of the Working Group on the Indigenous Populations at the United Nations in 1982. It aims to preserve and sensitise about the traditional knowledge and practices of the indigenous population. This year the theme of the day is 'COVID-19 and indigenous peoples' resilience'.

6. Which trade association organised the 'National Public Procurement Conclave', along with the GeM?

[A] ASSOCHAM

[B] NASSCOM

[C] CII ☒

[D] FICCI



GeM
Government
e Marketplace

- ✓ India's leading trade association, the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has partnered with GeM to organise the 'National Public Procurement Conclave'. The fourth edition of the conclave has been inaugurated by the Union Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

- ✓ He also asked more buyers and sellers to join the Government–e–Marketplace (GeM). He also warned sellers from selling poor quality goods or charging hefty prices.

7. Which Indian organisation is celebrating 'Cleanliness Week' from August 10, to mark the Independence Day?

- [A] Indian Railways ☒
[B] Airport Authority of India
[C] Indian Space Research Organization
[D] National Highways Authority



- ✓ **Indian Railways is observing 'Cleanliness Week' from August 10, to commemorate the Independence Day. During the week, a special Cleanliness campaign will be launched and Cleaning of tracks, offices and other areas near Railway premises will be focussed. Collection of wastes with separate pool of plastic waste will also be done. Awareness drives will also be organised to keep the places clean.**

8. Matheran hill station, where around 77 new species of butterflies have been found, is located in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ **According to the Bombay Natural History Society, as many as 77 new species of butterflies have been found in the ecologically sensitive forest of Matheran hill station. It is located about 80 km from Mumbai and is spread over an area of 214.73 sq km. With this, the total number of butterfly species in the Matheran forest has increased to 140. BNHS conducted the study over last eight years from 2011 to 2019.**

9. The Indian Railways is to transport denim and dyes to which neighbouring country?

- [A] Bangladesh ☒
[B] Myanmar
[C] Thailand
[D] Nepal



- ✓ The Western Railway Zone of the Indian Railways is set to run a parcel train from Ahmedabad division in Gujarat to Bangladesh. The train will depart the Kankariya Goods shed of Ahmedabad division after having loaded with denim and dyes. Earlier, the Western Railway zone had sent a goods train with onions to Bangladesh. This is expected to generate an approximate revenue of about Rs. 31 lakhs.

10. As per a recent study, Pathogens named as critical by the WHO is found in which river?

- [A] River Ganges
[B] River Yamuna ☒
[C] River Krishna
[D] River Cauvery



- ✓ As per the research paper published by the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, pathogens named as critical by the World Health Organisation have been found in the river of Yamuna. The pathogens were named by the WHO in the year 2017. The multidrug-resistant bacteria that are found in Yamuna, were found due to the entry of Sewage into the river. Several major sewer drains and the Yamuna river across New Delhi were studied by the team.
-

1. The 'COVAX' facility that was seen in news recently, is an initiative of which international organisation?

[A] World Bank

[B] World Health Organization ☒

[C] International Monetary Fund

[D] World Economic Forum



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) launched a new initiative named 'COVAX', which aims to fast-track the development of vaccine against the coronavirus. The 'WHO' recently announced that it is renewing its invite to countries to join its facility. 'WHO' is also in talks with the manufacturers of the potential vaccines and is gathering funds to promote the mass-production of vaccine.

2. Who has been selected as the new Chairperson of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)?

[A] Soma Mondal ☒

[B] Gurdeep Singh

[C] R.N Nayak

[D] Balraj Joshi



- ✓ The Public Enterprises Selection Board has selected Soma Mondal as the next Chairperson of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). She will become the first woman chairperson of the public sector steel giant, if the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approves her appointment. She will also become the first woman to lead a steel company, in the world. The present Chairman Anil Chaudhary is to superannuate this year.

3. India signed contract with which country for development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu city?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] Bangladesh

[C] Maldives ☒

[D] Thailand



- ✓ India and Maldives recently signed a contract for development of five eco-tourism zones in Addu city of Maldives. The development of the eco-tourism zones is a part of the projects being implemented under the High-Impact Community Development project (HICDP) scheme. It involves a total assistance of USD 5.5 million to the Maldives for high-impact assets development.

4. Who was the Chairperson of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) for 15 years and has stepped down recently?

[A] Isher Judge Ahluwalia ☒

[B] Bina Agarwal

[C] Sonal Varma

[D] Jayati Ghosh



- ✓ **Isher Judge Ahluwalia has recently stepped down as the Chairperson of think tank Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). She had held this position for 15 years and will be succeeded by the new Chairman Pramod Bhasin, who is currently the Vice Chair of the Board of governors at ICRIER. To honour her contributions, she will be retained as chairperson emeritus.**

5. Which organisation has launched a loyalty platform named 'nth Rewards'?

[A] RBI

[B] NPCI ☒

[C] NITI Aayog

[D] SEBI



- ✓ **National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched a new loyalty platform named 'nth Rewards'. It is analytics-enabled multi-branded loyalty platform that allows users to earn points through various bank transactions. The points can be redeemed on various products like e-vouchers, hotel and flight bookings. Using the platform, banks and merchants can identify consumer behaviour.**

6. IC IMPACTS is an Annual Research conference between India and which country?

[A] Cuba

[B] Canada ☒

[C] Chile

[D] Cyprus



- ✓ **IC-IMPACTS is an Annual Research Conference between India and Canada. 'IMPACTS' stands for Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnership to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability. The conference for the current year was held on 6th August, in a virtual mode.**

- ✓ The conference discussed ways of boosting the cooperation between the two countries higher levels by strengthening existing international links, sharing best practices of two countries, and initiating new collaborations.

7. Who hosts the “At Home” reception for freedom fighters, as a part of Anniversary of the Quit India Movement?

- [A] Prime Minister of India
- [B] President of India ☒
- [C] Defence Minister
- [D] Chief of Defence Staff



- ✓ The President of India honoured 202 freedom fighters across the country. This was done on the occasion of the 78th anniversary of Quit India Day. Every year, on this occasion, the President of India hosts an “At Home” reception at the Rashtrapati Bhavan to honour the freedom fighters. But this year, State / UT governments are requested to honour the freedom fighters at their homes, on behalf of the President.

8. The book titled ‘Connecting, Communicating, Changing’ is based on third year of office of which Indian leader?

- [A] Ramnath Govind
- [B] Narendra Modi
- [C] M Venkaiah ☒
- [D] Sunil Arora



- ✓ A book titled ‘Connecting, Communicating, Changing’ will be released by the Defence Minister at Delhi. It narrates the third year in Office of Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. The e-version of the book would be released by Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar.
- ✓ The book highlights the Vice President’s travel in India & abroad, his interaction with foreign nationals, world leaders and various sections of the Indian society including farmers, scientists, administrators, industry leaders and artists, among others.

9. Hassan Diab, who was seen in news recently, is the Prime Minister of which country?

- [A] Brazil
- [B] Lebanon ☒
- [C] Australia
- [D] New Zealand



- ✓ Lebanon formed a new government recently under Prime Minister Hassan Diab amidst various economic and political crises. The country remained without an effective government, after the former Prime Minister Saad Al Hariri quit from his role in October 2019 under pressure from protests against state corruption and mismanagement. The President of Lebanon, Michel Aoun nominated Hassan Diab as the new Prime Minister. Hassan Diab is a professor at the American University of Beirut, who heads a new cabinet of 20 members.

10. Which state government has launched 'Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana' replacing PM Fasal Bima Yojana?

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



- ✓ The Chief Minister of Gujarat Vijay Rupani has recently launched a state-funded scheme named Mukhya Mantri Kisan Sahay Yojana. It has been launched to replace the central crop-insurance scheme Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Gujarat has exited from the scheme as it considers that the insurance scheme charges hefty premium cost to the State. The new alternate scheme will cover all farmers for the current kharif season.

1. Which Indian state has launched a new scheme named 'Indira Van Mitan Yojana'?

[A] Punjab

[B] Chhattisgarh ☒

[C] Rajasthan

[D] Sikkim



- ✓ **The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel has announced the launch of a new scheme called 'Indira Van Mitan Yojana'. The scheme was announced on the occasion of World Tribal Day. It aims to make the forest dwellers in the state self-reliant. Under this scheme, groups of youth will be formed in 10,000 villages of the state and all forest-based economic activities will be conducted via these groups.**

2. The 'Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Academy' has been inaugurated in which city?

[A] Mumbai

[B] New Delhi ☒

[C] Lucknow

[D] Gurugram



- ✓ **Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has launched Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) Academy in New Delhi. This has been inaugurated as part of the ongoing week-long behaviour change campaign Gandagi Mukht Bharat. This is an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) based free mobile online learning course on ODF Plus. The ODF Plus is an extension of the ODF programme under the Swachh Bharat Mission.**

3. The Supreme Court ruled on the equal heirship rights of daughters, referring to which act?

[A] Hindu Marriage act, 1955

[B] Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 ☒

[C] Hindu Heirship Act, 1955

[D] Hindu Coparcenary Act, 2005



- ✓ **The Supreme Court of India ruled that the daughters cannot be deprived of their right of equality and they will have equal coparcenary rights in joint Hindu family property even if the father died before the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005. The daughters will have the right to inherit their ancestral property with retrospective effect with similar rights and liabilities as sons hold. Coparcener refers to a person who assumes a legal right in parental property by birth.**

4. Which e-commerce platform launched a seller-driven campaign named 'Itna Aasan Hai'?

[A] Amazon ☒

[B] Flipkart

[C] Snapdeal

[D] Myntra



- ✓ **Leading e-commerce platform Amazon India has recently launched its new seller driven campaign 'Itna Aasan Hai'. The campaign seeks to communicate to sellers who are not on the platform about the simple procedure to enrolling in Amazon digital platform as a seller. It aims to reach millions of MSME about joining the digital commerce ecosystem.**

