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# FOURTH WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



# SEPTEMBER 2020

September 22-30

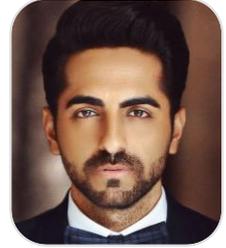
1. Which actor has been chosen by UNICEF to advocate for promoting rights of children?

[A] Amitabh Bachchan

[B] Ramya Krishnan

[C] Ayushmann Khurrana

[D] Aishwarya Rai



- ✓ UNICEF India chosen Indian actor Ayushmann Khurrana, as a celebrity to advocate its child rights campaign named "For Every Child". The actor would support UNICEF in its work around India to end violence against children. Earlier, the football star David Beckham had joined UNICEF for the same campaign.

2. What is India's rank in the Economic Freedom Index 2020, released recently?

[A] 55<sup>th</sup>

[B] 105<sup>th</sup>

[C] 125<sup>th</sup>

[D] 128<sup>th</sup>



- ✓ India has been ranked at 105<sup>th</sup> position in the Economic Freedom Index 2020. "The Economic Freedom of the World: 2020 Annual Report" has been released by Fraser Institute of Canada in collaboration with New Delhi based think tank "Centre For Civil Society". As per the report, Hong Kong and Singapore have topped the index.

3. Which body has issued guidelines to Banks regarding the appointment of Chief Compliance Officer (CCO)?

[A] Finance Ministry

[B] SEBI

[C] CVC

[D] RBI



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines regarding Compliance Functions in Banks and Role of Chief Compliance Officer (CCO). The guidelines direct that all banks should have a board approved Compliance Policy and Appointment of CCO. The CCO shall be a senior executive of the bank, preferably in the rank of a General Manager.

4. The United States has signed a Defence Cooperation agreement with which country, for peace in Indo–Pacific region?

- [A] India  
 [B] Maldives   
 [C] Sri Lanka  
 [D] Japan



- ✓ **A strategic Defence and Security agreement has been recently signed between the Maldives and the United States. The “Framework for U.S. Department of Defense–Maldives Ministry of Defence and Security Relationship” seeks to promote cooperation maintaining peace and security in the Indian Ocean. India had previously opposed a proposed Status of Forces Agreement between the two countries in 2013.**

5. The Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) functions under which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of MSME  
 [B] Ministry of Textiles   
 [C] Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
 [D] Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region



- ✓ **The Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) was established by the Ministry of Textiles in 1982, to promote export of Carpets and other allied Products from India. Recently, CEPC was in news as the organization has announced a three–day virtual Buyer–Seller Meet.**
- ✓ **The programme is to focus on Australia and adjoining countries, as India is the biggest exporter of handmade carpets to those countries.**

6. Bhagjan Oil Well, that was seen in news, is located in which state?

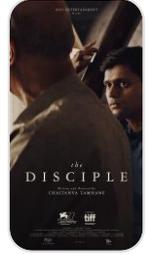
- [A] Meghalaya  
 [B] Assam   
 [C] Manipur  
 [D] Mizoram



- ✓ **The Baghjan Oil Well of Oil India Limited (OIL) is located in Eastern Assam’s Tinsukia district has been put off. A massive fire occurred in the Oil well due to equipment failure and it turned out into a blowout, which means uncontrolled escape of gas at great speed. Oil India Limited (OIL) and foreign experts managed to tame the fire after 110 days.**

7. Which Indian Movie has won the “Best Screen Play” award at the Venice Film Festival 2020?

- [A] Hellaro  
 [B] Son Rise  
 [C] Seema Raja  
 [D] The Disciple



- ✓ **Marathi language movie ‘The Disciple’ has won the Best Screenplay award at Venice Film Festival. The film is directed by Chaitanya Tamhane. The movie describes the personal and professional experiences of a Hindustani classical singer. It also bagged the prestigious FIPRESCI award. “Nomadland”, directed by Chloe Zhao won the “Golden Lion” award in the film festival.**

8. Which Ministry has notified regulations for upgrading emission & safety features in Indian automobiles?

- [A] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
 [B] Ministry of Finance  
 [C] Ministry of Road Transport & Highways   
 [D] Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ **The Union Ministry of Road Transport has notified regulations for upgrading emission & safety features in Indian automobiles. The Ministry has also issued draft notifications for anti-lock braking systems (ABS), airbags, reverse parking assist and crash standards for Indian vehicles. The Ministry has stated that there are plans to bring Indian automotive industry at par with developed nations in such regulations.**

9. PM of India has inaugurated three petroleum projects recently, located in which state?

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



- ✓ **Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has recently dedicated three petroleum projects at Bihar to the nation. Indian Oil’s Durgapur–Banka section of the Paradip–Haldia–Durgapur LPG pipeline, Indian Oil’s Cooking gas bottling plant at Banka and HPCL’s LPG bottling plant at Harsidh are the three projects at Bihar which have been inaugurated by the Prime Minister.**

