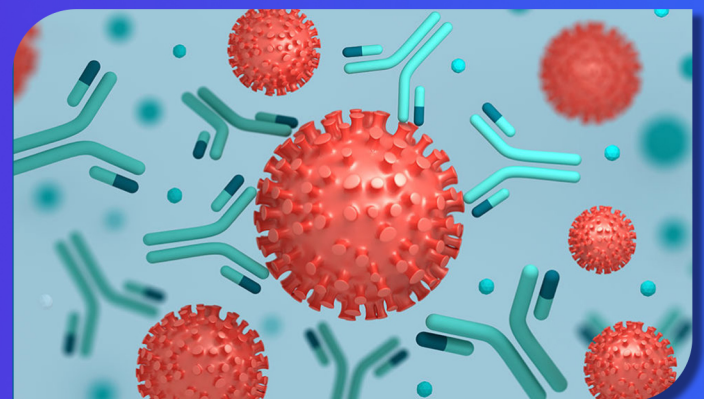
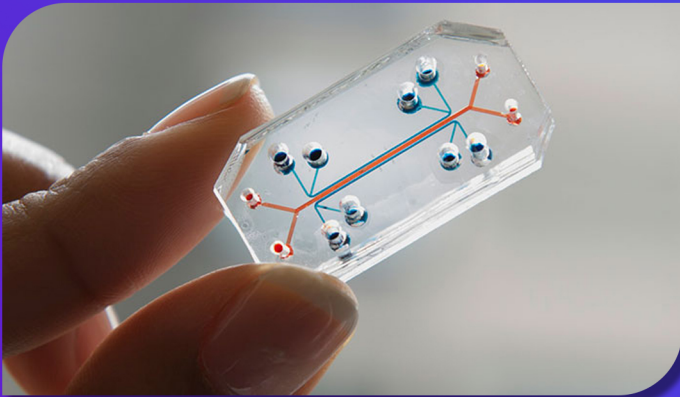


APRIL 2021

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# CURRENT AFFAIRS



1. 'Holi Mohalla' is a festival celebrated in which Indian state / UT?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Punjab ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Assam



- ✓ 'Holi Mohalla' is a festival celebrated annually in Punjab's Anandpur Sahib by the people from the Sikh community. The festival is usually celebrated on the second day of lunar month of Chet, which will follow the day of Holi festival.
- ✓ This year, the 'Holi Mohalla' festival fell on March 10. It is celebrated to symbolise martial bravery and fighting prowess with music.

2. What is the theme of the 'World Development Report' 2021?

- A) Data for better lives ☒
- B) Data for better economy
- C) Data for better administration
- D) Data for better world



- ✓ World Development Report 2021 has been released with the theme of 'Data for Better Lives'. This is the first World Development Report which focused solely on the role of data for development.
- ✓ As the COVID pandemic made the global data inequalities even greater, the report speaks on how do we tap the full value of data, to ensure equitable access for poor people.

3. Which country has assumed the chairship of BRICS for the year 2021?

- A) China
- B) India ☒
- C) Russia
- D) South Africa



- ✓ For the year 2021, the chairmanship of BRICS is vested with India. India has commenced its chairship with the inauguration of 3-day-long Sherpas' meeting. The meeting was chaired by Secretary (CPV & OIA) of Ministry of External Affairs. During the meet, India introduced to the member countries its themes and priorities for the year 2021.

4. 'Khelo India Scheme' has been extended till which financial year?

- A) 2022-23
- B) 2023-24
- C) 2024-25
- D) 2025-26 ☒



- ✓ The Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju announced in Rajya Sabha that the 'Khelo India Scheme' has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26. An amount of Rs 8750 crore has been estimated for implemetation of the new Khelo India Scheme. This data has also been provided to the Ministry of Finance by the Sports Ministry. Rs 657.71 crore has been allocated in the Budget for 2021-22 under the Khelo India Scheme.

5. As per the recent SBI report, India's second COVID wave may last up to how many days?

- A) 50
- B) 100 ☒
- C) 200
- D) 300

100

- ✓ Report from State Bank of India's research team underlined that duration of the second covid-19 wave in India might last up to 100 days. The report was authored by Chief Economic Adviser of Bank, Soumya Kanti Ghosh.
- ✓ The report also said that, localised lockdowns or restrictions have not resulted in controlling spread of infection. It is visible in case of states like Maharashtra and Punjab. So, it suggests that, Lockdown is ineffective and vaccination is the only cure.

6. As per a recent study, the heat waves occurring in India is due to the warming up of which region?

- A) Arctic Region ☒
- B) Antarctic Region
- C) Pacific Ocean
- D) Indian Ocean



- ✓ A recent study with researchers from India and Brazil published a research article entitled "Large-scale connection to Deadly Indian Heatwaves." As per the study, the heat waves during the summer season of April and May could be due to the significant warming up of the Arctic region. They state that the Indian heat waves occur due to a mechanism called "Quasi-Resonant Amplification (QRA)".

7. Which Indian body announced a new British Council developed assessment framework based on the National Education Policy 2020?

- A) AICTE
- B) UGC
- C) CBSE ☒
- D) NAAC



- ✓ The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) announced a competency-based assessment framework for classes 6-10 based on the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ✓ The assessment aims to improve the overall learning outcomes of students mainly covering three subjects namely English (reading), Science, and Maths. British Council along with AlphaPlus as the UK knowledge partner, designed and developed this framework.

8. Which country's parliament has passed a bill to enable its incumbent President to run for two more terms from 2024?

- A) China
- B) Russia ☒
- C) United States
- D) Canada



- ✓ Russia's lower house of parliament the State Duma has recently approved a bill, to enable its incumbent President Vladimir Putin to run for two more terms starting from 2024. The draft law on elections was approved following the constitutional amendments adopted in a nationwide referendum in July 2020. The bill grants Putin the possibility of holding the office for two more terms until 2036.

9. Which is the only country other than India to pass the miscarriages bereavement leave law?

- A) Switzerland
- B) Norway
- C) New Zealand ☒
- D) Germany



- ✓ The parliament of the New Zealand has recently passed legislation giving mothers and their partners the right to paid leave following a miscarriage or still birth. It has become only the second country in the world to pass the law, after India. One in four New Zealand women experienced a miscarriage. This law will give employees three days leave when a pregnancy ends with a stillbirth.
- 

10. Which country is set to gift nearly 2 lakh doses of COVID-19 vaccines to the UN Peace keepers?

- A) China
- B) Russia
- C) India ☒
- D) UK



- ✓ India has announced 200,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines as a gift to the UN peacekeepers. It will be sent on March 27 and will be distributed to the peacekeeping missions. With this, it will be possible to administer the double doses of COVID-19 vaccines to all 85,782 UN peacekeepers serving in 12 peacekeeping operations across the world.
-



1. Which institution releases the annual flagship report "World Economic Outlook"?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank
- C) International Monetary Fund ☒
- D) United Nations Development Program



- ✓ "World Economic Outlook" is the annual flagship report released by the International Monetary Fund. This year, the report is to be released on April 6. The International Monetary Fund has announced that India's economy is on the path of gradual recovery.

2. Who is the Principal Scientific Advisor of India, whose term has been extended?

- A) B P Kanungo
- B) K Vijay Raghavan ☒
- C) N S Viswanathan
- D) R Gandhi



- ✓ K Vijay Raghavan has been given a one-year extension as the principal scientific advisor to the Government of India. As per the order issued by the Personnel Ministry, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the extension as the PSA for a period of one year. He provides objective advice to the Prime minister and Cabinet on matters related to science, technology and innovation.

3. What is 'Ever Given', that was making news recently?

- A) COVID Vaccine
- B) Cargo Ship ☒
- C) Cruise missile
- D) UN resolution



- ✓ A skyscraper-sized cargo ship MV Ever Given recently stuck in the Suez Canal near Suez, Egypt. As it stuck across the canal, over 150 other vessels which were to pass the waterway were waiting for the obstruction to clear. Ever Given vehicle was carrying cargo between Asia and Europe. The Suez Canal is a narrow, man-made canal that divides continental Africa from the Sinai Peninsula.

4. Which Indian legendary singer won the Maharashtra Bhushan award, the state's highest honour?

- A) S P Balasubramaniam
- B) Asha Bosle ☒
- C) Lata Mangeshkar
- D) Mukesh Chand



- ✓ The Maharashtra government announced that legendary singer Asha Bhosle has been selected for the Maharashtra Bhushan award for the year 2020, the State government's highest honour. A committee chaired by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray made the decision. The award was instituted in 1996 by the State government to recognise outstanding achievements of eminent persons from the state.