5. Which Indian organisation has entered the list of world's top 100 companies on the Fortune Global 500 list?

[A] Reliance Industries ☒

[B] HDFC

[C] State Bank of India

[D] Adani Ports



- ✓ **Mukesh Ambani led Reliance Industries has gone 10 places ahead in the Fortune Global 500 list and entered into the world's top 100 companies. As per the recent 2020 ranking released by Fortune, Reliance has been ranked at 96th place globally. This is the highest rank ever of any Indian company on the Fortune Global 500 list. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) slipped to 151st rank, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is ranked 190th while State Bank of India (SBI) is at 221st rank.**

6. Which Union Ministry launched 'Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations'?

[A] Ministry of Culture

[B] Ministry of Tourism

[C] Ministry of Education ☒

[D] Ministry of External Affairs



- ✓ **Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has virtually launched the Minimum Standards of Architectural Education Regulations, 2020. These regulations have been prepared by the experts of the Council of Architecture (CoA). It aims to address the major challenges lying in the field of human habitat in the country. The Minister asked the Council to use innovation in the field of Architecture.**

7. The webinar titled “Cellular Jail: Letters, Memoirs & Memories” has been organised by which Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Culture
- [B] Ministry of Tourism ☒
- [C] Ministry of Education
- [D] Ministry of External Affairs



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Tourism organised a themed webinar titled “Cellular Jail: Letters, Memoirs & Memories”, as a part of the “Dekho Apna Desh” webinar series. The webinar has been organised ahead of the 74th Independence Day celebrations. The Cellular Jail is in Andaman and Nicobar Islands where Indian Nationalist who were part of freedom struggle were exiled and imprisoned. The Webinar showcased the journey of India’s independence struggle through the galleries and cells of the Cellular jail.

8. When is International Youth Day observed every year?

- [A] August 12 ☒
- [B] August 13
- [C] August 14
- [D] August 15



- ✓ International Youth Day is celebrated every year on 12th August. The theme of this year’s International Youth Day is, “Youth Engagement for Global Action”. In 1998, a resolution to observe August 12 every year as International Youth Day was passed in the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, which was hosted by the Government of Portugal in cooperation with the United Nations.

9. The Medal for Excellence in Investigation that is awarded to Police Personnel is constituted by which ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Defence
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs ☒
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs



- ✓ The “Union Home Minister’s Medal for Excellence in Investigation”, constituted by the Home Ministry, for the year 2020 has been awarded to 121 Police personnel.

- ✓ This medal was constituted in the year 2018 by the Union Government with the aim to promote professional standards of investigation of crime. It also stands as a Reward of Excellence in Investigation by investigating officers.

10. The Defence Ministry has proposed to procure 106 Basic Trainer Aircrafts for Indian Air Force from which aircraft manufacturer?

[A] Dassault Aviation

[B] Boeing

[C] HAL ☒

[D] Rafael



- ✓ The procurement of 106 Basic Trainer Aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for Indian Air Force has been approved by the Ministry of Defence. The procurement of 106 HTT-40 aircraft from HAL was approved by Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), the highest decision-making authority of the Defence Ministry. A total of Defence Acquisition proposals worth over Rs.8500 crore was cleared by the DAC.

1. Which metro rail network has set up India's deepest underground ventilation shaft?

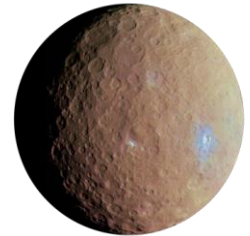
- [A] Delhi Metro
[B] Cochin Metro
[C] Kolkata Metro ☒
[D] Chennai Metro



- ✓ **Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation and a private engineering firm Afcons jointly completed India's deepest underground ventilation shaft. The ventilation shaft is 43.5m deep and is part of the East West Metro Line of Kolkata. These special purpose shafts are used for ventilation of the tunnels and for evacuation during critical times or emergencies.**

2. What is Ceres, that was referred to in a recent study by the NASA?

- [A] Asteroid
[B] Dwarf Planet ☒
[C] Black hole
[D] Comet



- ✓ **According to a recent data from the NASA's Dawn Spacecraft, the dwarf planet Ceres, which lies in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, is not a barren space rock. It was earlier believed that the dwarf planet is barren but the data collected reveal that it is a water-rich place and there could be a large and deep reservoir of salt water. In the year 2015, the Dawn spacecraft arrived at Ceres, which is far smaller than the Earth's moon.**

3. Which organisation published a report titled "Elephants. Not commodities"?

- [A] World Wide Fund for Nature
[B] World Animal Protection ☒
[C] Green Peace
[D] PETA



- ✓ **World Animal Protection, an international animal welfare organisation has released a new report titled "Elephants. Not commodities". The third edition of the report reveals that India has the second-highest number of elephants used in tourism in Asia. It also reveals that as many as 225 of the elephants, which is more than 45%, were kept in severely inadequate conditions.**

4. Which organisation conducted a survey titled “Youth and Covid–19: impacts on jobs, education, rights and mental well–being”?

[A] International Labour Organisation ☒

[B] UNICEF

[C] UNESCO

[D] World Economic Forum



- ✓ **The International Labour Organisation (ILO) undertook a survey titled “Youth and COVID–19: impacts on jobs, education, rights and mental well–being”. As per the survey, almost half of the world's youth population is undergoing anxiety or depression–causing situations. More than a third are not sure of their future career prospects due to the COVID–19 pandemic. The survey was conducted to study the effect of pandemic on the lives of youths aged 18 to 29 years.**

5. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has permitted registration of which type of vehicle without pre fitted batteries?

[A] Electric Vehicles ☒

[B] Solar Operated Vehicles

[C] Auto Rickshaws

[D] Defence Vehicles



- ✓ **The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has permitted registration of Electric Vehicles without pre–fitted batteries. The ministry has stated that Electric Vehicles without batteries can be sold and registered only with the type approval certificate issued by the Test Agency. Also, the Ministry has clarified that there is no need to mention any other details of the Battery for the purpose of Registration.**

6. A webinar titled “Weaves of Maharashtra and Textiles of Odisha” was organized by which organization, along with India Tourism?

[A] NITI Aayog

[B] Press Trust of India

[C] Press Information Bureau ☒

[D] Central Weaving Institute



- ✓ **A webinar titled “Weaves of Maharashtra and Textiles of Odisha” was organized by Press Information Bureau (PIB) – Mumbai and India Tourism – Mumbai. The key focus of the webinar was on the handlooms & fabrics of Maharashtra and Odisha.**

- ✓ August 7 is celebrated as National Handloom Day in India, to honour the handloom weavers of the nation. August 7 was chosen to mark the Swadeshi Movement which was launched on this day in 1905 to protest against partition of Bengal by the British Government.

7. Who is the chairperson for the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19?

- [A] Amitabh Kant
[B] Dr. V K Paul ☒
[C] Narendra Singh Tomar
[D] Rajiv Kumar



- ✓ The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 chaired by Dr V K Paul, Member NITI Aayog, met for the first time on 12th August. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The expert group has been constituted under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. It discussed on the parameters required in selecting the COVID-19 vaccine candidates for India and procurement mechanisms for COVID-19 vaccine.

8. Which Union Ministry released "Report of the Committee on Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR)"?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
[B] Ministry of Finance
[C] Ministry of Corporate Affairs ☒
[D] Ministry of External Affairs



MINISTRY OF
CORPORATE AFFAIRS

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs has released the "Report of the Committee on Business Responsibility Reporting (BRR)". The report has proposed a new Reporting Framework for companies to reporting of Non-Financial Parameters. The framework is called "Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR)". The BRSR is to be integrated with the MCA 21 portal. Also, the information captured through the framework would be used to develop "Business Responsibility-Sustainability Index".

9. The Reserve Bank of India has directed to implement System Based Asset Classification to which type of financial institutions?

- [A] Small Finance Banks
[B] Urban Cooperative Banks ☒
[C] Regional Rural Banks
[D] Primary Dealers

The co-operative bank

- ✓ With an aim to improve the efficiency and transparency in asset classification process, the Reserve Bank of India issued a direction to implement “system-based asset classification” in Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs). Those UCBs having total assets of Rs.2000 crore or above as on 31st March 2020, should implement system-based asset classification from 30th June 2021. Those UCBs having total assets equal to or more than Rs.1000 crore but less than Rs.2000 crore shall implement it from 30th September 2021.

10. The Katra – Delhi Express Road Corridor, that was in news recently, connects the National Capital to which state/UT?

- [A] Ladakh
[B] Jammu and Kashmir ☒
[C] Himachal Pradesh
[D] Punjab



- ✓ The construction work of the Katra (Jammu & Kashmir) – Delhi Express Road Corridor is proposed to be completed in 3 years and will be operational by 2023. The express corridor would bring down the travel time from Katra to Delhi to around six and half hours. One key feature of this road is that it will connect the holy cities of Katra and Amritsar, and other major religious shrines between the two destinations.
-

1. Which country has recently initiated a campaign named “Clean Plate Campaign 2.0” to reduce food wastage?

- [A] USA
- [B] China ☒
- [C] UAE
- [D] Saudi Arabia



- ✓ China has initiated a new campaign to reduce food waste, called the “Clean Plate Campaign 2.0”. The campaign has been implemented after the Chinese President Xi Jinping highlighted that Covid-19 had created an alarming situation on food waste. The first version of Clean Plate Campaign was launched in 2013 which aimed at restricting excessive official feasts and receptions.

2. Which is the first Gulf Arab country to establish diplomatic relations with Israel?

- [A] Qatar
- [B] Kuwait
- [C] UAE ☒
- [D] Bahrain



- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the first-ever Gulf country and the third in the Arab world to establish diplomatic relations with Israel as part of a deal to halt the controversial annexation of parts of the West Bank that Palestinians see as part of their future state. US President has hailed this move. This move opens the ties between two of the Middle East’s most dynamic societies and advanced economies. Under the deal, UAE and Israel will also expand cooperation on the treatment of and the development of a vaccine for the Coronavirus.

3. Who has the longest tenure of over as head of elected government in India (including Chief Minister as well as Prime Minister)?