10. Which Indian head co–chaired the ASEAN–India Ministerial Meeting that was virtually held recently?

[A] Union Home Minister

[B] Union External Affairs Minister

[C] Prime Minister

[D] External Affairs Secretary



- ✓ **The Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar represented India and co–chaired the ASEAN–India Ministerial Meeting. The meeting was held in a virtual mode. The meeting was participated by Foreign Ministers of the 10 ASEAN Member countries and India. During the meeting, a new ASEAN–India Plan of Action (2021–2025) was adopted.**
-

**1. Where is the first Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Tripura being constructed?**

- [A] Agartala
- [B] Sabroom
- [C] Dharmanagar
- [D] Kailashahar



- ✓ **Foundation stone was laid for construction of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Sabroom of Tripura. It is the first SEZ of the state. The SEZ is being built at a cost of Rs 635 crore and would focus on rubber, bamboo, textile and food processing. Sabroom is located at a distance of 130 km from Agartala, the capital of Tripura.**

**2. Which country has been hit by the storm Sally and has declared emergency in its states?**

- [A] USA
- [B] Australia
- [C] Japan
- [D] Philippines



- ✓ **The Governor of the coastal State of Louisiana, United States has declared a state of emergency on account of the tropical Storm Sally. The storm is expected to strengthen to a hurricane and will weaken back to a tropical storm while moving inland over Louisiana.**

**3. Which institution has estimated that Asia's economy will contract for the first time since 1962?**

- [A] World Bank
- [B] Asian Development Bank
- [C] BRICS Bank
- [D] International Monetary Fund



- ✓ **According to the Asian Development Bank, Asia's economy will contract for the first time since the early 1960s. The bank had earlier projected that the GDP would grow by 0.1 per cent. Now, it is estimated that Asia's GDP would decline by 0.7 per cent in 2020 and would increase to 7.7 per cent in 2021. It also highlighted that the GDP in India would contract by 9% this year.**

4. Prime Minister has inaugurated various projects under the 'Namami Gange' Yojana and the 'AMRUT' scheme in which state?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated various projects under the 'Namami Gange' Yojana and the 'AMRUT' Yojana in Bihar. The four schemes inaugurated include sewerage treatment plants in Patna and water-related projects under the 'AMRUT' scheme. The Prime Minister also laid foundation stones were also laid for water supply projects and River Front Development Scheme under Namami Gange.

5. The new Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020, introduced by the government empowers RBI to restructure which type of institutions?

- [A] Foreign Banks
- [B] Cooperative Banks
- [C] Finance Companies
- [D] Chit funds



- ✓ The new Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020, introduced by the government empowers RBI to restructure Cooperative banks. The bill was tabled on the first day of the Parliament's Monsoon Session by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The bill which came in the form of ordinance was earlier withdrawn. Under this amendment, the Reserve Bank of India can restructure distressed cooperative banks.

6. India celebrates Engineer's Day on September 15 to commemorate the birth anniversary of which eminent personality?

- [A] Sir C V Raman
- [B] Homi J Bhabha
- [C] M Visvesvaraya
- [D] Abdul Kalam



- ✓ National Engineers Day is celebrated on September 15 across the country, to mark the birth anniversary of eminent engineer M Visvesvaraya. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was born on September 15, 1861 in Karnataka.
- ✓ He served as the Chief engineer in Mysore and had contributed to several technical projects in Hyderabad, Mysore, Maharashtra and Odisha, including the block system of irrigation in the Deccan canals.

7. Which country successfully sent nine satellites into orbit from a ship in the Yellow Sea?

- [A] USA
- [B] China
- [C] Israel
- [D] North Korea



- ✓ China has successfully launched a solid-propellant carrier rocket from a ship in the Yellow Sea and successfully sent nine satellites into orbit. This is the country's second such sea-based launch mission. The tenth rocket of the Long March 11 family, the Long March 11-HY2 was launched carrying nine remote-sensing satellites belonging to the Jilin-1 Gaofen 03-1 group.

8. Which Indian state/UT has launched "Backyard Horticulture" under CAPEX scheme?

- [A] Puducherry
- [B] Sikkim
- [C] Jammu & Kashmir
- [D] Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ The Horticulture Department of the Jammu and Kashmir has launched the Flagship programme 'Backyard Horticulture' under CAPEX scheme. The programme aims to promote organic fruit production for home consumption. Under the programme, three fruit plants will be distributed among the farmers at 90% subsidy. It increases self-sustenance and also preserves environment.

9. Which country has been recently elected as a member of Commission on the Status of Women?

- [A] India
- [B] USA
- [C] UK
- [D] Australia



- ✓ India has been elected as a Member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The 54-member Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is a functional body of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Elections were held for 2 seats in Asia Pacific states, where India, Afghanistan and China contested. India won the election to secure a seat in the CSW.