5. Who has been selected as the EY Entrepreneur for 2020?

- A) Harsh Mariwala ☒
- B) Prathap Chandra Reddy
- C) Byju Raveendran
- D) Peyush Bansal



- ✓ Chairman of the fast-moving consumer goods firm Marico, Mr Harsh Mariwala has been selected as the EY Entrepreneur for 2020. Prathap

Chandra Reddy, founder and executive chairman of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. was given the lifetime achievement award. Byju Raveendran was awarded for business transformation, while Peyush Bansal of Lenskart was awarded in the start-up category.

6. 'DIKSHA' web portal is associated with which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Education ☒
- B) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- C) Ministry of Skill Development
- D) Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched 100+ comic books created by teachers and students of CBSE schools. The comics, which are aligned with topics of NCERT textbooks, can be accessed online on DIKSHA web portal or via the DIKSHA app on any android Smartphone. They can also be accessed through a new WhatsApp powered Chatbot. DIKSHA is an online learning portal.

7. National Science Day is being observed in India, to commemorate the discovery of which scientist?

- A) Sir C V Raman ☒
- B) Sir Isaac Newton
- C) Alexander Graham Bell
- D) Louis Pasteur



- ✓ National Science Day is being observed in India every year on 28<sup>th</sup> of February to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect'. On the same day, CV Raman announced the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' and he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.
- ✓ The theme for National Science Day 2021 is 'Future of Science and Technology and Innovation: Impact on Education Skills and Work.'

8. What is the name of India's first earth observation satellite which is to be placed in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit?

- A) RISAT 11
- B) GISAT 1 ☒
- C) GSAT 7
- D) INSAT 11



- ✓ GISAT-1 is India's first agile earth observation satellite that will be placed in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit. The Indian Space Research Organisation has revised the launch schedule of the geo imaging satellite GISAT-1 on board GSLV-F10 launch vehicle. The 2,268 kg satellite is expected to be launched on April 18, this year.

9. Which Union Ministry has chalked out a four-point strategy to handle the blockage at Suez Canal?

- A) Ministry of Petroleum
- B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
- C) Ministry of Heavy Industries
- D) Ministry of External Affairs



- ✓ The Union Commerce Ministry laid down a four-point strategy to handle the situation of total blockage at the Suez Canal. It organised a meeting with the Ministry of ports, shipping and waterways and other stake holders. As per the government's assessment, total backlog at the waterway will likely be cleared in a week's time.

10. 'Shaheen 1-A' is the nuclear capable ballistic missile, recently launched by which country?

- A) Pakistan ☒
- B) Afghanistan
- C) UAE
- D) Israel



- ✓ Pakistan has successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile named Shaheen-1A. The missile has a range of 900 kilometres with sophisticated and advanced guidance system. In February, Pakistan successfully tests-fired a nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile which can strike targets up to 290 km.
-

1. Which country has proposed retaliatory trade action against India for imposing Equalisation levy on e-commerce companies?

- A) Russia
- B) USA ☒
- C) China
- D) UK



- ✓ The United States Trade Representative (USTR) has proposed retaliatory trade actions against India and some other countries for imposing Equalisation levy on e-commerce companies.
- ✓ In June 2020, the US initiated an investigation under Section 301 of the US Trade Act, 1974 against the taxation on the digital services or the Equalisation levy by India, Italy, Turkey, UK, Spain and Austria.

2. The International Theatre Institute (ITI), the world's largest performing arts organization, is headquartered in which city?

- A) Rome
- B) Paris ☒
- C) Geneva
- D) Moscow



- ✓ The International Theatre Institute (ITI) is the world's largest performing arts organization. It was founded in 1948 by theatre and dance experts and the UNESCO. World Theatre Day is celebrated annually on March 27<sup>th</sup> by the centres of ITI and the theatre community across the world.
- ✓ On the same date in 1962, the "Theatre of Nations" season was inaugurated in Paris.

3. As per the recent report of the IUCN, what is the status of the smaller, lighter African forest elephant?

- A) Near Threatened
- B) Vulnerable
- C) Endangered
- D) Critically Endangered ☒



- ✓ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) released its new assessment recently. It highlighted the pressures faced by the two species of elephants in Africa due to poaching for ivory and human encroachment.
- ✓ It announced that the Savanna elephant was "endangered" and the much smaller, lighter forest elephant was "critically endangered".

4. HEAL-COVID, which was making news recently, is a nation-wide trial to be implemented in which country?

- A) USA
- B) UK ☒
- C) Russia
- D) Taiwan



- ✓ The United Kingdom is set to launch HEAL-COVID (Helping to Alleviate the Longer-term consequences of COVID-19), a national drug trial. The trials would test the selection of safe, existing drugs already available in the market on patients across the country, in order to find effective treatments. The trial aims to find drugs to reduce deaths and hospital readmissions among patients.

5. Who was Kamalesh Chandra Chakrabarty, whose name is in news recently?

- A) Former CMD of SBI
- B) Former Deputy Governor of RBI ☒
- C) Former Chief Vigilance Commissioner
- D) Former Chief Justice of Supreme Court



- ✓ Reserve Bank of India's former Deputy Governor Kamalesh Chandra Chakrabarty passed away recently after suffering a heart attack. He was 68 years old.
- ✓ He also served as the Chairman and Managing Director of Punjab National Bank (2007-2009) and Indian Bank (2005-2007).

6. Which armed force has decided to employ retired combat dogs as 'therapy dogs'?

- A) Indian Army
- B) Indian Navy
- C) Indo-Tibetan Border Police ☒
- D) Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ The Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has decided to utilise the services of retired combat canines / dogs as 'therapy dogs'. They would help early recovery of personnel undergoing medical treatment. Also, they are to be used in treatment of the soldier's specially abled children. This is the first time in India, that retired canine elements are being used to serve the soldiers.

7. Where is the Indo-South Korean friendship park constructed?

- A) Seoul
- B) Chennai
- C) Beijing
- D) New Delhi ☒



- ✓ The Indo-South Korean friendship park has been constructed in New Delhi - Cantonment. It has been built to commemorate the contribution of Indian peacekeeping force during the Korean war of 1950-53. The park was jointly inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Minister of National Defence of South Korea Suh Wook.

8. The Indian Prime Minister launched the 'Swarna Jayanti' scholarships for the youth of which country?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Bangladesh ☒
- C) Nepal
- D) Myanmar



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi is on a 2-day official visit to Bangladesh as a part of National Day celebrations in Bangladesh. He has announced the 'Swarna Jayanti' scholarships for the youth of Bangladesh to mark half a century long ties between the two countries. PM has invited 50 entrepreneurs of Bangladesh to visit India and to join India's start-up and innovation ecosystem.

9. As per the World Development Report, what is the percentage of low-income countries had an open-data policy?

- A) 5%
- B) 11% ☒
- C) 22%
- D) 33%

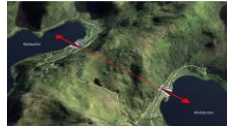
11%

- ✓ As per the recent World Development Report by the World Bank, most countries have not implemented the open-data policy, particularly the developing economies. Only 11% low-income countries consistently made their data available with an open license.
- ✓ The percentage in lower-middle-income countries was 19%; for upper-middle-income countries is 22% and high-income countries at 44 %.

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10. The world's first ship tunnel is being constructed in which country?

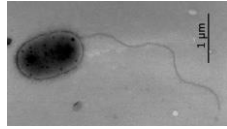
- A) Poland
- B) Norway ☒
- C) France
- D) Zimbabwe



- ✓ Norway has recently got the approval to construct what's being claimed as the world's first ship tunnel, to help vessels navigate the Stadhavet Sea. It is to be constructed as a mile-long 118-feet-wide tunnel, that will burrow through the Stadhavet peninsula in north-west Norway.
- ✓ This project will cost around 2.8 billion Norwegian kroner (USD 330 million) and will take between three to four years.

1. New bacteria found in the 'International Space Station' has been named after which Indian scientist?

- A) Jagdish Chandra Bose  
B) APJ Abdul Kalam  
C) Ajmal Khan ☒  
D) CV Raman



- ✓ In a recent research performed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), under a contract with NASA and University of Southern California, four strains of bacteria have been discovered at the ISS. The team of Scientists also included a team from India's University of Hyderabad. One of the strains - *Methylobacterium ajmalii* is named after Ajmal Khan, a renowned Indian scientist specialised in biodiversity.