- [A] Narendra Modi ☒
- [B] Manmohan Singh
- [C] P V Narasimha Rao
- [D] Indira Gandhi



- ✓ Among all the Indian Prime Ministers, Narendra Modi has the longest tenure as head of elected government. Including his term of more than 12 years as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, his total term as the head stands over 18 years and 300 days.

- ✓ He is also the longest-serving non-Congress prime minister of the country. The term as the head of Jawaharlal Nehru was over 16 years and that of Indira Gandhi was over 15 years.

4. Which Indian bank has launched a special card named 'Shaurya KGC Card', for armed forces?

[A] ICICI Bank

[B] HDFC Bank ☒

[C] Axis Bank

[D] Yes Bank



- ✓ HDFC Bank has recently announced the launch of "Shaurya KGC Card" for the armed forces. This card has been designed based on the Kisan Credit Card guidelines by the Government. More than 45 lakh Indian armed force personnel would get a life cover ranging from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 10 lakh. It also requires simple documentation suited to the job nature of the armed force personnel.

5. Which Indian state is the top performer in implementation of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation Scheme (AMRUT)?

[A] West Bengal

[B] Gujarat

[C] Odisha ☒

[D] Maharashtra



- ✓ As per the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Odisha continued to be the top performer in implementation of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation Scheme (AMRUT). Odisha has secured first position by scoring 85.67 percent and provided piped water supply to households of nine cities of the state. Out of the 191 projects started under the AMRUT scheme, the state has completed 148 of them. Odisha is followed by Chandigarh and Telangana. Tamil Nadu has completed the highest number of works.

6. Which country is to partner with Russia, in production and marketing of Sputnik V vaccine?

[A] Argentina

[B] Brazil ☒

[C] Australia

[D] New Zealand



- ✓ Russia and Brazil have decided to cooperate in the production and marketing of Sputnik V, the world's first registered coronavirus vaccine.

- ✓ The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RIDF) announced that it has entered into the agreement with Brazilian State of Parana. RIDF is organising the production of the vaccine and its distribution in Brazil and other American countries.

7. Microsoft Research Lab has developed a Machine Translation tool for which tribal language?

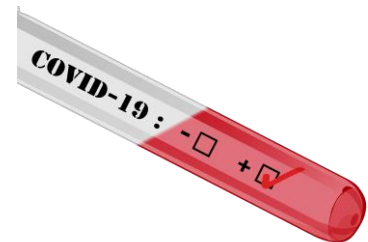
- [A] Santali
[B] Gondi ☒
[C] Savara
[D] Mundari



- ✓ An application called the 'Interactive Neural Machine Translation (INMT) tool', has been developed by the Microsoft Research Lab. Microsoft Lab has collaborated with CGNet Swara, an Indian voice-based online portal and IIIT Naya Raipur for developing this tool. It translates sentences from Hindi to South-Central Dravidian language Gondi and vice-versa. The application aims to motivate youth from the Gond tribal community to learn the language.

8. What is "N1-STOP-LAMP", that was seen in news recently?

- [A] COVID-19 Test ☒
[B] Disinfectant Lamp
[C] PPE
[D] Face Mask



- ✓ As per the findings published in the Journal of Medical Microbiology, a new low-cost nasal swab test named 'N1-STOP-LAMP' has been developed. As per the researchers, the test can accurately diagnose the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes Covid-19, in just 20 minutes. It is also 100 per cent accurate in diagnosing the samples at high loads. It uses a single tube and involves only one step and so it is very efficient and affordable.

9. What is the name of the DRDO-certified device for disinfection of surfaces, launched by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari?

- [A] Aaradhya
[B] Athulya ☒
[C] Abhimanyu
[D] Bheema



- ✓ “Atulya” – a new device that can disinfect any premise in 30 seconds was unveiled by the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Nitin Gadkari. The design of the device is certified by DRDO and is developed completely in India. It is portable and weighs about 3 kilograms. It can be used to disinfect any premise up to an area of 5 meters at a time. It can also be used to disinfect surfaces of home, office, boxes, furniture etc.

10. Gangadhar Meher Lift Canal System, seen in news recently, is an irrigation project of which state / UT?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] Odisha ☒

[C] West Bengal

[D] Bihar

- ✓ The cabinet of Odisha has approved the tender amounting Rs.1138 crore for implementation of its ambitious irrigation project named “Gangadhar Meher Lift Canal System”. The irrigation project would irrigate 25,600 hectares of agricultural land in drought hit regions of Bargarh and Sonepur districts of Odisha. The project was first announced in the year 2017. The implementing agency will be announced soon.
-



1. What documentary films were screened by the Films Division, to mark the celebration of Independence Day?

- [A] Vice Roy's House & Mangal Pandey
- [B] The Legend of Bhagat Singh & Chittagong
- [C] India Wins Freedom & India Independent ☒
- [D] India Untouched & Gulabi Gang



- ✓ **At the 74th Independence Day celebration on 15th August 2020, the Films Division would screen two documentary films – 'India wins Freedom' and 'India Independent'. Apart from the above 2 films, 14 selected films on Independence movement were showcased in the "Online Patriotic Film Festival" being organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting from 7th Aug 2020 to 21st Aug 2020 in www.cinemasofindia.com.**

2. The Centre for Bio Pharma Analysis (CBA) that was in news recently, is set up at which city?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Pune ☒
- [C] Delhi
- [D] Hyderabad



- ✓ **The Center for Biopharma Analysis (CBA), which is set up at Pune has been virtually inaugurated by the Secretary of Department of Bio Technology. It is an initiative of the Venture Centre, which is a Technology Business Incubator hosted by CSIR– National Chemical Laboratory, Pune.**
- ✓ **The CBA is supported and funded by National Bio Pharma Mission implemented by the Department of Bio Technology. The CBA is a facility with high end instrumentation which complies with globally accepted standards of Bio pharmaceutical analysis.**

3. India has announced a USD 500 million assistance to which country, for its largest civilian infrastructure project?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] Bangladesh
- [C] Maldives ☒
- [D] Nepal



- ✓ **India has recently announced a financial assistance of USD 500 million assistance for its largest civilian infrastructure project.**

- ✓ Out of the fund, USD 400 million line of credit and USD 100 million grant will be provided for the project that aims to connect the capital city Male with three neighbouring islands Villingili, Gulhifahu and Thilafushi. The 6.7 km Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP) will also improve economic activity and employment opportunities.

4. Where is the annual International Film Festival of India (IFFI) held in India?

- [A] Kolkata
[B] Goa ☒
[C] New Delhi
[D] Jaipur



- ✓ The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is an annual film festival held in Goa, every year in the month of November. The Chief Minister of Goa Pramod Sawant has confirmed that the Film Festival will be held as per schedule in Goa between November 20 and 28, this year. This festival is organised by the Directorate of Film Festivals in association with the state government-owned Entertainment Society of Goa.

5. Which smartphone maker is set to distribute over 2500 smartphones to Indian children, to promote online education?

- [A] Oppo
[B] Vivo
[C] Xiaomi ☒
[D] Huawei



- ✓ Chinese smartphone giant Xiaomi announced that its arm MI India will distribute over 2,500 smartphones worth Rs 2 crore to Indian children, to support online education. MI India will partner with Indian non-profit organisation 'Teach for India', to carry out the distribution process. The hand sets would be used in shifts to utilise the service effectively, to enable children access quality education.

6. What is the name of the platform unveiled by the Prime Minister, as a part of taxation reform?

- [A] Honest Tax Payer Dashboard
[B] Transparent Taxation–Honoring the Honest ☒
[C] Faceless assessment Yojana
[D] PM Transparency



- ✓ The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a new platform “Transparent Taxation – Honoring the Honest”. The platform aims to ease the compliance and fast-track the refunds so that all honest taxpayers are benefitted. Three main features of the platform include faceless assessment, faceless appeal and tax payers’ charter.

7. Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is a satellite of which country’s space organisation?

[A] United States of America ☒

[B] France

[C] Australia

[D] China



- ✓ The United States’ NASA launched Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) has completed its primary mission. During its 2-year long primary mission, the survey satellite has found 66 new exoplanets outside our solar system. TESS also found over 2000 objects which would be confirmed by astronomers soon. The extended mission of TESS is to be completed in 2022.

8. Which company is set to be the official sponsor of the Indian team for the Tokyo Olympics?

[A] INOX Group ☒

[B] Byju’s

[C] PVR Cinema

[D] IndiGo



- ✓ As per the recent announcement of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), the INOX Group will be the official sponsor of the Indian team for the rescheduled Tokyo Olympics. Due to the prevalent COVID-19 pandemic, the Tokyo Olympics was rescheduled to next year, from July 23 to August 8 in 2021. The Group will also support the team’s promotions through its entertainment company – INOX Leisure Limited that owns a multiplex chain across the country.

9. As per a recent report, which Indian city has been ranked second cheapest city to rent in the world?

[A] Hyderabad

[B] Bengaluru

[C] Delhi ☒

[D] Chennai



- ✓ According to a new report by Purely Diamonds, Ho Chi Minh City, the largest city of Vietnam is the cheapest city to rent in the world. The report also revealed that New York is the most expensive city to rent, in the world. The Indian Capital, Delhi is the second cheapest city in the world. Delhi is followed by the capital of Tamil Nadu, Chennai. New York is followed by Los Angeles as the second most expensive city.

10. An Ayurveda based bio degradable face mask named “Pavitrapati” is developed by which organisation?

[A] Defence Research Development Organisation

[B] Indian Space Research Organisation

[C] Defence Institute of Advanced Technology ☒

[D] Hindustan Aeronautics Limited



- ✓ An Ayurveda Based Biodegradable Face Mask named “Pavitrapati” has been developed by Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, (DIAT) Pune. In this regard, an agreement was signed between DIAT Pune and a private company for mass development of the product. The company has now offered the face mask for sale. Similarly, the technology of developing anti-microbial body suit named “Aushada tara” is also transferred to the company.
-

1. Steel Ministry is to conduct a Webinar titled “Fostering Steel Usage in Housing & Building Construction and Aviation Sectors”, along with which organization?