**10. National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill pertains to which ministry?**

- [A] Ministry of Health  
[B] Ministry of Rural Development  
[C] Ministry of Agriculture  
[D] Ministry of AYUSH



- ✓ Two important bills pertaining to Ministry of AYUSH has been passed in Lok Sabha, namely the “National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill 2020” and “National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill 2020”. The said bills have been already passed in the Rajya Sabha in March 2020. The bills seek to replace the existing “Indian Medicine Central Council Act 1970” and “Homoeopathy Central Council Act 1973”.
-

1. Which state government has signed a MoU with SIDBI, to provide market support to its 35 lakh MSMEs?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Gujarat

[C] Uttar Pradesh

[D] Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ **The state government of Gujarat has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Small Industries Development Bank (SIDBI). Under this deal, the state aims to increase self-reliance and provide capacity building and market support to the 35 lakh Micro–small–medium enterprises (MSMEs) of the state. Earlier, Rajasthan had partnered with SIDBI to develop MSME ecosystem.**

2. Which bill, that has been passed in Rajya Sabha, seeks to convert aviation agencies like DGCA, BCAS and AAIB into statutory bodies?

[A] Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020

[B] Aviation Sector (Amendment) Bill, 2020

[C] Civil Aviation (Amendment) Bill, 2020

[D] Air Transport (Amendment) Bill, 2020



- ✓ **The Rajya Sabha has recently passed the Aircraft (Amendment) Bill 2020, which was tabled by Civil aviation minister Hardeep Singh Puri. The bill has already been cleared by the Lok Sabha in March this year. It seeks to convert aviation agencies like the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Bureau of Civil aviation security (BCAS) and Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) into statutory bodies. It also proposes heavy punishment for violations.**

3. What is the theme of 'International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer' (World Ozone Day) 2020?

[A] Ozone for Life

[B] Ozone and COVID-19

[C] Ozone defending Humans

[D] The Hole



- ✓ World Ozone Day or 'International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer' is observed on September 16 all over the world. Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer was adopted and signed by 28 countries, on 22 March 1985. The theme of this year is 'Ozone for Life'.
- ✓ This year also marks the 35<sup>th</sup> year of the Vienna Convention and 35 years of global ozone layer protection.

**4. India held the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) meeting with which country?**

- [A] France
- [B] United States of America
- [C] Germany
- [D] Japan



- ✓ The 10th Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Group Meeting between India and the United States. This meeting was held as a part of the Indo-US Bilateral Defence Cooperation. DTTI Group Meetings are held twice a year, hosted alternatively by India and the United States.
- ✓ During the virtual meet held this year, a Statement of Intent on Defence technology cooperation was also signed.

**5. Which international association unveiled a new agency for Biomedical advanced research and development (BARDA)?**

- [A] ASEAN
- [B] Commonwealth
- [C] European Union
- [D] G20



- ✓ The President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen delivered her first annual State of the European Union address. During the address, she urged the EU members to build a stronger European health union. She also announced the creation of a new agency for biomedical advanced research & development (BARDA). She also proposed to convene a global health summit next year.

**6. Who has presented the first ever AICTE-Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Awards?**

- [A] Prime Minister
- [B] President
- [C] Vice President
- [D] Union Educational Minister



- ✓ Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank presented the first ever AICTE–Visvesvaraya Best Teacher Awards 2020. The award has been conferred to 12 faculty members of AICTE approved institutes on the occasion of Engineers Day. The award has been introduced to identify extraordinary teachers and recognize their best practice in the field of higher technical education.

7. The Lok Sabha has passed 'Salary, Allowances and Pension of MPs' Bill which seeks to reduce the salaries of MPs by what percent?

[A] 10%

[B] 20%

[C] 25%

[D] 30%

- ✓ The Lok Sabha has passed the Salary, Allowances and Pension of MPs (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The Bill would reduce the salaries of Members of Parliament by 30% for a period of 1 year to meet the exigencies arising out of the COVID–19 pandemic. Earlier this year, the government had brought an ordinance in this regard.

8. Keltron, which is set to manufacture ventilators, is the Electronic Development Corporation owned by which state?

[A] Karnataka

[B] Kerala

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Odisha

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A Government of Kerala Undertaking

- ✓ Kerala State Electronic Development Corporation (Keltron), owned by the Government of Kerala, is set to manufacture commercially available Ventilators. The corporation has signed a pact with Society for Bio Medical Technology (SBMT) under the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) for technical expertise in ventilator production.

9. Where is the Kosi Rail Maha Setu (Mega bridge) located?

[A] Uttar Pradesh

[B] Madhya Pradesh

[C] Bihar

[D] Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India is to inaugurate Kosi Rail Mahasetu (Mega bridge) located in Bihar. The Kosi Rail Mahasetu project was sanctioned by Government of India in 2003–04. It is 1.9 km long bridge and has been constructed at a cost of Rs.516 Crore. This bridge is of strategic importance along the India Nepal border.