2. Which country is to play host to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup 2022?

- A) UK  
B) India ☒  
C) Sri Lanka  
D) Bangladesh



- ✓ India has bagged the hosting rights of the Asian Football Confederation 2022 Women's Asian Cup for the first time since 1979. All India Football Federation President Praful Patel announced that the tournament will feature 12 teams, as compared to the previous slot of eight teams.
- ✓ India will qualify to participate in the tournament directly as hosts. This event will also serve as the qualification tournament for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

3. What is the new milestone reached by the Jal Jeevan Mission scheme across the country, as on March 31, 2021?

- A) 1 Crore  
B) 2 Crore  
C) 4 Crore ☒  
D) 5 Crore



- ✓ Jal Jeevan Mission was announced on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2019, with the aim to provide tap water supply to every rural home by 2024. The scheme has recently reached a new milestone of providing over 4 Crore rural households with tap water supply. Goa has become the first State in the country to provide 100 per cent tap water supply.

4. 'Earth Hour Day' is annually observed on the last Saturday of which month?

- A) February  
B) March ☒  
C) December  
D) January



- ✓ Earth Hour, is being held annually on the last Saturday of March across the world. This year, the Earth Hour Day was observed on March 27. The Earth hour began as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney by WWF and partners in 2007.
- ✓ The event calls for actions to raise awareness about the importance of nature and the role people can play in global efforts for nature.

5. 'Mitali Express', a new passenger train which was inaugurated recently, connects Dhaka with which Indian city?

- A) New Jalpaiguri ☒  
B) Varanasi  
C) Jaipur  
D) Tiruchirappalli



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina has recently inaugurated the new passenger train named 'Mithali Express'. It connects Dhaka Cantonment and New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal via Chilahati, a border railway station in Bangladesh. This is the third passenger train after Maitree Express (Dhaka-Kolkata) and Bandhan Express (Khulna-Kolkata).

6. Which state has the largest number of old vehicles in India, as per the recent Road Ministry Data?

- A) Telangana  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Karnataka ☒  
D) Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ As per the data released by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Karnataka has the highest number of vehicles which are older than 15 years are plying on roads. The number of such vehicles pan India is more than four crore vehicles and Karnataka has topped the list with 70 lakh vehicles.

7. As per the annual report of the Central Information Commission, which Union ministry made the highest rejections of requests?

- A) Agricultural Ministry  
B) Defence Ministry  
C) Home Ministry ☒  
D) External Affairs Ministry



- ✓ According to the Central Information Commission's annual report, the Centre has only rejected 4.3% of all Right to Information (RTI) requests in 2019-20. Almost 40% of these rejections did not include any valid reason and did not come under the permissible exemption clauses in the RTI Act.
- ✓ 90% of rejections were done by the Prime Minister's Office. Home Ministry had the highest rate of rejections, at 20% of all RTIs received.

8. 'Shantir Ogroshena -2021' is a joint Military exercise between India and which country?

- A) Sri Lanka  
B) Bangladesh ☒  
C) Nepal  
D) Myanmar



- ✓ India is set to participate in a joint Military Exercise with Bangladesh. The exercise is named "Shantir Ogroshena -2021" and would commence in Bangladesh from 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- ✓ This is a nine-day exercise between the two armies, and the start date of the exercise marks to commemorate the birth centenary of Bangladesh Father of the Nation - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

9. 'VAJRA PRAHAR 2021' is a military exercise held between the special forces of India and which other country?

- A) United States of America ☒  
B) China  
C) Russia  
D) France



- ✓ Special forces of India carried out a joint military exercise with the US Special forces at Bakloh in Himachal Pradesh.



- ✓ The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the joint special forces exercise 'Vajra Prahar 2021' was held with an aim to share the best practices and experiences in joint mission planning and operational tactics. In February 2021, the Armies of both the countries carried out 'Exercise Yudh Abhyas'.

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10. "Anandam: The Center for Happiness" has been inaugurated at which institution?

- A) IIT Madras
- B) IISc, Bengaluru
- C) IIM Jammu ☒
- D) IIM Ahmedabad



- ✓ Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal recently inaugurated "Anandam: The Center for Happiness" at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu virtually. The Center aims to help people overcome mental stress and help spread positivity.
- ✓ The prime objectives will be divided into five broad categories: Counselling, Holistic wellness, Elective courses on Happiness Development, Research and Leadership & Faculty Development.

1. Which word is selected as the Oxford Hindi word of 2020?

- A) Aatmanirbharta ☒
- B) Nari Shakti
- C) Aadhaar
- D) Samvidhaan



- ✓ The Oxford group has selected 'Aatmanirbharta' as the Oxford Hindi word of 2020. In Hindi language, it means self-reliance. Previous Hindi words of the year selected by Oxford are 'Aadhar' (2017), 'Nari Shakti' (2018) and 'Samvidhaan' (2019).
- ✓ Following the prime minister's address, there was a significant increase in the usage of 'aatmanirbharta' following the Prime minister's address.

2. Which institution released the "Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2021" and estimated India's growth at 7% in 2021-22?

- A) IMF
- B) UNESCAP ☒
- C) World Bank
- D) ADB



- ✓ The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) released a report titled Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2021. As per the report, India is estimated to record an economic growth of 7% in 2021-22.

3. P. K. Mishra, Anil Ghanwat and Ashok Gulati are the members of the Supreme Court-appointed committee to study which issue?

- A) Disinvestment
- B) Agricultural Laws ☒
- C) Occupational Health
- D) Anti-conversion Laws



- ✓ The Supreme Court appointed a four-member committee to study the three new controversial agricultural laws in January 2021.
- ✓ It had temporarily suspended the implementation of the three farm laws until further notice. The members include P. K. Mishra, Anil Ghanwat, Ashok Gulati and Bhupinder Singh Mann. The panel has submitted its report to the Supreme Court recently.

4. What is the new inflation target band fixed for the next five years (2021-26)?

- A) 2.0 to 6.0 percent ☒
- B) 1.5 to 5.5 percent
- C) 2.5 to 6.5 percent
- D) 3.0 to 7.0 percent



- ✓ The Economic Affairs Secretary announced that the inflation target for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026 under the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934 has been kept at 4 percent with a margin of 2 percent on either side. This is the same target mandated to the RBI by the Government in the previous five years (2016-21).
- ✓ RBI was to maintain annual inflation at 4% until March 31, 2021 with an upper tolerance of 6% and a lower tolerance of 2%.

5. Which institution in its report "South Asia Vaccinates", estimates India's GDP growth in FY22 would be in the range from 7.5% to 12.5%?

- A) IMF
- B) S & P
- C) World Bank ☒
- D) ADB



- ✓ World Bank has recently released a report titled "South Asia Vaccinates". It highlighted that private consumption and public investment will make the Indian economy grow by 10.1% in 2021-22 (FY22). It also estimated that on account of uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, it said India's economic growth in FY22 will be in the range from 7.5% to 12.5%. It also forecasts that the Indian economy to contract by 8.5% in FY21.

6. 'AIM-PRIME' programme launched by the NITI Aayog, is associated with which objective?

- A) Promote Innovation among students
- B) Promote Science-based start-ups ☒
- C) Promote AI & ML in Schools
- D) Support student entrepreneurs



- ✓ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog has launched AIM-PRIME (Program for Researchers on Innovations, Market-Readiness & Entrepreneurship). It aims to promote and support science-based start-ups & ventures across India. AIM has partnered with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to launch this program.
- ✓ It will be implemented by Venture Center - a non-profit technology business incubator.

7. The Lakhta Centre that was recently awarded with Emporis Skyscraper award 2019, is located in which country?

- A) United Arab Emirates
- B) United States of America
- C) Saudi Arabia
- D) Russia ☒



- ✓ The Lakhta Centre, which is located in St. Petersburg of Russia, has been awarded with the Emporis Skyscraper award 2019. This is the most prestigious award given to high rise architecture. This building is 462 m tall. Russia has for the first time bagged this award since inception of this award 20 years ago.

8. Which international organisation releases the 'Global Gender Gap Report'?

- A) World Economic Forum ☒
- B) World Bank
- C) UNDP
- D) IMF



- ✓ The World Economic Forum (WEF) has recently released the Global Gender Gap Report 2021. India has been ranked at 140th place among 156 countries. In last year's report, India ranked 112 and, in this year, India has fallen back 28 spots. The report has stated that India had so far closed 62.5% of its gender gap. It noted that most of the decline was seen on the Political Empowerment sub-index.

