

1. Which state cabinet has approved Dharma Swatantrya (Religious Freedom) Bill 2020?

[A] Andhra Pradesh

[B] Madhya Pradesh ☒

[C] Odisha

[D] Jharkhand



- ✓ **Madhya Pradesh cabinet has recently approved the Dharma Swatantrya (Religious Freedom) Bill 2020. This ordinance outlaws the marriages which are done with an aim of religious conversions. Under the new Bill, forcing religious conversion on someone will attract 1–5 years of imprisonment and a minimum Rs 25,000 fine. Earlier, Uttar Pradesh cabinet passed a similar ordinance.**

2. Which state has been permitted by the Finance Ministry to borrow Rs 2731 after it achieved 'Ease of doing business reform'?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Kerala

[C] Rajasthan ☒

[D] Odisha



- ✓ **The Finance Ministry has recently permitted Rajasthan to borrow an additional Rs 2,731 crore after the state achieved ease of doing business reforms. Rajasthan has now joined the five other states namely, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana, which were granted additional borrowing permission, through open market borrowings.**

3. Which Municipal Corporation has been selected as the best performing civic body in the country?

[A] Chennai

[B] Visakhapatnam ☒

[C] Cochin

[D] Mysuru



- ✓ **Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) has been selected as the best performing civic body in the country. Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs announced this under the Annual awards for excellence, for its contribution of PMAY–Urban scheme in 2019. Andhra Pradesh has secured the third position in the best performing State category.**

4. Which Indian organisation is developing 'Green propulsion' technology, that was seen in the news recently?

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



- ✓ **Indian Space Research Organisation Chairman K Sivan announced that the organisation was developing 'Green propulsion' for its human space flight mission, 'Gaganyaan'. He also said that all the propulsion stages may adopt green propulsion in the future. ISRO has developed space grade lithium-ion batteries also used for mass adoption of electric vehicles.**

5. Thoubal Multipurpose Project has been inaugurated in which Indian state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Manipur ☒
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Bihar



- ✓ **The Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recently inaugurated Thoubal Multipurpose Project (Thoubal Dam) in Imphal, Manipur through virtual mode. The project was originally launched in the year 2014. The 462-crore project aims to irrigate 35,104 hectares in the state. The Minister also laid foundation stone for projects including an Integrated Command and Control Center.**

6. Which state announced that it will include the History of Sikh gurus in school curriculum?

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



- ✓ **The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that the history of Sikh gurus will be included in the school curriculum. He also declared that 'Sahibzada Diwas', which marks the martyrdom of four sons of 10th Sikh Guru Gobind Singh and his mother, will be celebrated in all schools.**

7. As per the notification of MoRTH, the validity of expiring Motor Vehicle Documents is extended till which date?

[A] January 31, 2021

[B] March 31, 2021 ☒

[C] June 30, 2021

[D] August 31, 2021



- ✓ As per the Road Transport and Highways Ministry, the validity of expiring driving licences (DL) and motor vehicle documents has been extended till 31 March, 2021. This move has been taken in view of the COVID-19 crisis. The documents including Driving Licenses, which expired on or after 1 February, but could not be renewed due to the pandemic, will remain valid till the mentioned date. This is the fourth extension by the Centre.

8. An archaeological site named Pompeii, which was making news recently, is located in which country?

[A] France

[B] Italy ☒

[C] Germany

[D] Greece



- ✓ Archaeologists have discovered a 2000-year-old food and drinks shop in the site of Pompeii, the site which was buried in a volcanic eruption in 79 AD. They have also found traces of food in some of the deep terra cotta jars containing hot food in the shop known as termopolium (Latin for hot drinks counter). It was discovered in the archaeological park's Regio V site, near the coast of Bay of Naples, in Italy.

9. Which is the 38th district of Tamil Nadu?

[A] Tenkasi

[B] Chengalpattu

[C] Mayiladuthurai ☒

[D] Kallakurichi



- ✓ Mayiladuthurai district became the 38th district of Tamil Nadu on December 28. Mayiladuthurai has been formed as a new district by dividing it from Nagappattinam district and incorporating

four revenue circles from the Mayiladuthurai revenue division. Agriculture and Fishing are the main occupations of Mayiladuthurai district. The total area of the district is 1172 SqKms.

- ✓ Following the formation of Mayiladuthurai district, Sirkazhi Taluk in Mayiladuthurai district has been declared as Sirkazhi division. Mayiladuthurai district has 4 Taluks namely Mayiladuthurai, Sirkazhi, Kuthalam and Tharangambadi; Mayiladuthurai, Sirkazhi and Poompuhar are the constituencies present in Mayiladuthurai; 5 Panchayat Unions; 2 Municipalities namely Sirkazhi and Mayiladuthurai are also located in this district.

10. What is the name of the application launched by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, for ocean data management?

[A] Digital Ocean ☒

[B] Ocean Digital

[C] Ocean Data

[D] Data Ocean



- ✓ Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched a web-based application for ocean data management. Named 'Digital Ocean', the platform aims to share information on marine data and forecast services. The platform provides data for several sectors like research institutions, academic community, maritime industry and the public.
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