**10.** The Environment Ministerial Meeting of the G20 countries was held under the Presidency of which country?

- [A] Saudi Arabia
- [B] United States of America
- [C] United Kingdom
- [D] United Arab Emirates



- ✓ The Environment Ministerial Meeting of the G20 countries was conducted under the Presidency of Saudi Arabia. The meeting was held in a virtual mode. India was represented by Union Environment Minister, Prakash Javadekar. The meeting focused on various social and economic issues such as anti–corruption, climate, agriculture, digital economy, education etc.
-

1. Which Public sector Unit of India exited from Sudan, after non-payment of dues from the country?

- [A] ONGC
- [B] SAIL
- [C] NTPC
- [D] NHPC



- ✓ India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has exited from Sudan after the country has refused to pay for oil it lifted from the fields. The overseas investment arm of the state-owned oil company, ONGC Videsh (OVL) along with its Chinese partner CNPC and Malaysia's Petronas have withdrawn from the oil fields. The African country had not paid USD 430.69 million for the Oil it bought from the block since 2011.

2. What is the name of the special week organised across the country, to mark the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- [A] Seva Saptah
- [B] Bharat Saptah
- [C] Atmanirbhar Saptah
- [D] Swachhata Saptah



- ✓ Bharatiya Janata Party has organised a week-long Seva Saptah to celebrate the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under this programme, several welfare activities were organised across the country. Several programmes related to cleanliness, distribution of sanitary pads and wheel chairs and other social service events are organized from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September.

3. What is the target fixed for number of Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendras by 2025?

- [A] 4500
- [B] 6500
- [C] 8500
- [D] 10500



- ✓ As per the recent statement of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, the government has set a target to increase the number of PMBJKs to 10,500 by March 2025.
- ✓ The Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJK) were launched with an aim to provide quality medicines at affordable rates to common citizens. At present, there were just over 6000 Kendras across the country.

4. Which institution won the Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award (USVA) 2020 of AICTE?

- [A] College of Engineering, Pune
- [B] National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli
- [C] College of Engineering, Chennai
- [D] S R Engineering College



- ✓ **Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank virtually conferred Second Utkrisht Sansthan Vishwakarma Award. The USVA Award is being organized by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) since 2019, to motivate AICTE approved institutions.**
- ✓ **This year, the theme of the award is “India Fights Corona”. College of Engineering, Pune won the award in the overall category.**

5. Which state government has decided to give cows to the families of malnourished children?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Bihar



- ✓ **The Uttar Pradesh government has recently announced that it will give cows to the families of malnourished children in the state. This programme has been launched as a part of ‘Poshan Maah’ (Nutrition Month) launched for the month of September across the country. The UP government would be carrying out this exercise under the ‘Chief Minister Destitute Cow Participation Scheme’.**

6. Which Indian–American filmmaker has won the Jeff Skoll Award for Impact Media at Toronto International Film Festival?

- [A] Mira Nair
- [B] Zoya Akhtar
- [C] Anjali Menon
- [D] Sudha Kongara



- ✓ **Indian–American filmmaker Mira Nair has recently received the Jeff Skoll Award for Impact Media at the Toronto International Film Festival. Nair was one of the six recipients of the TIFF Tribute Awards ceremony along with veteran actor Sir Anthony Hopkins, Oscar–winning actress Kate Winslet among others. The presentation of the award to Nair was initiated by Tabu, star of Mira’s television series ‘A Suitable Boy’.**

7. Which Union Ministry has announced guidelines for schemes that include 'Pottery Activity' and 'Beekeeping Activity'?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
- [B] Ministry of MSME
- [C] Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- [D] Ministry of Women & Child Development



- ✓ **Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has recently released guidelines for schemes that include 'Pottery Activity' and 'Beekeeping Activity'. The Ministry had earlier announced expanding the support to Artisans engaged in making Agarbatti. Additional amount of Rs. 50.00 crore each has been provisioned for setting up of clusters in Pottery making and developing Beekeeping honey clusters under the SFURTI scheme of the Ministry.**

8. The SWAMIH fund that has been created recently by the Government pertains to which sector?

- [A] Road Transport
- [B] Space Technology
- [C] Housing
- [D] Agriculture



- ✓ **The Government of India has created a new "Special Window for Completion of Affordable and Mid-Income Housing" Investment Fund (SWAMIH investment fund). This is created to fund stalled housing projects that are net worth positive.**
- ✓ **These projects would include the ones that have been declared as NPA and those pending before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) under the IBC.**

9. Which country has decided to export Hilsa fish to India on a limited scale?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] Myanmar
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Pakistan



- ✓ **The Government of Bangladesh has decided to export Hilsa fish to India on a limited scale. This is in view of the forthcoming Durga Pooja. The country's commerce ministry has permitted nine exporters to export 1500 tonnes of Hilsa to India. Bangladesh imposed a ban on the export of Hilsa in 2012.**

10. What is the rank of India in the World Bank's 2020 Human Capital Index?

[A] 76

[B] 96

[C] 106

[D] 116



- ✓ In the latest edition of the World Bank's annual Human Capital Index, India has been ranked at the 116<sup>th</sup> position. The index ranks countries on the basis of key components of human capital. India's score increased to 0.49 from its earlier score of 0.44 in 2018.
  - ✓ This year, the index includes health and education data for 174 countries, up to March 2020. It also reveals that more than 1 billion children are out of school.
-

1. 'Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCOC)', that was seen in news recently, is associated with which field?