9. The Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) between India and which country has come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021?

- A) United States of America
- B) Japan
- C) Mauritius ☒
- D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ The Government of India had signed the India–Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2021. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has notified that all the legal formalities pertaining to the CCEA has been completed and the agreement has come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

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10. Who is the author of the new version of 'Exam Warriors' book?

- A) Prime Minister of India ☒
- B) President of India
- C) Vice President of India
- D) Lok Sabha Speaker



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has written the new version of Exam Warriors. It contains many new mantras for students and for parents to cope with the anxiety & stress caused during examinations. This is available in leading retail stores as well as in online stores. The Exam Warriors module is also made available on the NaMo App.

1. Which organisation released the 'Forest Governance by Indigenous and Tribal Peoples' report?

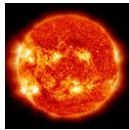
- A) World Bank
- B) Food & Agriculture Organization ☒
- C) United Nations
- D) Asian Development Bank



- ✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) released the 'Forest Governance by Indigenous and Tribal Peoples' report recently. As per the report, deforestation rates in Latin America and the Caribbean are significantly lower in Indigenous and Tribal territories. The report was jointly released by Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC).

2. 'CACTus and CIISCO' are the software launched by the Department of Science and Technology, associated with which field?

- A) Solar Mission ☒
- B) Sustainable Agriculture
- C) Himalayan Ecosystem
- D) Water Mission



- ✓ The Department of Science and Technology announced that Scientists have developed a new technique to track the huge bubbles of gas, which are ejected from the Sun. This new technique will be used in India's first solar mission Aditya-L1. A software named Computer Aided CME Tracking Software (CACTus) and CMEs Identification in Inner Solar Corona (CIISCO) algorithm have been developed.

3. Which country has released the world's first animal vaccine against the novel coronavirus?

- A) China
- B) Russia ☒
- C) USA
- D) Israel



- ✓ The world's first animal vaccine against the novel coronavirus has been registered in Russia. It has been as 'Carnivac-Cov'. As per the country's agriculture safety watchdog Rosselkhoznadzor, the immunity lasts for six months after the vaccination. The use of this vaccine is expected to prevent the development of virus mutations.

4. The 'Muktijoddha Scholarship scheme' is provided to the students of which country, by the Government of India?

- A) Nepal
- B) Bangladesh ☒
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Myanmar



- ✓ The Government of India has announced scholarships to 2000 descendants of the Liberation War fighters of Bangladesh under its new Muktijoddha Scholarship scheme, which was announced in 2017.
- ✓ The scheme aims to benefit 10,000 students from Bangladesh over a period of five years. This year, 1000 students each from the Higher Secondary and Undergraduate categories have been given as scholarship directly in their account.

5. 'La Pérouse' is a Defence Exercise to be conducted by which country?

- A) Italy
- B) Israel
- C) France ☒
- D) UAE



- ✓ France is set to conduct the joint naval exercise, La Pérouse, in the Bay of Bengal from April 5 to 7. India is set to join its Quad partners – Australia, Japan, and the United States in the exercise.
- ✓ Two French Navy ships will be joined by ships from India, Australia, Japan, and the US. India and France will also hold the bilateral naval exercise, Varuna later this month.

6. Which country has created a world record for Fastest Road construction?

- A) China
- B) Japan
- C) India ☒
- D) UAE



- ✓ Union Minister Nitin Gadkari announced that India holds the world record for fastest road construction.
- ✓ India has entered Guinness World Records by building a 2.5 km 4-lane concrete road within 24 hours. It also built 25-km bitumen Solapur-Bijapur road within 24 hours. A record construction of 37 km per day was achieved in financial year 2020-21.

7. Which bank has partnered with Japan's JBIC to extend loans to Japanese automobile manufacturers in India?

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) State Bank of India ☒
- C) Canara Bank
- D) ICICI Bank



- ✓ India's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) announced that it has signed a loan agreement of up to USD 1 billion with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). JBIC is wholly owned by the Government of Japan.
- ✓ This loan intends to promote smooth flow of funds for the business operations of Japanese automobile manufacturers in India. SBI had signed a similar deal with JBIC in October last year. The beneficiaries include suppliers, dealers and the end users.

8. Which telescope captured the M 87 black hole with its magnetic fields?

- A) Hubble
- B) Event Horizon Telescope ☒
- C) Giant Magellan Telescope
- D) Thirty Meter Telescope



- ✓ Recently, a new view of the black hole has been released by astronomers working with the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT).
- ✓ In this view, the astronomers have mapped the magnetic fields close to the hole. The event horizon telescope first revealed the images of black hole, in the year 2018, which is located in the galaxy M87 at a distance of 55 million light-years.



9. Which Ministry has amended the rules pertaining to location of thermal power plants near cities and national capital region?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Power
- C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change ☒



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has amended the rules pertaining to location of thermal power plants within 10 km of major cities with more than 10 lakh population and the National Capital Region.
- ✓ As per the amended rules, certain emission norms have been mandated to be adhered by the thermal power plants latest by the end of 2022.

10. Which state has amended its provisions in Legislative Assembly to maintain the decorum of the house?

- A) Bihar
- B) Haryana ☒
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Madhya Pradesh



GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

- ✓ Haryana has recently amended several provisions under its Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Legislative Assembly of the state. The new provisions include mandating presence of at least two ministers and preventing the members from tearing off documents in the House in protest. This is expected to maintain the decorum of the house.

1. Which international organization has released the "World 2030: Public Survey" Report?

- A) IMF  
B) World Bank  
C) UNDP  
D) UNESCO ☒



- ✓ The UNESCO has recently released a report titled "World 2030: Public Survey Report". This report is based on surveys conducted around the world from May 2020 to September 2020.
- ✓ As per the report, climate change, violence and conflict, loss of biodiversity, discrimination and inequality etc are some of the important challenges affecting a peaceful society.

2. Which Ministry has released the "Women and Men in India 2020" report?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs  
B) Ministry of Women and Child Development  
C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation ☒  
D) Ministry of Defence



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has recently released a report titled "Women and Men in India 2020". This report has been published by MoSPI since 1995 and this year's report is 20th in the series. It provides gender related data for policy makers, planners and other stakeholders.

3. What is the name of the scheme that intends to provide working capital facility of Rs.10,000 per year to urban street vendors of the country?

- A) PM KISAN  
B) MUDRA Yojana  
C) PM SVANIDHI ☒  
D) TLRO



- ✓ Under the PM SVANIDHI scheme, urban street vendors are sanctioned with working capital credit facilities upto Rs.10,000 per year by banks. This scheme was launched by the Government of India to provide micro-credit facility to vendors during COVID-19 lockdown. As per a recent data by the Ministry of Home Affairs, out of the total disbursement under the scheme, private banks have contributed only 1.6%.

4. As per the data by National Savings Institute, which state has made highest contribution to government's small savings schemes?

- A) Uttar Pradesh  
B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) West Bengal ☒  
D) Haryana



- ✓ As per the data released by National Savings Institute under the Ministry of Finance, West Bengal has made the highest contribution to government's small savings schemes and has a share of more than 15% in deposits at post offices and banks. West Bengal is followed by Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu in the list.

5. Which University has secured the 1<sup>st</sup> place among Indian Universities in Academic Ranking of World Universities 2020?

- A) Anna University  
B) JNU  
C) JNTU  
D) Calcutta University ☒



- ✓ The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2020, also known as the Shanghai Ranking has been released recently. As per the ranking, Calcutta University has been ranked 1<sup>st</sup> among the Indian Universities and 3<sup>rd</sup> among higher educational institutions in the country. 15 India Universities have made it into the ARWU 2020 list.

6. Which organisation has launched the "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village & Digital Connect Drive?

- A) UNICEF  
B) RBI  
C) NABARD  
D) TRIFED ☒



- ✓ The Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (TRIFED) under the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs has recently launched "Sankalp se Siddhi" - Village & Digital Connect Drive. This drive has commenced on April 1, 2021. This is a 100-day drive that would include participation of 150 teams and would cover 1500 villages of the country. The main aim of this drive is to activate the van dhan kendras of these villages.

7. What is India's target for ethanol blending in petrol for the year 2022?

- A) 1%  
B) 1.5%  
C) 2%  
D) 10% ☒

10%

- ✓ India has fixed a target of 10% ethanol blending in petrol by the year 2022. Recently, India has achieved more than 7.2 percent of ethanol blending in fuel, for the first four months of ethanol supply.
- ✓ Some states like Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra have achieved 9-9.5% ethanol blending. This shows that India is on track to reach 10% ethanol blend by 2022.

