

1. As per the IUCN's latest report on World Heritage, which region of India is of great concern?

- [A] Sundarbans
- [B] Indo-Gangetic Plain
- [C] Western Ghats ☒
- [D] Northeastern Mountains



- ✓ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) released the IUCN World Heritage Outlook 3. It uses the data of the previous reports from 2014 and 2017 to track whether the conservation efforts of the world's 252 natural world heritage sites are on track. The report revealed that the conservation outlook of mountain chain of the Western Ghats is of great concern.

2. Which organisation developed the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)?

- [A] BHEL
- [B] DRDO ☒
- [C] OFB
- [D] ISRO



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation has developed the Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS). The indigenously made Howitzer, which was developed in partnership with a private sector industry, is undergoing trials in Maharashtra. As per DRDO, over 200 of these guns can be delivered to the Army within 18–24 months of the order.

3. Gaofen-14 earth observation satellite has been sent to space by China using which launch vehicle?

- [A] PSLV C51
- [B] GSLV Mark III
- [C] Long March 3B ☒
- [D] Fat Boy 1A



- ✓ The Chinese space agency has recently launched an optical stereo mapping Earth Observation satellite named Gaofen-14. The satellite was placed in its designated orbit using Long March-3B carrier rocket. The satellite can capture high resolution images of ground objects across the globe.

4. Which state is set to organise first ever migratory bird festival this year?

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



- ✓ Bihar state is set to organise the first ever migratory bird festival this year. This three-day long festival is aimed to enhance the awareness about migratory birds among common public and to check cases of poaching in the region. The festival would be jointly organised by Bhagalpur forest division, Bombay Natural History Society and Mandar Nature Club of Bihar.

5. Mahaparinirvana Diwas is observed to mourn the death of which national leader?

- [A] Mahatma Gandhi
- [B] B R Ambedkar ☒
- [C] Jawaharlal Nehru
- [D] Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



- ✓ Every year 6th December is observed as Mahaparinirvana Diwas, which marks the death anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar. He died in this date in the year 1956 and this year marks the 64th death anniversary. Parinirvana is one of the important principles of Buddhism which means release or freedom after death.

6. Which country is selected as the host of the World Economic Forum 2021 annual meeting?

- [A] Malaysia
- [B] Singapore ☒
- [C] India
- [D] United Arab Emirates



- ✓ The World Economic Forum has announced that it will hold its 2021 annual meeting in Singapore instead of its traditional venue of Davos, Switzerland. As there is a surge in coronavirus infections observed in the country of Switzerland, the venue has been shifted. In the year 2022, the annual meeting will return to Davos-Klosters, Switzerland.

7. Nepal has announced the revised height of which famous peak, as 8848.86 metres?

[A] Mount Everest ☒

[B] Mount Kanchenjunga

[C] Mount Makalu

[D] Mount K2



- ✓ Nepal has recalculated the height of the world's highest peak Mount Everest. The country along with China announced the revised height of the peak as 8,848.86 metres. This height is almost 86 centimetres higher than the previous measurement done by the Survey of India in 1954. The new height is also four metres higher than the China's recent measurement. The Nepal–China border passes through the summit.

8. What would be the GDP growth of India in the current fiscal year FY21, as per the Fitch ratings in December 2020?

[A] –4.4

[B] –6.4

[C] –9.4 ☒

[D] –11.4

FitchRatings

- ✓ In its Global Economic Outlook, the Fitch ratings has raised India's GDP forecast to –9.4 per cent in the current fiscal year. Earlier, Fitch had estimated that Indian economy would contract by 10.5 per cent in current fiscal 2020–21. Now, the firm says that the outlook is brighter due to an expected rollout of vaccines in 2021.

9. What is the headquarters of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network?

[A] New York ☒

[B] Geneva

[C] Paris

[D] Beijing



- ✓ The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) works under the UN to mobilise the global efforts in SDGs. It is headquartered in New York. UN SDSN and the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) published the Europe Sustainable Development Report 2020. It reports the progress of the European Union, its member states, and other European countries towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

10. Who is the first Indian Army Chief to visit the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia?

[A] M M Naravane ☒

[B] Bipin Rawat

[C] V K Singh

[D] Ajit Doval



- ✓ **India's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Manoj Mukund Naravane has undertaken a "historic" six-day visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia. This is first such visit by the Indian Army Chief to the two Gulf countries. This visit aims to strengthen the strategic and defence cooperation between the two countries. Saudi Arabia is India's fourth-largest trading partner.**
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