- [A] Intellectual Property Rights
- [B] Information Technology
- [C] Income Tax
- [D] Maritime Affairs



- ✓ **As per the recent statement of the External affairs ministry, India had joined the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCOC). DCOC is an association on Maritime affairs that aims to piracy and armed robbery against ships in the western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. India has joined the grouping as an observer. As of now, a total of 20 countries have signed the conduct.**

2. Which state / UT has announced a new subsidy scheme for e-vehicles?

- [A] Andhra Pradesh
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Rajasthan



- ✓ **The Chief Minister of Gujarat, Vijay Rupani has recently announced subsidy schemes for electric two-wheelers and e-rickshaws. The schemes aim to encourage the use of electric vehicles to prevent air pollution.**
- ✓ **The Chief Minister announced the subsidy as a "Panchsheel gift" of five development schemes in Gujarat. Under the scheme, Students will get a subsidy of Rs 12,000 to buy e-scooters.**

3. Which bacterial disease has hit China affecting over 3000 people?

- [A] Anthrax
- [B] Brucellosis
- [C] Foot & Mouth Disease
- [D] Plague



- ✓ **China has recently reported the spread of Brucellosis, a bacterial infection. It is often caused by close contact with infected animals or animal products. The disease causes fevers, joint pain and headaches. The Health authorities of China have said there has been no evidence of person-to-person transmission of Brucellosis so far in the country. It is said to have spread among people working in a state-owned biopharmaceutical plant in Lanzhou.**

4. Which organization has decided to charge additional "User fee" from passengers?

- [A] NHA  
 [B] AAI  
 [C] Indian Railways   
 [D] Ministry of Civil Aviation



- ✓ **Indian Railways has decided to levy 'User fee' in addition to train fares in some major stations. This has been stated by the Railway board CEO VK Yadav. The additional fee would be used to revamp railway stations and modernize their infrastructure in order to attract investments. It has been decided that only 10 to 15 % of the total stations would be charged with this additional fee.**

5. Which country chaired the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) meeting, that is held on September 24, 2020?

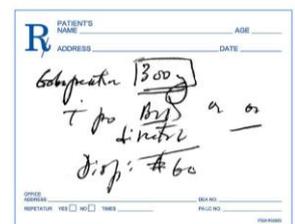
- [A] India  
 [B] Nepal   
 [C] Sri Lanka  
 [D] Bangladesh



- ✓ **The meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The meeting was held in a virtual mode via video-conferencing. The meeting was chaired by Nepalese Foreign Minister Pradeep Kumar Gyawali. The Foreign Ministers of all the member states attended the meeting. Ministers of India and Pakistan also met.**

6. Which organization has launched a free online course for improving the 'Prescription practices' in India?

- [A] AIIMS  
 [B] ICMR   
 [C] JIPMER  
 [D] Ministry of AYUSH



- ✓ **In order to improve the prescription practices among India's medical graduates, a free online course has been launched by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).**
- ✓ **The course named 'Prescribing Skills for Indian Medical Graduates' will be offered by National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai. Medical Council of India (MCI) has made the course compulsory for post-graduates.**

7. Which bill is passed in Rajya Sabha to bring a law that punishes those who attack Health workers or Doctors?

- [A] Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020
- [B] National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2020
- [C] Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020
- [D] Healthcare Service Personnel and Clinical Establishments Bill, 2019



- ✓ **The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 has been recently passed in the Rajya Sabha, to bring a law, that punishes those who attack Health workers or Doctors who are fighting the coronavirus outbreak or a similar situation. It provides for up to five years in jail for the act.**

8. How many indian beaches have been recommended by the union environment ministry for blue flag international eco-label?

- [A] 2
- [B] 4
- [C] 6
- [D] 8



- ✓ **Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said on September 19, 2020 that eight beaches of the country have been recommended for the 'Blue Flag' international eco-label. The minister said this on the eve of 'International Coastal Clean-Up Day' that is being celebrated across 100 countries since 1986. The eight beaches that have been recommended includes – Shivrajpur in Gujarat, Ghoghla in Daman and Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri in Karnataka, Kappad in Kerala, Rushikonda in Andhra Pradesh, Golden in Odisha and Radhanagar in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**

9. When is the International Equal Pay Day observed?

- [A] September 15
- [B] September 16
- [C] September 17
- [D] September 18

**equal  
pay  
day .-**

- ✓ **September 18 is observed as the International Equal Pay Day by the United Nations. It has been celebrated for the first time this year. The day is observed by the United Nations to throw light and end discrimination against women and girls. As per the UN, women are paid less than men in all parts of the world, with the gender pay gap estimated at 23 %.**

10. Which state / UT has launched a new Land document registration system named NGDRS?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Puducherry