8. When is the National Maritime Day celebrated every year?

- A) April 2  
B) April 3  
C) April 4  
D) April 5 ☒



- ✓ The National Maritime Day is celebrated every year on 5th of April. This year marks the 58<sup>th</sup> edition of National Maritime Day, while the first such event was celebrated in the year 1964. The National Maritime Day is celebrated on April 5, to commemorate the maiden voyage of the first wholly owned ship of Indians.

9. For the first time in 2020, April 5 is observed as which day by the United Nations?

- A) International Day of Conscience ☒  
B) International Day of Promotion of Love  
C) International Day of Peace  
D) International Day of Promotion of Culture



- ✓ During the 73<sup>rd</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2019, Bahrain sponsored its Prime Minister's initiative to designate April 5 as the 'International Day of Conscience'. The Assembly unanimously adopted resolution "Promoting the Culture of Peace with Love and Conscience" and declared April 5 as the International Day of Conscience. It is celebrated in 2020 for the 1<sup>st</sup> time.

10. Who has been appointed as the head of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit?

- A) Shabir Hussein Shekhadam Khandwawala ☒
- B) V K Singh
- C) Ajay Kumar Bhalla
- D) Vijay Kumar



- ✓ Shabir Hussein Shekhadam Khandwawala– former DGP of Gujarat, has been appointed as the head of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit. He succeeds Ajit Singh, whose term ended in March 2021. Khandwawala is a 1973 batch IPS officer and retired from his IPS service in 2010. He has been appointed ahead of the IPL beginning April 9.
-

1. Which Ministry has approved the "National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021"?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Health ☒
- C) Ministry of Education
- D) Ministry of Finance



- ✓ The Union Health Ministry has recently approved the National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021. This national policy aims to bring down the high cost of treatment for rare diseases.
- ✓ This policy has been drafted and approved in consultation with multiple stakeholders of the nation. It is also stated that 40% of beneficiaries covered under PM-JAY will benefit from the policy.

2. 'The 18<sup>th</sup> century idol of Goddess Annapurna', which was stolen from Varanasi, is being returned by which country?

- A) Canada ☒
- B) Brazil
- C) Portugal
- D) China



- ✓ The 18<sup>th</sup> century idol of Goddess Annapurna that was stolen from a temple in Varanasi, is being returned by Canada. As per a government statement, the ancient idol was stolen about 100 years ago. The idol is said to have housed in Canada's MacKenzie Art Gallery. It was handed over to India's High Commissioner to Ottawa.

3. What is "Ingenuity", which is in news recently?

- A) NASA's Mars Helicopter ☒
- B) ISRO's Project
- C) COVID-19 vaccine
- D) New planet



- ✓ Ingenuity is a mini-helicopter developed by NASA for propulsion in Mars. This was fixed with the NASA's Perseverance rover that successfully landed in Mars recently. The helicopter has been dropped successfully on Mars's surface and is expected to make its flight through Mars atmosphere on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

4. Which organisation has allowed private sector firms to partner in production of missile systems?

- A) ISRO
- B) DRDO ☒
- C) BEML
- D) HAL



- ✓ The Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) has allowed private sector firms to join hands with it in development and production of missile systems. This announcement has been made under the Development-cum-Production Partner programme.
- ✓ The programmes covered under the programme include the Vertical Launched Short-Range Surface to Air Missile system (VL-SRSAM).

5. Which state has approved ordinance to regulate rent and tenancy agreements, which was promulgated in January 2021?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Uttar Pradesh ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved the Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy (second) Ordinance 2021. It aims to reduce tenancy disputes as it makes signing of contract compulsory to rent out a property. There is no clear mechanism for conflict resolution under the present law. It was promulgated and implemented in the state of January 2021.

6. Receivables Exchange of India (RXIL), which was making news recently, is associated with which sector?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Foreign Exchange
- C) MSMEs ☒
- D) Gold Import



- ✓ Receivables Exchange of India (RXIL) is the invoice discounting platform for MSMEs. It is a TRaDS (Trade Receivables Discounting System) Exchange Platform accredited by the RBI. The platform has over 7000 registered MSMEs and have processed over 5,00,000 invoices, since its launch in 2017.

7. Who has been appointed as the new Department of economic affairs secretary, succeeding Tarun Bajaj?

- A) Ajay Seth ☒
- B) B P Kanungo
- C) Anil Kumar Jha
- D) R Gandhi



- ✓ Ajay Seth, a 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer and the Managing director of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation, has been appointed as the Department of economic affairs (DEA) secretary. Tarun Bajaj, the present Department of economic affairs (DEA) secretary, has been appointed as the new Revenue secretary.

8. Benjamin Netanyahu is set to form a new Government in which country?

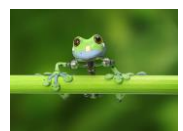
- A) Italy
- B) Israel ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Iran



- ✓ Israel's longest-serving leader and the incumbent Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu received a mandate from Israel's president to form a new government. Israel's election on March 23, was its fourth in two years and ended with an inconclusive election.
- ✓ Netanyahu was in power consecutively since 2009, and now has 28 days to form a new Government.

9. Xenobots, which were seen in the news recently, are robots developed from the stem cells of which organism?

- A) Crocodile
- B) Frog ☒
- C) Rabbit
- D) Sheep



- ✓ Researchers at Tufts University have developed robots named 'Xenobots' from the stem cells of frogs. These robots are able to self-heal after damage and move using particles on their surface - cilia.
- ✓ They can work together in teams and can record information about their surroundings. The robots can be used in bio-medical and environmental studies.



10. Which group of companies has become 3<sup>rd</sup> in India to cross USD 100 billion in market capitalisation?

- A) Reliance
- B) TATA
- C) Microsoft
- D) Adani ☒



- ✓ Gautam Adani's Adani group of companies has become the 3<sup>rd</sup> in India to cross \$100 billion in market capitalisation, after Tata Group and Reliance Group. The total market capitalisation of Adani group's 6 listed companies touched Rs.7.84 lakh crore or \$106.8 billion, according to stock exchange data.
-

1. Who represented India in the consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries?

- A) Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
- B) Nirmala Sitharaman
- C) Narendra Modi
- D) Sanjay Dhotre ☒



- ✓ The Union Minister of state for Education – Sanjay Dhotre represented India in the consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries. The theme of the meeting was "E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4".
- ✓ E9 countries consist of Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

2. Under the Integrated Health Information Platform launched by the Health Ministry, how many diseases can be tracked?

- A) 10
- B) 15
- C) 20
- D) 33 ☒

# 33

- ✓ The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare – Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) in a virtual mode, recently. This platform is capable of tracking 33 diseases as compared to 18 diseases in the earlier version of the platform.
- ✓ The new version of IHIP will house the data entry and management for India's disease surveillance program.

3. Who has been appointed as the 48<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of India?

- A) Ranjan Gogoi
- B) Sharad Arvind Bobde
- C) Dipak Mishra
- D) N V Ramana ☒



- ✓ The President of India has appointed Justice NV Ramana as the 48th Chief Justice of India, in accordance with the powers conferred under Article 124 of Indian Constitution. He will assume charge as the Chief Justice of India on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- ✓ He has been a judge of the Supreme Court since the year 2014. He will have a term of 16 months before his retirement.

4. Longi Green Energy, which is considered to be the world's biggest solar company, belongs to which country?

- A) India
- B) Japan
- C) China ☒
- D) Germany

# LONGI

- ✓ Longi Green Energy Technology Co., of China is the world's biggest solar energy company. The company has entered into the hydrogen market recently. The company has formed a sister concern named Xi'an Longi Hydrogen Technology Co and the founder of Longi Green Energy Technology Co – Li Zhenguo, will serve as the chairman for the new entity.

5. Which malware is alleged to be behind the October blackout in Mumbai?

- A) Shadow Pad ☒
- B) October Shutdown
- C) Shutdown Oct
- D) Blackout Oct



- ✓ ShadowPad is a malware that is alleged to be behind the October blackout in Mumbai. It has been linked to Chinese cyberattacks in the past too. It was discovered in the year 2017. It was found injected into software updates by NetSarang, a legitimate software provider.

6. As per the 'Tribunals Reforms Ordinance' promulgated recently, the powers of Appellate authorities are vested with which body?