[A] CII ☒

[B] FICCI

[C] ASSOCHAM

[D] L&T



Confederation of Indian Industry

- ✓ The Union Steel Ministry, in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), has proposed to organise a webinar titled ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat: Fostering Steel Usage in Housing & Building Construction and Aviation Sectors’. The webinar would be conducted with the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, and Ministry of Civil Aviation. It would focus on promoting designs and construction in Building, Housing, and Airport Projects.

2. Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRU), seen in news recently, is set up under the aegis of which agency?

[A] National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education Research ☒

[B] National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

[C] Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India

[D] Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd



- ✓ A new PMRU (Price Monitoring and Resource Unit) has been set up in the state of Karnataka under NPPA (National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority), Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The main function of the PMRU is to assist NPPA to monitor the price of drugs in the market and also to ensure their availability. NPPA has established PMRUs in 12 States/ UTs under its Central Sector Scheme called Consumer Awareness, Publicity and Price Monitoring (CAPPM).

3. What is the name of the performance dash board of Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched recently?

[A] Empowering Tribals, Transforming India Dashboard ☒

[B] Go Tribal Dashboard

[C] Tribal Transformation Dashboard

[D] Tribes India Dashboard



- ✓ The Online Performance dashboard of Ministry of Tribal Affairs called the “Empowering Tribals, Transforming India” has been launched. The dashboard was launched by Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog and Ramesh Chand, Member of NITI Aayog.

- ✓ **The Dashboard is an interactive online platform that shows the real-time details of 11 schemes / initiatives of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. It also displays performance of 5 Scholarship Schemes of the Ministry.**

4. Which actor has topped the Forbes List of Top 10 highly paid male actors of the world?

- [A] Will Smith
[B] Jackie Chan
[C] Sivakarthikeyan
[D] Dwayne Johnson ☒



- ✓ **Dwayne Johnson, also known as the Rock, has topped the Forbes List of Top 10 highly paid male actors of the world. The recently released annual list stated that the actor was paid an estimate of USD 87.5 million in the year 2020. Indian Actor Akshay Kumar was positioned 6th in the list with earnings of USD 48.5 million.**

5. Which is the first neighbouring country with which India has made the 'Air Bubble' agreement?

- [A] Sri Lanka
[B] Bangladesh
[C] Maldives ☒
[D] Nepal



- ✓ **Maldives is the first neighbouring country with which India is operating transport services under the air bubble agreement. Recently, the Director-General of Directorate General of Civil Aviation announced that Indians holding any kind of valid visa can travel through air to US, UK, Canada under air bubble agreement.**

6. Who has been posthumously awarded the Kirti Chakra award, by the President of India?

- [A] Abdul Rashid Kalas ☒
[B] Krishan Singh Rawat
[C] Anil Urs
[D] Alok Kumar Dubey



- ✓ **President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, who is also the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has approved 84 awards and decorations to the Armed Forces personnel and members of the Paramilitary Forces.**

- ✓ The awards include one Kirti Chakra, nine Shaurya Chakras, five Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 60 Sena Medals (Gallantry), four Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and five Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry). The President has also approved 19 Mention-in-Despatches to the Army Personnel for their significant contributions in different military operations which include eight posthumous for 'Operation Meghdoot' and 'Operation Rakshak'.

7. A New Project for conservation of which two animals was referred by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech?

- [A] Leopard and Rhino
[B] Lion and Dolphin ☒
[C] Rhino and Black buck
[D] Bengal Tiger and Turtle



- ✓ The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently delivered his Independence Day speech on August 15, 2020. In the speech, he mentioned about the launch of two new projects: Project Lion and Project Dolphin. The Project Lion aims to conserve Asiatic Lions and its landscape in a holistic manner. It will also help to tackle the Human-wildlife conflict and provide livelihood opportunities. Project Dolphin aims to conserve and protect Dolphins in the rivers and in oceans.

8. Who has been awarded the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's special award for his/her contribution in fighting COVID-19?

- [A] Sundar Pichai
[B] Soumya Swaminathan ☒
[C] Kamala Harris
[D] Sathya Nadella



- ✓ Soumya Swaminathan, the Chief Scientist of World Health Organisation, was conferred with the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's special award, for her advisory role in fighting the COVID-19 in the state. The Chief Minister's Best Practices award was given to the Department of treasuries. Greater Chennai Corporation and Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation were also awarded for their significant roles in the fight against the pandemic.

9. Who is the only Cricket Captain in the world who led his team to win all three ICC trophies?

- [A] Ricky Ponting
[B] Mahendra Singh Dhoni ☒
[C] Sourav Ganguly
[D] Virat Kohli



- ✓ Indian cricket icon and former captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni has announced retirement from international cricket. The 39-year-old star is the only captain in the world who led his team to win all three ICC trophies so far. Under his captaincy, India won the ICC World Twenty20 in 2007, Asia Cups in 2010 and 2016, the ICC Cricket World Cup in 2011 and the ICC Champions Trophy in 2013. Another Cricketer Suresh Raina also announced his retirement.

10. Union Defence Minister approved to expand which youth service wing to cover border and coastal districts?

[A] National Service Scheme (NSS)

[B] National Cadet Corps (NCC) ☒

[C] The Bharat Scouts and Guides

[D] Friends of Police



- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved a proposal of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to expand to cover border and coastal districts. The proposal regarding the scheme was announced by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address. As many as one lakh cadets from 173 border and coastal districts will be inducted to the NCC with one-third Cadets being girls. Over 80 NCC units will also be upgraded as a part of this expansion.
-

1. Rihand project, that was seen in news for its infrastructure to transport fly ash, is located in which state?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Uttar Pradesh ☒
- [C] Punjab
- [D] Rajasthan



- ✓ **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has built an infrastructure at Rihand project in Uttar Pradesh. The project has been designed to transport fly ash in bulk at affordable rates to cement plants. NTPC has committed to utilise the fly ash completely from power plants. The power plants will upgrade their infrastructure for utilising the fly ash using the loading facilities of the Indian Railways.**

2. Which association recently collaborated with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to launch artificial intelligence (AI) based module for Indian school students?

- [A] Intel
- [B] IBM
- [C] CDAC
- [D] NASSCOM ☒



- ✓ **The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) recently collaborated with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to launch an artificial intelligence (AI) based module for Indian school students. The AI-Base Module is to be implemented in nearly 5,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and is expected to reach as many as 2.5 million students. The module with activities and videos on AI concepts is to be introduced from 27 February.**

3. Which State / UT has unveiled its new state logo with 'Palash flower'?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Jharkhand ☒
- [C] Punjab
- [D] Karnataka



- ✓ **The Government of Jharkhand has unveiled a new logo for the state. It was unveiled at Ranchi by the Chief Minister Hemant Soren. It is a circular logo with the National Emblem of India placed at its center, between concentric circles.**

- ✓ These concentric circles depict the state's abundant natural resources and its rich culture. The logo contains "Palash flower" which is the state's flower and "Elephant" which is the state animal.

4. Researchers of which two organisations have developed a process of making Bricks on lunar surface?

- [A] HAL & DRDO
[B] NASA & DRDO
[C] IISc & ISRO ☒
[D] NASA & ISRO



- ✓ Research team from Indian Institute of Science, IISc and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have developed a process for making "Brick like structure" on lunar surface. The researchers suggest that these bricks could be used for assembling structures in lunar surface. The raw material used is urea and lunar soil. It is developed by using bacteria and guar beans to consolidate the land into load bearing brick like structures.

5. What is the name of the Crater that has been captured by the ISRO's Chandrayaan 2 Orbiter?

- [A] Lunar Crater
[B] Sarabhai Crater ☒
[C] Kalam Crater
[D] Optimus Crater



- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has stated that the Terrain Mapping Camera-2 (TMC-2) on board the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter has recently captured the images of the "Sarabhai Crater" on the lunar surface. The crater is located at north eastern quadrant of Moon on the "Mare Serenitatis", which is a vast flat region due to lava deposition. The crater has an average depth of 1.7 km and its walls seem to have an average slope between 25 to 30 degrees.

6. The "Konkurs Missile Test Equipment" launched by the Defence Minister, has been developed by which organisation?

- [A] DRDO
[B] Bharat Earth Movers Ltd
[C] Bharat Dynamics Ltd ☒
[D] Bharat Electronics Ltd



- ✓ The “Konkurs Missile Test Equipment” and “Konkurs Launcher Test Equipment” indigenously developed by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has been launched by the Defence Minister. Launched as a part of the “Atma Nirbhar Bharat Week” celebrations, the two equipment have been designed by BDL to check the serviceability of Konkurs–M anti–tank guided missiles and Konkurs–M missile launchers. These products were earlier imported from Russia.

7. The ‘Atal Tunnel’ that was seen in news recently, is located in which state?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
[B] Himachal Pradesh ☒
[C] Sikkim
[D] Karnataka



- ✓ The strategic tunnel under the Rohtang Pass was named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in December last year. Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has recently announced that the 'Atal Tunnel' in Rohtang would be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi by September 2020. The 8.8–km long tunnel will be the longest tunnel among those in the world above an altitude of 3000 metres.

8. Gangotri National Park, which was seen in news recently, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Uttarakhand ☒
[B] Sikkim
[C] Assam
[D] Bihar



- ✓ Considered as extinct over seventy years back, the Woolly flying squirrel was spotted at Gangotri National Park in Uttarakhand. As per the Forest Research Institute, the flying squirrel was added in the IUCN Red List. It was spotted during the survey conducted in the national park. The animal uses its wool–like furry claws like a parachute and fly.