[C] Andaman & Nicobar Islands

[D] Jammu & Kashmir



- ✓ **The Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir has launched “National Generic Document Registration System” (NGDRS). This system marks a shift from the existing manual registration system to online registration for sale or purchase of land. The new system would add extra strength to the UT’s e-governance by establishing a transparent and accountable land registration mechanism.**
-

1. Which country has introduced penalties on companies in its “Unreliable entity list”?

[A] India

[B] China

[C] Russia

[D] USA



- ✓ **China has introduced a system of penalizing companies that appears on its “Unreliable entity list”. As per an official statement, the country will impose penalties including restricting trade, investment and visas to any company that pose a threat to China’s sovereignty, national security, development and business interests. The list also contains list of firms that discriminate against or harm Chinese businesses.**

2. On which date, World Alzheimer’s Day is observed?

[A] September 21

[B] September 22

[C] September 23

[D] September 24



- ✓ **Alzheimer's is a progressive disease which leads to memory loss. The condition worsens with time and makes it difficult to perform day to day functions. Since 1994, each year 21st September is observed as the World Alzheimer’s Day. September is the month which is observed each year as the World Alzheimer’s Month in order to enable national and local Alzheimer associations worldwide to extend their reach of awareness programmes over a longer period of time.**

3. Which mountain climber is known as ‘Snow Leopard’?

[A] Jimmy Chin

[B] Nirmal Purja

[C] Malavath Purna

[D] Ang Rita Sherpa



- ✓ **Ang Rita Sherpa was the mountain climber who climbed the Mount Everest 10 times even without the use of supplemental oxygen. He was also known as the ‘Snow Leopard’. He died on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.**

4. Rohtang Tunnel is renamed after which Former Prime Minister of India?

- [A] Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- [B] Man Mohan Singh
- [C] Jawaharlal Nehru
- [D] Indira Gandhi



- ✓ **Rohtang Tunnel is renamed after former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as the Atal Tunnel. It is the highway tunnel built under the Rohtang Pass in the eastern Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas on the Leh–Manali Highway and is the world's longest highway tunnel above 10000 feet.**

5. Krushi Bhavan, which recently won the Global Architecture and Design Award, is located in which State?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Odisha
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Telangana



- ✓ **On September 18, 'Krushi Bhavan', a facility developed for the State's Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment located in Bhubaneswar, Odisha won 10<sup>th</sup> annual AZ Awards 2020 as People's Choice Winner under the category 'social good'. The awards were revealed at its first-ever virtual AZ Awards Gala. The 12,077 sq.m 'Krushi Bhavan' is one among 20 winners and the only winner from India.**

6. Recently, Lok Sabha passed bill to set up National Forensic Sciences University by upgrading which among the following institutions?

- [A] Gujarat Forensic Sciences University
- [B] Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Sciences
- [C] Both [A] and [B]
- [D] Neither [A] nor [B]



- ✓ **The bill to upgrade the University of Forensic Science in Gujarat and establish a National University of Forensic Science was passed in the Lok Sabha. The University of Forensic Science, located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, is being upgraded to a National University.**

- ✓ The bill also proposes to give national status to the Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan Institute of Criminal & Forensic Sciences in Delhi.

7. Recently, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways advised the States and UT's to stamp "International Convention of Road Traffic" on the first page of International Driving Permit (IDP) issued by them. In which year, this convention was concluded?

- [A] 1949
- [B] 1959
- [C] 1969
- [D] 1979



- ✓ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has advised the States and Union Territory administrations to stamp "International Convention of Road Traffic of 19<sup>th</sup> September 1949" on the first page of International Driving Permit (IDP) issued by them. It has been brought to the notice of the Ministry through various public grievances that many countries are not accepting the International Driving Permit issued to Indian citizens, and that officials there ask for the validation of IDP in accordance of International Convention of Road Traffic of 19<sup>th</sup> September 1949.

8. Janak and BSS-793 are two varieties of which crop?

- [A] Bt – Cotton
- [B] Bt – Brinjal
- [C] Bt – Tomato
- [D] Bt – Paddy



- ✓ The Bt-brinjal varieties approved for field testing by the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) recently are "Janak" and "BSS-793". They contain an insect-killer gene Cry1Fa1 (event 142), derived from the soil-dwelling bacterium, Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt).

9. Which country remains in the top spot in the latest FIFA rankings released?

- [A] India
- [B] France
- [C] Belgium
- [D] France



- ✓ The International Football Federation FIFA has released its global FIFA ranks recently. Belgium retained its top spot in the list. Belgium is followed by France and Brazil. The fourth and fifth positions are occupied by England and Uruguay respectively.
- ✓ Indian football team has retained the 108<sup>th</sup> spot in the ranking. The Covid-19 pandemic has remained an obstacle to the staging of international matches and the ranking remains unchanged.