- A) Supreme Court
- B) High Courts ☒
- C) Home Affairs Ministry
- D) Enforcement Directorate



- ✓ The Centre promulgated the Tribunal Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance 2021 recently. As per the ordinance, existing appellate authorities are replaced and their powers are vested High Courts.
- ✓ The laws covered are Cinematograph Act; Copyright Act; Customs Act; Patents Act; AAI Act; Trade Marks Act; GI of Goods (registration and protection) Act; Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act and Control of NH (land and traffic) Act.

7. Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers organised a National Dialogue on Chemicals Manufacturing along with which organisation?

- A) ADB
- B) UNIDO ☒
- C) IMF
- D) AIIB



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers organised a "National Dialogue on 'Manufacturing Excellence and Innovation for Competitiveness & Sustainability of Chemicals Manufacturing'".
- ✓ The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) promotes industrial development for poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. UNIDO jointly organised this national dialogue as well as a dialogue under 'Clean Manufacturing in India' (Swachh Udyog).

8. When is the "International Day of Sport for Development and Peace" observed?

- A) April 4
- B) April 6 ☒
- C) April 8
- D) April 10



- ✓ "International Day of Sport for Development and Peace" is observed across the world on April 6, after the United Nations General Assembly resolution in 2013. It is marked to celebrate the positive contribution of sports towards sustainable development and advancement of human rights. This year's theme is around recovery from the pandemic and the importance of equity in that recovery.

9. The Barakah nuclear power plant, which started its commercial operation recently, is situated in which country?

- A) Qatar
- B) UAE ☒
- C) Saudi Arabia
- D) Kuwait



- ✓ The Barakah nuclear power plant in the United Arab Emirates is the first nuclear power station in the Arab world. The nuclear power plant located in Abu Dhabi started commercial operations recently. As per the country's leaders, the first megawatt from the nuclear plant has entered the national power grid. It was opened in the year 2019.
- 

10. What is the theme of the World Health Day 2021?

- A) Road safety  
B) Support Nurses and Midwives  
C) Building a Fairer and Healthier World for Everyone ☒  
D) Food safety



- ✓ World Health Day is celebrated across the world annually on April 7. It marks the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1948. It aims to create awareness on a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. The theme for this year is "Building a fairer, healthier world".
-

1. Which country has hosted the Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors 2021?

- A) Brazil  
B) Russia  
C) India ☒  
D) China



- ✓ India recently hosted the Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors 2021. It was co-chaired by Union Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and RBI governor Shaktikanta Das. Finance Minister addressed the meeting virtually from New Delhi.
- ✓ Issues regarding New development bank, social infrastructure, IMF reforms, fintech for SME and financial inclusion, customs cooperation were discussed during the meeting.

2. What was the target for number of houses in the 1st phase of PMAY- Gramin?

- A) 1 Crore ☒  
B) 75 Lakhs  
C) 60 Lakhs  
D) 50 Lakhs



- ✓ Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G), 92% target of completion has been achieved in the 1st phase of the scheme. A target of 1 crore houses was set for completion in the 1st phase of the scheme- from 2016-17 to 2018-19. It aims constructing 2.95 crore PMAY-G houses with all basic amenities by the year 2021-22.

3. What amount of refinance assistance will be provided by RBI to All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs)?

- A) Rs. 5000 Crore  
B) Rs. 50,000 Crore ☒  
C) Rs. 5,00,000 Crore  
D) Rs. 50,00,000 Crore



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to provide a sum of Rs.50,000 crore to the All-India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) namely NABARD, SIDBI and NHB. NABARD would receive Rs.25,000 crore, SIDBI would receive Rs.15,000 crore and NHB would receive a sum of Rs.10,000 crore as refinance credit facility.

4. What is "IH2A" that has been seen in the news recently?

- A) COVID 19 VACCINE  
B) Meteor  
C) New Plant Species  
D) India H2 Alliance ☒



- ✓ "IH2A" stands for India H2 Alliance. Major global players in energy and industry have come together to form a new energy transition coalition, the India H2 Alliance (IH2A). This coalition is focused on commercialising hydrogen technologies in India to make it a net zero carbon emitter. It will work to build a hydrogen economy and supply chain in India.

5. Who was Isamu Akasaki, a Japanese Nobel Laureate who passed away recently?

- A) Scientist ☒  
B) Lyricist  
C) Novelist  
D) Poet



- ✓ Veteran Japanese scientist Isamu Akasaki, who shared a Nobel Prize in physics for the invention of blue light-emitting diodes (LEDs), passed away recently. Akasaki was one of three Japanese-born researchers who was awarded the 2014 Nobel Prize in physics.
- ✓ He was also a recipient of 2009 Kyoto Prize, Japan's highest honor, recognizing developments in advanced technology.

6. Sri Lanka will develop the West Container Terminal at the Colombo port along with which other two countries?

- A) India and Japan ☒  
B) China and Indonesia  
C) Myanmar and Singapore  
D) India and Singapore



- ✓ Sri Lanka will develop the West Container Terminal at the Colombo port along with India and Japan. India has nominated Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. Japan has yet to nominate a party. India and Japan will have 75% stake in WCT project.

7. Who has been appointed as the Mission Director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)?

- A) Rajiv Kumar  
B) Amitabh Kant  
C) Narendra Modi  
D) Chintan Vaishnav ☒



- ✓ Dr Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed as the Mission director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), the flagship initiative under NITI Aayog. He will take over from Ramanathan Ramanan, who has been leading AIM as its first mission director since June 2017.
- ✓ Chintan Vaishnav is a socio-technologist who is currently serving at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US.

8. INS Sarvekshak has been deployed in which country, for conducting joint hydrographic surveys?

- A) Maldives  
B) Mauritius ☒  
C) Japan  
D) Vietnam



- ✓ INS Sarvekshak is a hydrographic survey ship, is on a deployment to Mauritius for conducting joint hydrographic surveys along with their Mauritian counterparts. The ship visited Port Louis, Mauritius and has started the hydrographic survey of 'Deep sea area of Port Louis'.
- ✓ The survey will also include training of Mauritian personnel on advanced hydrographic equipment and practices.

9. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI?

- A) Rajnish Kumar  
B) S Raman ☒  
C) Arundhati Bhattacharya  
D) R Gandhi



- ✓ The Government has appointed S Raman as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Banks Board Bureau had recommended his name for the post and the appointment is for a period of 3 years.
- ✓ Ramann is an Indian Audit & Accounts Service officer, is currently the CEO of National e-governance Services Ltd.



10. AYUSH Ministry signed MoU with which Ministry to develop a regulatory mechanism for the use of Ayurveda in veterinary sector?

A) Ministry of Agriculture

B) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying ☒



C) Ministry of Rural Development

D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

- ✓ Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying signed an MoU with the Ministry of AYUSH. It aims to introduce the concept of Ayurveda and its allied disciplines into veterinary science. It also aims to promote research and development on new formulations in veterinary drugs.
-

1. "Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021", which was seen in the news recently, has been notified by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Finance
- B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting



- ✓ Ministry of Commerce and Industry notifies Copyright (Amendment) Rules, 2021. It also added a new provision regarding publication of a copyrights journal, thereby eliminating the requirement of publication in the Official Gazette. In India, the copyright regime is governed by the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013.

2. 'SARTHAQ', which was seen in the news recently, is an implementation plan related to which policy?

- A) Agriculture Laws
- B) New Education Policy ☒
- C) Public Sector Enterprises Policy
- D) Environment Impact Assessment



- ✓ Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal chaired a high-level meeting on implementation of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- ✓ A suggestive implementation plan for school education named 'Students & Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ) was also released.

3. With reference to astronomy, what is 'Osiris', that was seen in the news recently?

- A) Meteor
- B) Black Hole
- C) Exo-Planet ☒
- D) Asteroid



- ✓ 'Osiris', which is officially called HD 209458 b, is the first-ever planet the astronomers have spotted beyond the Earth's solar system. As per a new study published in Nature, it has been found that six chemicals are present in the atmosphere of Osiris.
- ✓ The composition of the chemicals confirm that the exoplanet is over 100 times farther than its current position, when it came into existence.

4. A ₹100-crore fast patrol vessel (FPV) named 'PS Zoroaster', was handed over to which country by India?

- A) Germany
- B) USA
- C) Seychelles ☒
- D) France



- ✓ India formally handed over a fast patrol vessel (FPV) named 'PS Zoroaster' to Seychelles. PM Modi participated in virtual meeting with President of Seychelles Wavel Ramkalawan. This is the fourth made-in-India patrol boat to be gifted to Seychelles since 2005.
- ✓ It was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineering and will be used for patrolling, anti-smuggling and anti-poaching operations, search and rescue.