9. CAMPA fund, that was seen in news recently, is associated with which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change ☒
[B] Ministry of Home Affairs
[C] Ministry of External Affairs
[D] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare



- ✓ Union Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar has directed that 80% of the CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) funds have to mandatorily be used for plantation drives and afforestation. The rest of the funds are to be used capacity building, as per the separate budget of the state. The recent Finance Commission has increased the devolution to 10% for the forest cover.

10. Who has been appointed as the Director General of Border Security Force?

[A] Rakesh Asthana ☒

[B] Nageswara Rao

[C] Rishi Kumar Shukla

[D] Ranjit Sinha



- ✓ IPS officer Rakesh Asthana has been appointed as the Director General of Border Security Force (BSF). The incumbent head RK Shukla is set to retire in February 2020. Prior to this appointment, he was the head of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security since January 2019. SS Deswal is set to replace him in the said post. Asthana was a 1984–batch IPS Officer and a former official of the Central Bureau of Investigation.
-

1. What is the name of the e-portal launched by the Tribal Ministry for promoting tribal health?

[A] Aarogya

[B] Swasthya ☒

[C] Vandana

[D] Tribal Raksha



- ✓ **Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda has recently launched a new e-portal named 'Swasthya' and a e-newsletter named ALEKH. The portal aims to consolidate all health and nutrition related information of the tribal population of India. It also provides best practices collected from different parts of India and enables an effective decision making related to the nutrition of tribal population.**

2. Which organisation is to conduct the World Solar Technology Summit?

[A] International Solar Alliance ☒

[B] WTO

[C] UN Environment Programme

[D] World Wide Fund for Nature



- ✓ **The International Solar Alliance, ISA is set to organise its first World Solar Technology Summit virtually on September 8, 2020. ISA is an alliance of 121 countries, initiated by India headquartered at Gurugram. The inaugural address of the summit will be delivered by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the ISA President and Minister of New and Renewable Energy R. K. Singh. The event will focus on using technology to effectively utilise the solar energy.**

3. Which institution has topped the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievement (ARIIA) 2020 in the 'Centrally funded institution' category?

[A] IISc, Bangalore

[B] IIT Madras ☒

[C] IIT Bombay

[D] IIT Delhi



- ✓ **The Vice President of India M Venkaiah Naidu has announced the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020. It is an initiative of Education Ministry. The Indian Institute of Technology Madras bagged the first place under the 'Best centrally funded institution' category, while IIT Mumbai and IIT Delhi bagged the second and third place respectively.**

- ✓ The ranking assesses the colleges on various criteria including support for entrepreneurship, innovative learning intellectual property generation and technology transfer etc.

4. The Government of which country has launched an 'Innovation Challenge Fund' in India?

[A] United Kingdom ☒

[B] Australia

[C] Brazil

[D] Germany



- ✓ The Government of United Kingdom (UK) has launched a £3 million Innovation challenge fund in India. The fund is aimed at supporting scientists in industry and academia to cope with acute global challenges like COVID-19 and other environment threats. The fund aims to bring together best minds under "UK India Tech Partnership". The fund has specifically invited innovators associated with "AI-Data cluster" in Karnataka and "Future Mobility cluster" in Maharashtra to submit research proposals.

5. The World's tallest Pier bridge is being constructed by Indian Railways in which state?

[A] Arunachal Pradesh

[B] Himachal Pradesh

[C] Manipur ☒

[D] Meghalaya



- ✓ The World's tallest Pier bridge is being constructed by Indian Railways in Manipur across the river "Ijai". The height of its tallest pier is 141m. The bridge is a part of Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line project. The existing record for the tallest pier bridge is 139m at Montenegro in Europe.
- ✓ The bridge is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs.280 crore and the construction work is expected to be completed by March 2020. The total length of the bridge is estimated to be 703 mtrs.

6. A Quality control laboratory for seafood testing has been setup by MPEDA, in which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Gujarat ☒



- ✓ A Quality control laboratory for seafood processors and exporters has been opened by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) at Porbandar, Gujarat.

- ✓ The lab helps the exporters in testing of seafood to ensure safety as per international regulatory standards. The lab is equipped with advanced instruments to test and analyse antibiotic residues and heavy-metals like arsenic, mercury in seafood.

7. Which organization has built a 180 feet bridge in Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand in a short span of 3 weeks?

- [A] Indian Army
[B] National Highways Authority of India
[C] Border Roads Organization ☒
[D] Larsen & Toubro



- ✓ A 180-feet Bailey bridge in Jauljibi sector of Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand has been constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), amidst frequent landslides and heavy rains. The 50-metre span concrete bridge was damaged in the month of July as the area was hit by a cloud burst. The bridge construction by BRO will help around 15,000 people in 20 villages of the district.

8. Which institution is to set up a new Umbrella entity for retail payments?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India ☒
[B] National Payment Corporation of India
[C] Securities Exchange Board of India
[D] Indian Banks Association



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the framework for setting up of a new umbrella entity for retail payments. It will operate as a 'for-profit' company that will have minimum paid-up capital of Rs 500 crore. It will set up and operate the payment systems such as ATMs, white-label PoS and Aadhaar-based payments. The company will also manage clearing and settlement systems of banks/ non-banks.

9. Which state announced to reserve all government jobs to the people belonging to its state?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
[B] Madhya Pradesh ☒
[C] Kerala
[D] Karnataka



- ✓ The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan has recently announced that all of the state government jobs will be reserved to the people belonging to its state. This is the first country in the state to reserve all its jobs to the people of the state.
- ✓ The state government is set to form legal provisions in this regard. During his Independence Day address, the CM announced that the state will give preference to youths in government jobs.

10. Which organisation released 'National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020'?

[A] ICMR ☒

[B] AIIMS

[C] CSIR

[D] NITI Aayog



- ✓ Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recently released 'National Cancer Registry Programme Report 2020'. As per the report, the number of people affected by cancer could increase by 12% in the next five years. By 2025, around 1.5 million people are estimated to suffer from the disease, increased from 1.39 million in 2020. Tobacco-related cancers find the major portion in the list. Aizawl district, the capital of Mizoram state, has the highest number of cancer patients in the country.

1. Manduadih railway station, that was renamed as 'Banaras', is located in which state?

[A] Bihar

[B] Uttar Pradesh ☒

[C] Jharkhand

[D] Uttarakhand



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has recently approved to rename the Manduadih railway station in Uttar Pradesh as 'Banaras'. The state government of Uttar Pradesh had earlier sent a request to the Home Ministry for renaming the railway station in its Varanasi district. The Home Ministry issued a no-objection certificate after consulting with the Ministry of Railways, Department of Posts and Survey of India.

2. People's Bank of China (PBOC) has acquired a stake in which Indian private sector bank?

[A] Yes Bank

[B] Axis Bank

[C] ICICI Bank ☒

[D] IDBI Bank



- ✓ People's Bank of China (PBOC) has acquired a small equity stake in the leading Indian private sector bank, ICICI Bank. It is one among the 357 institutional investors which had subscribed to the issue of the Qualified institutional investors (QIP) placement, of Rs 15,000 crore. PBOC has invested Rs 15 crore in the issue. It had earlier bought a stake in leading institution, HDFC.

3. Which organisation is deploying 'Ninja' unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for surveillance?

[A] ISRO

[B] DRDO

[C] Railway Protection Force ☒

[D] ITBP



- ✓ Indian Railways have announced that it has procured 'Ninja Unmanned Aerial Vehicles' (UAV) for surveillance operations. The Railway Protection Force is deploying the Ninja UAVs to improve monitoring and provide safety to railway assets and passengers. RPF has recently procured nine drones worth over Rs 30 lakh. It is to procure more drones shortly, which are capable of for real-time tracking and video streaming.

4. Which is the second Indian zoo to have African hunting cheetahs?

- [A] Thiruvananthapuram Zoo
- [B] Mysuru Zoo ☒
- [C] Darjeeling Zoo
- [D] 'Perarignar' Anna Zoological Park



- ✓ **The Mysuru Zoo in Karnataka is the second Indian zoo to have African hunting cheetahs after the Hyderabad zoo. Under the Animal Exchange Programme, the zoo has acquired one male and two female African hunting Cheetah from Ann Van Dyke Cheetah Centre at Johannesburg, South Africa. One female Cheetah of age 15 months and two male Cheetahs of age 14 and 16 months are brought by air.**

5. What is the expansion of 'NRA', that has been approved by the Cabinet, for conducting common entrance examinations?

- [A] New Recruitment Agency
- [B] National Recruitment Agency ☒
- [C] New Recruitment Administration
- [D] National Rating Agency



- ✓ **The Union Cabinet has recently approved to set up a new entity named 'National Recruitment Agency (NRA)' to carry out a national Common Entrance Test (CET). This exam would be a common screening test for non-gazetted vacancies in both departments of Central government and public sector organisations. It is to conduct first level tests currently conducted by agencies like SSC, RRB and IBPS among others. Related Questions**

6. Death Valley, that is seen in news recently, is located in which country?

- [A] South Africa
- [B] USA ☒
- [C] Canada
- [D] Brazil



- ✓ **The Death Valley is a desert valley which is located in Eastern California, USA. Recently, the temperature at the Death Valley's Furnace Creek is recorded at 54.4°C. This would be hottest temperature officially verified since 1913, as per World Meteorological Organization. According to the WMO, Death Valley's all-time record high is 56.7°C that was recorded in the year 1913. It still stands as the hottest ever temperature recorded on the surface of the earth.**

7. Which organisation along with ILO released the report “Tackling the COVID–19 Youth Employment Crisis in Asia and The Pacific”?

[A] World Bank

[B] Asian Development Bank ☒

[C] UNESCO

[D] World Economic Forum



- ✓ A joint report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) stated that, 41 lakh youth in the country lost jobs due to the COVID–19 pandemic. The ‘Tackling the Covid–19 youth employment crisis in Asia and the Pacific’ report stated that construction and farm sector workers account for the majority of job losses. Youth (15–24 years) will be hit harder than adults (25 and older) in the immediate crisis.