**10.** “Project Shield” which is a unique initiative aimed at combating crimes against women and children and to create safe and violence-free communities for them in which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala

[C] Telangana

[D] Assam

- ✓ The Project Shield is launched in five districts of Tamil Nadu – Tiruchi, Pudukottai, Karur, Perambalur and Ariyalur in order to combat crimes against women and children and to create a safe and violence free communities for them in these five districts along in collaboration with the International Justice Mission and stakeholders working for the welfare of women and children in Tiruchi range.



1. Recently, the Lok Sabha passed the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020. The original Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act was passed in which year?

- [A] 2005
- [B] 2008
- [C] 2010
- [D] 2019



- ✓ The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill 2020 was passed in Lok Sabha on 21st September, which proposes a number of drastic changes to the law governing the receipt of foreign contributions in India. It amended the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 which regulates the acceptance and utilisation of foreign contribution by individuals, associations and companies.
- ✓ The Amendment act make 'Aadhaar' a mandatory identification document for registration of all the office bearers of an NGO or an association seeking foreign donations. Further the act prohibits any sub granting which implies that an institution registered or having prior permission under FCRA cannot make sub-grant/s to any other institution from foreign contributions received in its designated FCRA Bank account even if the second recipient or sub-grantee has registration or prior permission under FCRA.

2. Year 2020 marks which anniversary of United Nations?

- [A] 68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- [B] 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- [C] 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary
- [D] 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



- ✓ To mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN in 2020, a meeting of the UN General Assembly was organized virtually on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020. It released a declaration titled "The Future We want; the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism". Year 2020 marks 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN which was established on October 24, 1945.

3. Recently, Parliament of India passed Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to make incidents of violence on health workers treating the COVID-19 patients a non-bailable offence. In which year, the original Epidemic Diseases Act was passed?

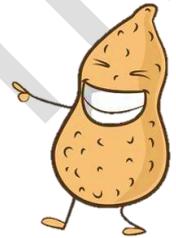
- [A] 1897
- [B] 1898
- [C] 1947
- [D] 1956



- ✓ The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was passed in Lok Sabha on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020. The Bill replaces an ordinance which was issued by the Government of India on 22 April for amending the the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 in order to make the incidents of violence on health workers treating the COVID-19 patients a non-bailable offence, with provision of a penalty and a jail up to 7 years.

4. Recently, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) in Rabi crops for marketing season 2021-22. Which of the following is not a Rabi crop?

- [A] Wheat  
[B] Sunflower  
[C] Mustard  
[D] Groundnut



- ✓ After the Parliament passed two agricultural sector reforms bills, The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all mandated Rabi crops for marketing season 2021-22 to encourage farmers ahead of sowing the operations of winter crops. The biggest crop of Rabi season, Wheat has been hiked by Rs. 50 to Rs. 1975 per quintal along with other five Rabi crops (Lentil (masoor), gram, barley, safflower and mustard/rapeseed).

5. Which organization recently released the Special Report on Sustainable Recovery report?

- [A] United Nations Environment Programme  
[B] International Energy Agency   
[C] World Health Organization  
[D] World Bank



- ✓ International Energy Agency (IEA), in collaboration with NITI Aayog, released a 'Special Report on Sustainable Recovery' on 18 September 2020 which is the report that proposes a number of actions that must be taken in order to revitalise economies and boost employment while making energy systems cleaner, more resilient and a sustainable future.

6. VAJRA Faculty Scheme is a scheme of which of the following Ministries in India?

- [A] Ministry of Education  
[B] Ministry of Science and Technology   
[C] Ministry of Agriculture  
[D] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



- ✓ **The Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India has formulated following schemes to provide attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers who are residing in foreign countries to work in Indian Institutes and Universities which are as follows: –**

1. **Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme** which is a scheme to bring overseas scientists and academicians to India to work in public funded Institutions and Universities.
2. **Ramanujan Fellowship** provides opportunities to Indian researchers of high academic intelligence to work in all area of Scienc, Engineering and Medicine.
3. **Biomedical Research Career Programme (BRCP)** which provides opportunities to researchers to establish their career in Clinical or Public Health in India.

**7. In which state, the Government of India is going to setup the country's first medical device park?**

- [A] Tamil Nadu  
 [B] Kerala   
 [C] Karnataka  
 [D] Maharashtra



- ✓ **Kerala will soon house one of the first medical device parks in the country, focusing on the high-risk medical device sector to provide full range of services for the medical devices industry like R&D support, testing, and evaluation.**
- ✓ **MedSpark, the medical devices park envisaged as a joint initiative of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India, and the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (KSIDC), the industrial and investment promotion agency of the Government of Kerala is going to be established in the Life Science Park, Thonnakkal, Thiruvananthapuram.**

**8. On which date, World Heart Day is celebrated every year?**

- [A] September 26  
 [B] September 27  
 [C] September 28  
 [D] September 29



- ✓ **The 2020 World Heart Day is observed every year on September 29 to raise awareness about the four main factors that affect the human heart — use of tobacco, improper diet, lack of physical exercise and excess consumption of alcohol. The 2020 theme is “Use Heart To Beat Cardiovascular Disease”.**

9. Donimalai, which is known for Iron Ore mining is located in which state of India?

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



- ✓ Donimalai, which is known for Iron Ore mining is located in Bellari district of Karnataka. The rich Iron Ore mine was under state-owned NDMC for 50 years. The lease of NDMC ended in 2018 and since then the production has stopped here. Recently, the Karnataka government has decided to resume mining at Donimalai.