5. When was the "United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism" established?

- A) 1945
- B) 1992
- C) 2009 ☒
- D) 2020

2009

- ✓ The UN Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism was established by the Secretary-General in 2009. The fund is used for providing capacity building support to Member States through the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCT) and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB).
- ✓ India has recently contributed an additional USD 500,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism. With this, India's total contribution to the fund so far is USD 1.05 million.

6. Which technology company has launched 'Women Will' web platform in India?

- A) Google ☒
- B) Samsung
- C) Microsoft
- D) LG

women will

- ✓ Google introduced a new 'Women Will' web platform in India. This program aims to provide guidance to women who want to become entrepreneurs. Google also announced to shut down the Internet Saathi initiative inaugurated at the first Google for India event back in 2015. In the last six years, the initiative has trained over 30 million women across rural India.

7. With reference to bio-diversity, what is "Orretherium tzen", which was making news recently?

- A) Plant species
- B) Animal species ☒
- C) Bird species
- D) Bacteria



- ✓ The fossil of a mammal that lived during the age of dinosaurs has been discovered in Patagonia region of Chile, South America. Named as "Orretherium tzen" meaning 'Beast of Five Teeth', it is claimed to have lived between 72 and 74 million years ago.
- ✓ It is said to have been a herbivore and said to have lived in South America at the end of the Mesozoic era.

8. An ancient city named "Aten", which was seen in the news recently, has been discovered in which country?

- A) Italy
- B) Egypt ☒
- C) Australia
- D) Greece



- ✓ A group of archaeologists has recently found the largest ancient city ever discovered in Egypt. The city is named "The Rise of Aten", which dates back to 3,000 years.
- ✓ It was discovered under the sand on the western bank of Luxor, and dates to the reign of King Amenhotep III, who ruled Egypt between 1391 and 1353 BCE. The city was the largest administrative and industrial settlement in the period of the Egyptian empire.

9. La Soufriere volcano, which recently erupted is located in which country?

- A) Philippines
- B) St. Vincent and the Grenadines ☒
- C) Indonesia
- D) Japan



- ✓ The La Soufriere volcano located on the eastern Caribbean island of St. Vincent erupted after several decades of inactivity.

- ✓ The volcano was dormant since 1979 and it showed signs of activity in December last year. The Prime Minister had earlier ordered for evacuation of people in the area.
- 

10. What is the name of the global experiment which aims to measure the impact of reduction in ambient human sounds in Oceans?

A) International Human–Ocean Experiment

B) International Ocean Sound Experiment

C) International Ambient Sound Experiment

D) International Quiet Ocean Experiment ☒



- ✓ The International Quiet Ocean Experiment was originally formed in 2011 to create a time series of measurements of ambient sound in different ocean locations. Recently, a team of scientists from the International Quiet Ocean Experiment (IQOE), have been undertaking experiments to understand and measure the impact of the reduction in ambient human activity due to the COVID-19 lockdown, in oceans.
-

1. "HCCR" portal, which was recently launched by the AYUSH Ministry, is associated with which field?

- A) Ayurveda
- B) Unani
- C) Homeopathy ☒
- D) Yoga



- ✓ Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), is an autonomous apex research organization under Ministry of AYUSH. It has recently launched a unique digital initiative, the Homoeopathic Clinical Case Repository (HCCR) portal on World Homeopathy Day – April 10.
- ✓ The portal aims to create a standard platform for Homoeopathic clinicians, researchers, medical students to enter clinical cases.

2. "Advanced Antiquities Management System", which was making news recently, is launched by which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala
- C) Goa ☒
- D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Directorate of Archives and Archaeology (DAA) of Goa inaugurated the Advanced Antiquities Management System (AAMS). This is said to be the first system in the country for storage of antiquities.
- ✓ The AAMS is a software-driven automated storage which is used for the storage of various objects. The system provides information about an antiquity and will ensure safety of the antiquities.

3. As per a recent notification from the Finance Ministry, a basic savings bank account can be opened in which institution?

- A) Payment Bank
- B) Foreign Bank
- C) Post Office ☒
- D) Small Finance Bank



- ✓ The Finance Ministry has notified changes in Post Office Savings Account Scheme, 2019. As per the notification, a beneficiary of the Government welfare scheme can open a basic savings bank account with a post office. As per the notification, there is no minimum deposit required for opening of such an account.
- ✓ There will also be no requirement for maintaining minimum balance. The ministry also reduced fee for not maintain the balance in a savings account.

4. Which Municipal Corporation of India issued the first 'Green Bonds' in the country?

- A) Chennai
- B) Greater Noida
- C) Ghaziabad ☒
- D) Ahmedabad



- ✓ The Green bonds issued by Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation was the first of the kind in India. Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation raised a sum of Rs.150 crores through green bond route. The proceeds of the bond were being used for creating tertiary water treatment infrastructure in the city. These bonds have been listed in BSE recently.

5. Which body collaborated with Hindustan Unilever and Google, for conducting "AI for Agriculture Hackathon"?

- A) UNESCO
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) AIM
- D) MyGov India ☒



- ✓ Hindustan Unilever, Google and MyGov India have collaborated together for conducting a hackathon in the field of agriculture. The three entities have come together to find innovative solutions for water conservation in agriculture and to bring start-ups in designing sustainable solutions for farmers.

6. Which constitutional body has recently stated that all adults above 18 were free to choose a religion of their choice?

- A) National Human Rights Commission
- B) National Administrative Tribunal
- C) Supreme Court of India ☒
- D) National Commission for Backward Class



- ✓ The Supreme court has recently held that the word "propagate" mentioned in Indian Constitution permits any above the age of 18 to freely a religion of his / her choice. Quoting the above, the supreme court has dismissed a public interest litigation which had sought court intervention to stop "fraudulent" conversions in India.

7. Which institution is set to launch a hand book for Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)?

- A) SEBI
- B) RBI
- C) NITI Aayog ☒
- D) IRDAI



- ✓ Indian Government's think tank – NITI Aayog has planned to launch a hand book for Online Dispute Resolution (ODR). This book would serve as an invitation to business leaders to adopt ODR in India.
- ✓ The book would be published in association with organizations like Agami and Omidyar Network India, ICICI Bank, Ashoka Innovators for the Public etc.

8. As per the Julius Baer Lifestyle Index, which is the costliest place to live in the world?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Shanghai ☒
- C) Melbourne
- D) Moscow

Julius Bär

- ✓ China is set to become the world's biggest economy by 2028, and its commercial capital Shanghai has become the costliest place in the world. As per the recently released Julius Baer Lifestyle Index, China's Shanghai is the most expensive city in the world. Shanghai is followed by Tokyo and Hongkong in the list at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> position.

9. Olivier Dassault, who died in a helicopter crash recently, was a politician and billionaire of which country?

- A) Philippines
- B) France ☒
- C) Indonesia
- D) Japan



- ✓ French billionaire politician Olivier Dassault recently died in a helicopter crash occurred in northwest France. He was also a member of the National Assembly of the country. He was a descendant of the Dassault aircraft-making family. The Dassault Aviation group is a leading French plane manufacturer. He was estimated to be the 361st most wealthy person on the planet.



10. Which Indian state has inaugurated India's first World Skill Centre?

- A) Odisha ☒
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Nagaland



- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has recently inaugurated the World Skill Centre (WSC) at Mancheswar. India's first skill centre, the WSC is developed at an outlay of Rs 1,342 crore with support from the Asian Development Bank under the Odisha Skill Development Project. It aims to impart advanced and employable skills to the youth in the state.
-

1. Which country has launched a hotline to report online defamatory comments done by "Historical nihilists"?

- A) North Korea
- B) China ☒
- C) Brazil
- D) Cuba



- ✓ "Historical nihilism" is a phrase used in China which describes public doubt over the description of past events by Chinese Communist Party. Recently, China's cyber regulator has launched a hotline to report online comments that tend to defame the ruling Communist Party and its history. The Party's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary falls on July this year.

2. Which movie won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) – Best picture award?

- A) Nomadland ☒
- B) Soul
- C) Another Round
- D) Judas



- ✓ "Nomadland" won four prizes including the one for Best picture at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). Chloe Zhao, became only the second woman to win the BAFTA for best director for the movie 'Nomadland'. Best actor award went to 83-year-old Anthony Hopkins while Best actress award was given to Frances McDormand.