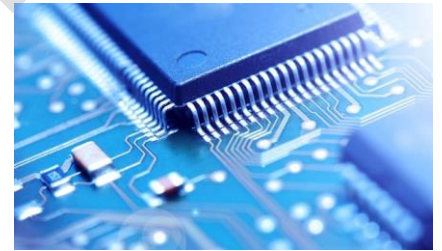
8. What is the name of the challenge that is launched by India, to promote indigenous microprocessor manufacturing?

[A] Atma Nirbhar Challenge

[B] Make in India Challenge

[C] Self–Reliance Challenge

[D] Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge ☒



- ✓ “Swadeshi Microprocessor Challenge” has been launched by the Government of India to promote indigenous microprocessor manufacturing and designing. 100 shortlisted companies will be given grant to build their prototype. 25 finalists will win Rs.1 crore each.
- ✓ The top ten teams will get a fund of total Rs.2.30 crore with 12–month incubation support, from the Ministry of Information Technology.

9. “Sterlite Copper” which is in news recently is associated with which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu ☒

[B] Andhra Pradesh

[C] Kerala

[D] Karnataka



- ✓ The High Court of Madras has rejected reopening of “Sterlite Copper” smelting plant in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. Sterlite Copper, a unit of Vedanta Ltd had been catering to nearly 40 % of India’s copper demand from its smelting plant at Tuticorin.

- ✓ The High Court's order dismissed all 10 petitions filed by Vedanta to reopen the plant. The Court upheld the orders issued to close the plant by the Tamil Nadu Government and Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board.

10. Which city has won the 'cleanest city award' in the Swachh Survekshan 2020 survey?

[A] Trichy

[B] Surat

[C] Salem

[D] Indore ☒



- ✓ The Union Government has announced the results of annual survey of cleanliness, the 'Swachh Survekshan 2020'. Indore of Madhya Pradesh bagged the top spot in the list, for four years consecutively. Gujarat's Surat was ranked at the second place while Maharashtra's Navi Mumbai on third place. This is the fifth edition of the survey, that ranks states based on their performance in Swachh Bharat Mission.
- ✓ In Tamil Nadu, Trichy Corporation (in the category of corporations with a population range of 1–10 lakhs) has topped the list for the 5th consecutive year (102nd nationally). Madurai is ranked 42nd, Covai – 40th and Chennai – 45th in the category of municipalities with a population of over 1M.

1. What is the allocation made for 'Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme'(ECLGS)?

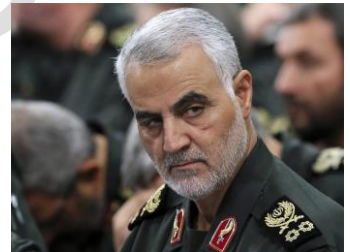
- [A] Rs 1 Lakh crore
- [B] Rs 2 Lakh crore
- [C] Rs 3 Lakh crore ☒
- [D] Rs 5 Lakh crore



- ✓ **The Government launched 'Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme'(ECLGS), as a part of the Rs 20 lakh crore economic stimulus package. The allocation made for the ECLGS scheme was Rs 3 lakh crore for five months till October 31st. As per the recent news, public and private sector banks have sanctioned loans worth over Rs 1.5 lakh crore, as of August 18, 2020 and more than Rs 1 lakh crore was already disbursed.**

2. Which country has displayed its locally made ballistic missile 'martyr Qassem Soleimani'?

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



- ✓ **Iran has displayed a surface-to-surface ballistic missile, that has a range of 1,400 kilometres, named martyr Qassem Soleimani. The country also displayed a new cruise missile called martyr Abu Mahdi, with a range of over 1,000 km, amidst the demand from the United States to stop its missile programme. The head of Iran's Quds Force, Soleimani and Iraqi commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis were killed in a U.S. strike.**

3. A new logo has been launched for which organisation of Labour Ministry?

- [A] Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
- [B] Directorate General of Employment (DGE)
- [C] Labour Bureau ☒
- [D] Employees State Insurance Scheme (ESIC)



- ✓ **Union Labour and Employment Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar has recently released the new logo of the Labour Bureau. Labour Bureau is an apex national-level organization under the Labour Ministry, that is involved in labour statistics, research and training. The new logo represents the statistical nature and its three goals of accuracy, validity and reliability.**

4. Which organisation launched the 'National strategy for Financial Education'?

[A] RBI ☒

[B] NPCI

[C] SEBI

[D] SBI



- ✓ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently released a National strategy for Financial Education', which is to be implemented in the next five years. The strategy aims to inculcate financial literacy among all the people of our country. It will also encourage the common people to participate in the financial markets for achieving their financial goals. It will encourage people to use formal banking and safe digital financial services.**

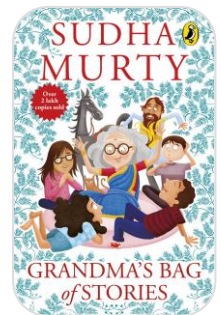
5. Who is the author of the book 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories'?

[A] Sudha Murty ☒

[B] Ruskin Bond

[C] Paro Anand

[D] Anushka Ravishankar



- ✓ **Veteran Indian author Sudha Murty's latest collection of short stories, 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories' is to be released in the month of November. The Penguin Random House India announced the collection which is a sequel of her recent release 'Grandma's Bag of Stories' and will have 20 stories. Sudha Murty has authored several books in English and Kannada especially for children.**

6. Who represented India in the 2020 roundtable of ASEAN–India Network of Think Tanks?

[A] Narendra Modi

[B] S Jai Shankar ☒

[C] Piyush Goyal

[D] Shaktikanta Das



- ✓ **Union External Affairs Minister S Jai Shankar has represented India in the roundtable of ASEAN–India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) held recently. The 6th Roundtable of AINTT was held through a webinar and its theme was "ASEAN–India: Strengthening Partnership in the Post–COVID Era". As per the Minister, the global loss due to Covid–19 is in the range of USD 5.8 to 8.8 trillion or 6.5 to 9.7 per cent of the global GDP.**

7. Which state launched a subsidised meal scheme named 'Indira Rasoi Yojana'?

[A] Punjab

[B] Rajasthan ☒

[C] Nagaland

[D] Sikkim



- ✓ The Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot has launched a subsidised meal scheme named 'Indira Rasoi Yojana'. It aims to provide subsidised meals to the poor and needy in the state at Rs 8 per plate with dignity. Earlier, the state was implementing a similar scheme named Annapurna Rasoi Yojana from 2016. The scheme was launched on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the 'Sadbhavana Diwas'.

8. The rights to run airports at Jaipur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram have been awarded to which business major of India?

[A] Reliance Industries

[B] TATA Group

[C] Shapoorji Pallonji

[D] Adani Enterprises ☒

adani

- ✓ A proposal for leasing out Jaipur, Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram airports through public-private partnership (PPP) has been cleared by the Union Cabinet. The rights to run these airports in addition to Lucknow, Ahmedabad and Mangaluru airports have been awarded to Adani Enterprises by way of competitive bidding. Presently, these six airports are owned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

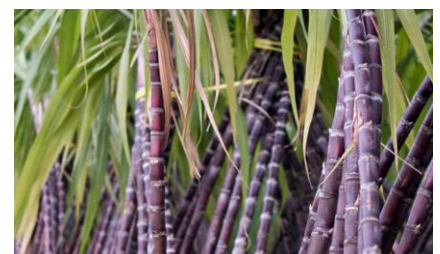
9. By what amount, the Fair and Remunerative Prices (FRP) of sugarcane has been increased?

[A] Rs.10 per quintal ☒

[B] Rs.20 per quintal

[C] Rs.30 per quintal

[D] Rs.40 per quintal



- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved an increase in Fair and Remunerative Prices (FRP) of sugarcane by Rs.10 per quintal from the existing Rs 275 to Rs.285 per quintal. The new FRP would come into force from October 2020. This is in line with the recommendations of the Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

10. The Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) that is in news recently, is related to which three countries?

- [A] India, Nepal & China
- [B] India, Brazil & South Africa
- [C] India, Japan & Australia ☒
- [D] India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka



- ✓ **In order to reduce the dependency of China, three countries namely India, Japan and Australia have begun discussions to launch a trilateral “Supply Chain Resilience Initiative” (SCRI).**
 - ✓ **The initiative was originally proposed by Japan, which had approached India to take forward the initiative. The first meeting of the commerce and trade ministers of the three countries will be held next week.**
-

1. Which state has decided to exempt all serving and retired soldiers from the Gram Panchayat property tax?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala

[C] Maharashtra ☒

[D] Goa



- ✓ The state Government of Maharashtra, has decided to exempt all serving and retired soldiers from the Gram Panchayat property tax. A Government resolution has been passed in this regard. Earlier, the exemption was applicable only to Defence Gallantry Awardees or their dependents. The present decision has included all the serving and retired soldiers.

2. Which Indian Parliamentarian has attended the inaugural ceremony of the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament?

[A] Narendra Modi

[B] Om Birla ☒

[C] Nirmala Sitharaman

[D] Piyush Goyal



- ✓ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has attended the inaugural ceremony of the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (5WCSP). It is a two-day virtual Conference organized jointly by Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Geneva and Parliament of Austria. The programme is supported by United Nations (UN). The theme of the Conference is "Parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism that delivers peace and sustainable development for the people and planet."

3. Which space mission of India has completed one full year in the lunar orbit?

[A] Chandrayaan-1

[B] Chandrayaan-2 ☒

[C] Indian Lunar Mission 1

[D] Indian Lunar Mission 2



- ✓ Chandrayaan-2 is India's first mission to make a soft-landing of a rover on the South pole of the moon. It is also India's second lunar mission, which has recently completed one full year around the moon. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced that all of its instruments are performing well and there is adequate fuel to keep it functional for about seven more years.