10. Which body is constituted by the Government of India for the implementation of Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB–PMJAY)?

- [A] National Health Authority   
[B] National Health Committee  
[C] India Health and Care Committee  
[D] None of the above



- ✓ Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB–PMJAY) is an initiative by the Government of India for providing health care service to protect poor families against health issues. The government setup an autonomous entity, 'National Health Agency' under the Society Registration Act, 1860 for the formulation of policies, implementation mechanisms, coordination with state governments for the effective implementation of AB–PMJAY.
- ✓ Later, it was changed to 'National Health Authority' as the apex body responsible for implementing Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana.
-

1. Recently, the Lok Sabha passed the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The original Companies (Regulation) Act was passed in which year?

- [A] 2005
- [B] 2008
- [C] 2013
- [D] 2017



- ✓ The Companies Act, 2013 is amended by the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020 which was introduced by the Minister for Corporate Affairs. The Bill decriminalizes company law offences and allows direct foreign listing of companies.
- ✓ The Bill seeks to establish benches of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal. These shall ordinarily sit in New Delhi or such other place as may be notified.

2. The Banking Regulation Act which seeks to regulate the functioning of banks and provides details on various aspects such as licensing, management and operations of banks was passed in the year?

- [A] 1949
- [B] 1953
- [C] 1956
- [D] 1967



- ✓ The Banking Regulation Act was passed in 1949 and was recently amended by the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020. This amendment will allow RBI to initiate a scheme for amalgamation or reconstruction of a bank. It also puts cooperative banks under RBI ambit.

3. What is the name of the hackathon launched by Indian Council of Agricultural Research under National Agricultural Higher Education Project to promote innovation in farm mechanization?

- [A] PRATIGYA
- [B] KRITAGYA
- [C] SAMYUGYA
- [D] None of the above



- ✓ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) launched a hackathon named as 'KRITAGYA' in order to promote potential technology solutions for enhancing farm mechanization with special emphasis on women friendly equipments.

4. The scheme "Building Awareness on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)" is implemented by which Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- [B] Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Law & Justice
- [D] Ministry of Commerce & Industry



- ✓ The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is responsible for implementing the scheme "Building Awareness on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)" in order to encourage registration of IPR by MSMEs to provide financial assistance.

5. In which year, the Second National Commission on Labour was setup?

- [A] 2002
- [B] 2006
- [C] 2010
- [D] 2016



- ✓ The Second National Commission on Labour was set up in 2002 and recommended a separate law for small scale units with less stringent provisions for conditions such as payment of wages, welfare facilities, social security, etc

6. Which Indian State has the highest number of nursing colleges?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Karnataka has the highest number nursing colleges in India. It has 314 total number of colleges among which 13 are government colleges and 301 are private colleges.
- ✓ Health is a subject of State list, therefore opening of new nursing colleges falls under the purview of the respective state government.

### 7. Shinkun La Tunnel connects which two Indian states / union territories?

- [A] Ladakh & Jammu – Kashmir  
 [B] Ladakh & Himachal Pradesh   
 [C] Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand  
 [D] Sikkim & Uttarakhand



- ✓ **The National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) under the Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways has speeded up the detailed project report (DPR) work on the World's Longest High–Altitude Shinkun La Tunnel (13.5 km long) along with its approach roads in UT of Ladakh and Lahaul–Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh.**

### 8. Recently, the Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs approved interim extension to Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan. In which year, this scheme was launched?

- [A] 2010  
 [B] 2013   
 [C] 2015  
 [D] 2017



- ✓ **The Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs approved the second phase of the centrally sponsored Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for a period of three years i.e. 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2020. The scheme was launched in 2013.**

### 9. Recently, The Government of India integrated which portal with the Geographic Information System (GIS) system of six states to provide an update on land availability?

- [A] Industrial Information System   
 [B] Agricultural Information System  
 [C] Land & Revenue Information System  
 [D] All of the above



- ✓ **The Government of India has integrated the Industrial Information System (IIS) portal with the Geographic Information System (GIS) of six states to provide information and updates on land availability and plot level information to investors anywhere in the world on real time basis and help them to make informed decisions. Industrial Information System (IIS) portal is a GIS–enabled database of industrial areas/clusters across the country.**

10. Recently, the Parliament passed Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020. Which among the following languages are included in the list of official languages in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir?

- [A] Kashmiri  
[B] Dogri  
[C] Hindi  
[D] All of the above

कॅम्प  
كاشمير  
काँशुर

- ✓ The Parliament of India passes the Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020 which take into account the inclusion of Kashmiri, Dogri and Hindi in the list of official languages in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, in addition to the existing Urdu and English.
-