4. What is the name of the project launched by the Tribal Affairs Ministry, to establish tertiary processing centres?

[A] Trifood ☒

[B] Tribe India

[C] MFP Enhance

[D] Tribal Value



- ✓ Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda has virtually launched the tertiary processing centres of 'Trifood Project'. It is an initiative of TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in association with Ministry of Food Processing (MoFPI). The Minister launched the project in Raigad of Maharashtra and Jagdalpur of Chhattisgarh. It aims to enhance the income of tribal population by making value addition in the Minor Forest Produces.

5. Which company has partnered with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer free Digital skill training?

[A] Microsoft

[B] Google

[C] IBM ☒

[D] Apple



- ✓ Leading multi-national company IBM India, has collaborated with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to offer a free digital education platform. The training focuses on recent technologies like cybersecurity, blockchain, artificial intelligence and machine learning and professional development skills. The online courses developed by IBM will be offered through NSDC's eSkill India portal to the learners between 18 to 22 years.

6. India is set to launch a direct ferry service to which neighbouring country?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] Maldives ☒

[C] Bangladesh

[D] Myanmar



- ✓ India is set to launch a new direct cargo ferry service to the Maldives, in the third week of September, as per the Indian high commission in the Maldives. The service will link Kochi and Tuticorin with Male and will boost bilateral trade relations.

- ✓ A vessel operated by the Shipping Corporation of India, will be used for the ferry service. The vessel is to carry electrical machinery, medicines, construction material as well as perishable goods.

7. Which Indian power company is to establish a wholly-owned subsidiary for its renewable energy business?

[A] NTPC ☒

[B] ONGC

[C] NHPC

[D] GAIL



- ✓ Government owned power major NTPC Limited has recently announced that it is to establish a wholly-owned subsidiary for its renewable energy business. The company has recently obtained the approval from the Niti Aayog and Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Ministry of Finance for formation of a wholly-owned subsidiary.

8. Srisaillam hydroelectric power plant, that witnessed a massive fire outbreak, is located in which state?

[A] Andhra Pradesh

[B] Karnataka

[C] Telangana ☒

[D] Odisha



- ✓ A massive fire outbreak has recently occurred in the Srisaillam hydroelectric power plant located in the state of Telangana. Nine people including five engineers of Telangana State Power Generation Corporation were killed in the massive fire. Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao directed to launch an investigation into the incident. He also announced compensation to the families of the deceased and the injured.

9. Who is the Chief Executive Officer of NPCI International Payments Limited (NPIL)?

[A] Ritesh Shukla ☒

[B] Nandan Nilekani

[C] Urjit Patel

[D] Rina Penkar



- ✓ The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched its wholly-owned subsidiary, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL).

- ✓ The company aims to popularise NPCI's domestic payments technologies such as UPI and RuPay in other countries and co-create payment technologies with them. NPCI has appointed Ritesh Shukla as the Chief Executive Officer of NIPL

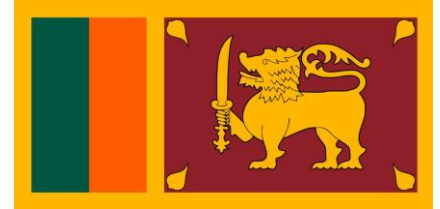
10. Which country has recently proposed to draft its new constitution and to remove restriction on Presidential powers?

[A] Bangladesh

[B] Sri Lanka ☒

[C] Thailand

[D] Myanmar



- ✓ The island nation of Sri Lanka has proposed to draft a new Constitution. It will also discard the 19th Constitutional Amendment passed in 2015 which imposes restriction on presidential powers. It sets a limit of 2 years for the President to be in power. The new President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has stated that new constitution would prioritize the concept of 'One country, One law for all the people.'
-

1. What is the name of the interactive video game launched by the Union Health Minister, regarding COVID-19?

- [A] Health Fighter
- [B] Social Warrior
- [C] Corona Warriors
- [D] Corona Fighters ☒



- ✓ A first-of-its-kind interactive game on COVID-19 named the “Corona Fighters” has been launched by the Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan.
- ✓ The game has been designed creatively to teach people about the right tools and behaviours to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to the game, the Minister also launched two new videos to inculcate appropriate behaviours, to be followed during the pandemic.

2. ‘Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana’, that was in news, is associated with which organization?

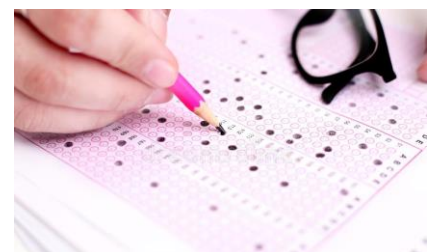
- [A] National Insurance Company Ltd.,
- [B] Employees and State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) ☒
- [C] Life Insurance Corporation of India
- [D] Small Industries Development Bank of India



- ✓ ESIC is implementing the Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyna Yojna under which unemployment benefit is paid to the workers covered under ESI Scheme. The ESI Corporation has decided to extend the scheme for one more year upto 30th June 2021.
- ✓ It has been decided to relax the existing conditions and the amount of relief for workers who have lost employment during the COVID-19 pandemic period. The enhanced relief under the relaxed conditions will be payable during the period of 24.03.2020 to 31st December 2020. Thereafter the scheme will be available with original eligibility condition during the period 01.01.2021 to 30.06.2021. Review of these conditions will be done after 31.12.2020 depending upon the need and demand for such relaxed condition.

3. Which state is to become the first to recruit through National Recruitment Agency (NRA)’s common test?

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



- ✓ **Madhya Pradesh is set to be the first state in the country to recruit candidates to government jobs on the basis of National Recruitment Agency (NRA) test. This decision has been informed by the Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan, a day after the Union cabinet approved setting up of NRA to conduct a Common Eligibility Test (CET), for conducting examinations which are presently conducted by IBPS, RRB, SSC among others**

4. India has signed a cultural agreement with which country recently?

[A] Saudi Arabia

[B] Israel ☒

[C] Australia

[D] Japan



- ✓ **India has signed a cultural agreement with Israel for a three-year programme of cooperation and strengthening of bilateral ties between the two countries. This cooperation is expected to raise awareness on the history and culture of both countries. This cooperation programme India & Israel for the years 2020–23 is based on the cultural agreement signed between them on May 18, 1993.**

5. What is the new name of Religare Health Insurance Company Ltd?

[A] Health Care Ltd

[B] Care Health Insurance Ltd ☒

[C] Reli Health Insurance Ltd

[D] Union Health Insurance Ltd



Health ki Guarantee

- ✓ **The name of the "Religare Health Insurance Company Ltd" which is a subsidiary of Religare Enterprises has been changed to "Care Health Insurance Ltd". The change of name is effective from 19th August 2020. Religare Health Insurance was established by Religare enterprise limited, Union Bank of India and Corporation Bank in the year 2012. The company is headquartered in Gurgaon, Haryana.**

6. When is International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism observed?

[A] August 21 ☒

[B] August 22

[C] August 23

[D] August 24



- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The day is observed to honour and support the victims and survivors of terrorism.
- ✓ It also strives to promote and protect their human and fundamental rights. This year, the UN held a virtual commemoration of the 3rd International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.

7. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of the State Bank of India?

- [A] Rajnish Kumar
- [B] Urjit Patel
- [C] Ashwani Bhatia ☒
- [D] Shyam Srinivasan



- ✓ Ashwani Bhatia has been appointed as the managing director of State Bank of India by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister of India. He will be appointed in the place of P K Gupta. Ashwani has been serving as the deputy MD and CEO of SBI Mutual Fund. He also served as the Chief General Manager of SBI and a fulltime director of SBI Capital Markets.

8. Manika Batra, who was conferred with the Khel Ratna award, is associated with which sport?

- [A] Hockey
- [B] Table Tennis ☒
- [C] Tennis
- [D] Athletics



- ✓ Five sportspersons were named as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna awardees and 27 sportspersons as Arjuna awardees.
- ✓ Rohit Sharma (Cricket), Rani Rampal (Hockey), para athlete Mariyappan Thangavelu, Vinesh Phogat (Wrestling) and Manika Batra (Table Tennis) were selected for the prestigious Khel ratna award. They will be virtually conferred with the award on August 29 on the National Sports Day.

9. Which country has discovered a large natural gas reserve along Black Sea coast?

- [A] Turkey ☒
- [B] Georgia
- [C] Bulgaria
- [D] Romania



- ✓ The President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan has recently announced that the country has discovered a large natural gas reserve along the Black Sea coast. Around 302 billion cubic meters area of natural gas reserve has been discovered that will reduce the import dependency of the country. As per the country, it will start extracting and using the gas by 2023, when Turkey marks the centenary of the founding of Republic.

10. Zojila tunnel, that was seen in news recently, connects Jammu and Kashmir with which state / UT?

- [A] Punjab
[B] Chandigarh
[C] Ladakh ☒
[D] Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for Zojila tunnel project in 2018, as the Asia's longest bi-directional tunnel. The project with estimated cost of Rs 4,509 crore, aims to provide all-year connectivity between Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh region. Recently, Megha Engineering and Infrastructure is set to construct the Zojila pass tunnel. The project is expected to completed in six years.
-

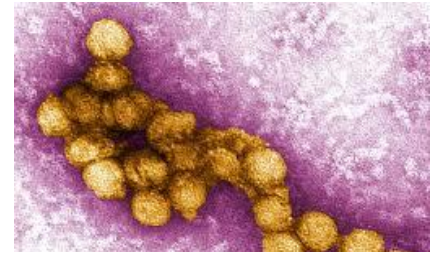
1. Which country recorded an outbreak of West Nile Virus that causes West Nile Fever?

[A] Germany

[B] Spain ☒

[C] Uganda

[D] Israel



- ✓ **Spain has recently reported an outbreak of West Nile Virus spread by mosquitos. It spreads due to mosquitoes and causes West Nile Fever. It has claimed the lives of two people in Spain and several people were admitted in hospital. It was originally discovered in Uganda in 1937. It was indigenous to Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia. This RNA virus belongs to the Flaviviridae family, which also has Zika virus, yellow fever virus and Dengue virus.**

2. Which firm built the Interceptor Boat 'ICGS C-454' that was launched into the service of the Coast Guard?

[A] Cochin Shipyard

[B] Larsen & Toubro ☒

[C] DRDO

[D] Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd



- ✓ **Interceptor Boat 'ICGS C-454', that has been built by Larsen and Toubro, was recently launched into the service of the Coast Guard. The newly-built boat of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) was launched in Surat, as per the recent notification from the Defence Ministry. It has a length of 27 meters and a maximum speed of 45 nautical miles or 83 kilometers per hour.**

3. Which Ministry partnered with Tribal Ministry, to promote opportunities among tribal women SHGs?

[A] Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

[B] Ministry of Rural Development ☒

[C] Ministry of Agriculture

[D] Ministry of Culture



- ✓ **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Rural Development has recently signed a Joint Communication to promote sustainable livelihood opportunities Among Tribal Women SHGs in rural areas. Rural Development Ministry will identify and map tribal women SHG members while Ministry of Tribal Affairs will promote livelihood opportunities among women identified by State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) through several arenas.**

4. Which country has signed Peace Agreement with its armed ethnic groups for ceasefire agreement?

- [A] Thailand
- [B] Sri Lanka
- [C] Myanmar ☒
- [D] Pakistan



- ✓ The Myanmar government has signed an agreement for implementing “National Ceasefire Agreement” (NCA) with 10 armed ethnic groups. The peace accord is called Union Peace Accord III contains 15 provisions to implement the NCA. The agreement was entered into by the parties at Nay Pyi Taw during the 4th session of the Union Peace Conference named – 21st Century Panglong.

5. Which bank has decided to sell two of its wholly owned subsidiaries to GPL Finance and Investments Limited?

- [A] HDFC Bank
- [B] ICICI Bank
- [C] YES Bank ☒
- [D] Kotak Mahindra Bank



- ✓ YES Bank has executed an agreement with GPL Finance and Investments Limited for the complete sale of equity shareholding of YES Asset Management Limited “YESAMC” and YES Trustee Limited “YTL”. Both these firms are wholly owned subsidiaries of YES Bank Limited. It is expected that the sale would be completed in the next 8 to 12 months. After completion of the sale, the two firms Yes Bank will completely exit from its mutual fund business.

6. Which organisation is to have India’s largest incubation ecosystem with 21 centres of excellence?

- [A] Software Technology Parks of India ☒
- [B] Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
- [C] Education and Research Network
- [D] National Informatics Centre



- ✓ Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is set to have the largest ecosystem of incubation ecosystem in the country, in a year by setting up 21 centres of excellence. The proposed 21 centres of excellence (CoEs) will incubate new technologies in various sectors. Out of the 21 CoEs, 12 of them are already operational. Three centres are related to Agriculture and one more is proposed to be launched.

7. When is International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief observed?

[A] August 22 ☒

[B] August 22

[C] August 23

[D] August 24



- ✓ **The United Nations General Assembly designated 22 August as the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief. It comes a day after the International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. The UN asks its members to ensure the upholding of human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely.**

8. 'Rules of origin', that was seen in news recently, is associated with which Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Commerce

[B] Ministry of Finance ☒

[C] Ministry of Agriculture

[D] Ministry of MSME



वित्त मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
FINANCE

- ✓ **The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance has notified the 'Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020'. The norms for enforcing the 'rules of origin' provisions has been released by the Government recently. These rules will come into effect from September 21, 2020 and will apply where preferential rate of duty is claimed by importer. The "Rules of origin" provision mandates minimal processing in the FTA country.**

9. Who is the head of the newly formed 'National Council for Transgender Persons'?

[A] Ministry of Commerce

[B] Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment ☒

[C] Ministry of Agriculture

[D] Ministry of MSME



- ✓ **The Union Government has recently constituted the National Council for Transgender Persons' under the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. This is the first-of-its-kind council and will be headed by the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. The council includes representatives from 10 central departments, five states and members of the trans-gender community. It advises the Government on the related policies.**

10. Ministry of Consumer Affairs has advised to states to include all eligible disabled persons under which act?

- [A] National Food Security Act ☒
- [B] National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
- [C] Essential Commodities Act
- [D] Bureau of Indian Standards Act



- ✓ **The Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs has advised State Governments and UTs to include all eligible disabled persons under the National Food Security Act, NFSA 2013. As per the direction of the Ministry, those not covered under the scheme should be covered with fresh ration cards. After registration, they will get the entitled quota of food grains under NFSA and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana as per provisions of the Act.**
-

1. Which Indian state announced that it would be the first to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Karnataka ☒

[C] Kerala

[D] Nagaland



- ✓ **Karnataka has announced that it would be the first state to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka participated in the 'Highlights of the National Education policy and its implementation' workshop. He announced that the state has started to launch administrative reforms and amendments to implement the policy.**

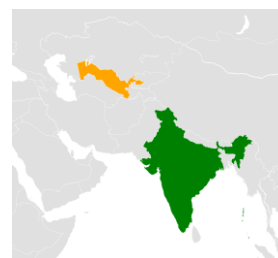
2. External Affairs Ministry organised the National Coordination Committee, with which country, for the first time?

[A] Uzbekistan ☒

[B] Kazakhstan

[C] Laos

[D] Turkmenistan



- ✓ **The Union External Affairs Ministry has recently organised the first India–Uzbekistan National Coordination Committee. The virtual meeting was held to monitor the implementation of mutually agreed projects between India and Uzbekistan. They also reviewed implementation of identified projects under India's LoC, cooperation between the Gujarat state and Andijan region among others.**

3. Which development bank is to finance the USD 500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project–III?

[A] ADB

[B] AIIB ☒

[C] BRICS Bank

[D] World Bank



- ✓ **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is to finance the USD 500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project–III. The Government of India, state Government of Maharashtra and Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation signed a loan agreement with AIIB for this project. It will improve the network capacity and safety of the suburban railway system in Mumbai.**

4. Which Indian Educational institution has recently signed a MoU with Switzerland-based HELP Logistics?

- [A] IIT Chennai
- [B] IIT Kozhikode ☒
- [C] AIIMS
- [D] NIT Thiruchirapalli



- ✓ **Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K) has signed a MoU with Switzerland based HELP Logistics. This partnership is aimed to develop humanitarian logistics in India through consulting services and logistics training to United Nations bodies, Government Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations. The MoU will be in force of a period of 1 year.**

5. Which institution, in association with Shiv Nadar University has developed a new technology to produce Lithium Sulphur Batteries?

- [A] IIT Bombay ☒
- [B] BITS
- [C] IISc, Bengaluru
- [D] DRDO



- ✓ **Researchers at IIT – Bombay and Shiv Nadar University have claimed that they have developed a technology to produce environment friendly Lithium-Sulfur (Li-S) batteries. The Li-S batteries would be three times more energy efficient and cost effective than conventional Lithium-ion batteries. The production of Li-S batteries uses products from the petroleum industry and agro-waste along with co polymers, and thus has a positive impact on environment.**

6. Which company has been recently conferred with the Global Water Award?

- [A] Eureka Forbes
- [B] Blue Star Ltd
- [C] Va Tech Wabag ☒
- [D] Kent RO



- ✓ **The water technology company “Va Tech Wabag” has been conferred with the Global Water Award. This award has been given to the company for setting up a tertiary treatment reverse osmosis plant (TTRO) with a capacity of 45 million litres a day, at Chennai. The award has been given under 'wastewater project of the year' category. With this project, Chennai is the first Indian city to reuse more than 20 % of its treated wastewater.**

7. Which football club has won the UEFA Champions League 2020?

[A] AC Milan

[B] Bayern Munich ☒

[C] Real Madrid

[D] Barcelona



- ✓ **The UEFA Champions League 2020 has been won by the Germany-based football club, the Bayern Munich. The team won 1–0 against the Paris Saint Germain (PSG) at the final match held at Estadio da Luz, Lisbon. Kingsley Coman scored the only goal of the match during the 59th minute. Bayern Munich has won the league after 7 years.**

8. As per the newly activated Aadhaar based GST registration, what is the time taken for GST registration by an entity?[A] 3 working day ☒

[B] 5 working day

[C] 7 working day

[D] 21 working day



- ✓ **In order to enhance the ease of doing business, the Aadhaar authentication has been activated by the Government for registration to GST. The Aadhaar based GST registration of an entity would be completed in 3 working days and there is no requirement for physical verification. Those not opting for Aadhaar based registration will be subjected to physical verification of place of business activity and other related documentary verification. The time required for non-Aadhaar registration would be up to 21 days.**

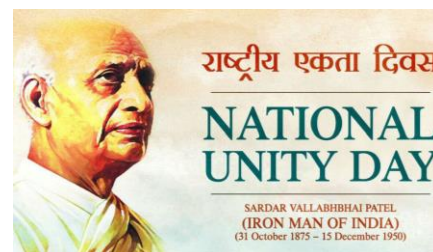
9. When is the PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration to be presented?

[A] Non-Resident Indian Day

[B] Minorities Rights Day

[C] National Unity Day ☒

[D] Martyrs Day



- ✓ **As per the recent notification from the Personnel Ministry, over 700 districts have participated in the Prime minister's awards for excellence in public administration. The awards will be conferred on October 31, the Ekta Diwas (Unity Day), at the Statue of Unity in Gujarat by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The award is to recognise the performance of District Collectors towards economic development of their regions.**

10. Which state has the highest number of women beneficiaries under the MUDRA Loan scheme, as on date?

[A] Tamil Nadu ☒

[B] Kerala

[C] Arunachal Pradesh

[D] Rajasthan



- ✓ As per the recent data given by the Ministry of Finance to the Rajya Sabha, over 15 crore loans worth Rs 4.78 lakh crore have been disbursed to women borrowers since the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) was launched. Among the states, Tamil Nadu topped the list of women beneficiaries with loans amounting Rs 58227 crores. It is followed by the women in West Bengal (Rs 55,232 crore) and Karnataka (Rs 47,714 crore).
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