3. Sputnik V, the COVID-19 vaccine, which was approved by the Indian Experts panel, was launched by which country?

- A) China
- B) Russia ☒
- C) Germany
- D) USA



- ✓ The expert committee recommended the emergency use of Russia's Sputnik V vaccine in India. Now, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) will consider this recommendation and authorise the restricted emergency use in India. The other two vaccines are Covishield by Serum Institute and Covaxin by Bharat Biotech. Sputnik V will be manufactured in India by several companies in India.

4. What is the original name of the Antarctica's "Doomsday Glacier", which was making news recently?

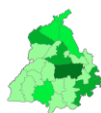
- A) Thwaites Glacier ☒
- B) Pine Island Glacier
- C) Jakobshavn Glacier
- D) Helheim Glacier



- ✓ Thwaites Glacier – also called the "Doomsday Glacier" is present in Antarctica and has been melting fast over the years. Due to its large size of 1.9 lakh square km, it contains enough water to raise the world sea level by more than half a metre. Recently, Researchers at Sweden's University of Gothenburg have found that the glacier is melting at a higher rate than it was originally thought.

5. Which state is to involve "Arhtiyas" in the direct payment process for Farmers?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Punjab ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ The Punjab government has said to the central government that it will pay the Minimum Support Price directly into the accounts of farmers. Earlier, the Arhtiyas (commission agents) used to pay the farmers.
- ✓ Punjab Chief Minister captain Amarinder Singh announced that the State Food Department has amended the procurement software so that the Arhtiyas will continue to be involved in the direct payment process.

6. With reference to the process of vaccination, what is the full form of AEFI, which was seen often in the news?

- A) Adequate events following immunisation
- B) Adverse events following immunisation
- C) Appropriate events following immunisation ☒
- D) Affected events following immunisation



- ✓ AEFI stands for "Adverse events following immunisation". India had earlier constituted a national committee on AEFI. Around 617 severe and serious (including deaths) AEFI and 180 deaths were reported. A member of the National committee on AEFI highlighted that Indian has elaborate machinery to monitor the situation.

7. Commerce and Industry Minister launched the 'Trade facilitation mobile app' of which office?

- A) DGFT ☒
- B) DGTR
- C) MPEDA
- D) APEDA



- ✓ Commerce and industry Minister Piyush Goyal recently launched the "Trade facilitation mobile app" of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade. The app has a state-of-the-art system and provides real-time trade policy updates, applications and real-time data.
- ✓ It will also provide artificial intelligence-based 24x7 assistance and all services of the DGFT.

8. What is the name of the movement to be launched by the Health Minister to emphasise on nutritionally balanced diet?

- A) POSHAN Kranti
- B) Aahar Kranti ☒
- C) Food India Movement
- D) No food waste Movement



- ✓ Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan is set to launch "Aahaar Kranti" mission, which aims to emphasis the need for a nutritionally balanced diet. Vijnana Bharati (Vibha) and Global Indian Scientists' and Technocrats' Forum (GIST) have partnered to launch the mission with the motto of "Good Diet-Good Cognition". The program will train teachers who will in turn teach the students and their families.

9. As per recent data, the population of which species has doubled in the Chilika lake?

- A) Dolphins ☒
- B) Crocodiles
- C) Cat-fishes
- D) Turtles



- ✓ Chilika Lake is India's largest brackish water lagoon, which is spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha.
- ✓ As per a recent data release by the State Forest and Environment Department, the number of dolphin populations in the lake has

doubled this year compared with last year. The state's Chilika lake is known for its Irrawady dolphins.

10. Artemis program is undertaken by which organization?

- A) DRDO
- B) ISRO
- C) NASA ☒
- D) World Bank



- ✓ The Artemis program is NASA's manned mission to the moon which is set to be executed in the year 2024. Recently, NASA has stated that it will land the first person of colour on the moon and the first woman on moon as a part of the mission in 2024.

1. What is the overall capital expenditure by 37 large CPSEs and Government departments for FY21?

- A) Rs 4.6 lakh crore ☒
- B) Rs 10.6 lakh crore
- C) Rs 40.6 lakh crore
- D) Rs 100.6 lakh crore



- ✓ As per the data released by the Government of India, the combined capital expenditures by 37 large CPSEs and departmental undertakings stood at Rs. Rs.4.6 lakh crore for the FY 2020-21.
- ✓ The capital expenditure target for the FY 2020-21 was Rs.5 lakh crore and the achievement were 92% of the budget.

2. Which Institute has launched the 'Little Guru' app?

- A) ISRO
- B) ICCR ☒
- C) BHEL
- D) BARC



- ✓ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), has celebrated its 71st Foundation Day recently. At the celebrations in Swami Vivekanand Cultural Centre at Indian Embassy in Beijing, the foundation day celebrations were accompanied by the launch of 'Little Guru' app. This is the world's first Gamified Sanskrit learning App.

3. India has extended the ceasefire agreement with three insurgent groups of which state, for one more year?

- A) Assam
- B) Sikkim
- C) Nagaland ☒
- D) Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ The Indian Government has extended the ceasefire agreement with three insurgent groups of Nagaland for one more year. The ceasefire agreements were extended till April 2022.
- ✓ As per the Ministry of Home Affairs, the ceasefire agreements are in operation between the government of India and three groups- NSCN/NK, NSCN/R and NSCN/K-Khango.

4. What is the name of the tropical cyclone that has made landfalls in Western Australia?

- A) Seroja ☒
- B) Bob
- C) Nivar
- D) Fani



- ✓ Tropical cyclone Seroja recently hit and damaged a 1,000 km stretch of Western Australia. With a windspeed of up to 170km/h, the category three storm made landfalls. As per the country's Bureau of Meteorology the storm had weakened yet it would cause damages with the peak winds of 110 km/hr.

5. "eSanta", a digital platform which was launched recently, is associated with which type of products?

- A) Drugs
- B) Aquaculture Products ☒
- C) Electronic Products
- D) Textile Products



- ✓ Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal virtually inaugurated e-SANTA, an electronic marketplace to connect aqua

farmers and the buyers. eSanta stands for "Electronic Solution for Augmenting National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA) farmers' Trade in Aquaculture". NaCSA is an extension arm of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA).

6. Hideki Matsuyama, is the first Japanese player to claim a major championship in which sports?

- A) Tennis
- B) Golf ☒
- C) Chess
- D) Badminton



- ✓ Hideki Matsuyama won the Masters at Augusta National Golf Club to become the 1st player from Japan to claim men's major championship.
- ✓ The 29-year-old has 15 worldwide wins, eight career top-10 finishes in major championships, and four Presidents Cup appearances. In 2012, Matsuyama reached number one in the World Amateur Golf Ranking.

7. Which country is the first to introduce Climate Change law for Financial sector?

- A) Brazil
- B) Germany
- C) New Zealand ☒
- D) France



- ✓ New Zealand has become the first country in the world to introduce a Climate Change law for Financial sector. The law requires banks, insurers and investment managers to report the impacts of climate change on their business. It requires financial firms to explain how they would manage climate-related risks and opportunities.

8. The day on which the Indian Army launched Operation MEGHDOOT is observed as which special Day?

- A) Vijay Diwas
- B) Kargil Diwas
- C) Siachen Day ☒
- D) Rakshak Diwas



- ✓ On 13 April 1984, the Indian Army launched 'Operation MEGHDOOT' to secure Bilafond La and other passes on the Saltoro Ridgeline. Siachen Day every year commemorates the courage displayed by troops of the Indian Army in securing Siachen Glacier, the highest and coldest battlefield in the world.

9. Which institution launched 'Poshan Gyan' - a national digital repository on health and nutrition?

- A) Women and Child Development Ministry
- B) NITI Aayog ☒
- C) National Commission on Women
- D) Finance Commission



- ✓ NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University launched 'Poshan Gyan'. It is a national digital repository on health and nutrition.
- ✓ It is a collection of communication materials created by government agencies and other development organizations for awareness creation and behaviour change in the nutrition sector.

10. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is to deploy "NSV" to provide better roads. What does NSV stand for?

- A) National Standard Vehicle
- B) Network Survey Vehicle ☒
- C) National Signal Variance
- D) New Standard Vehicle



- ✓ The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is set to deploy Network Survey Vehicle (NSV), to provide better roads to commuters. NHAI has made road condition survey using NSV mandatory at the time of certifying completion of the project and every six months thereafter.
  - ✓ This has also been included as a part of the standard bidding document of consultancy services.
-



1. What is the name of the farthest gamma-ray emitting galaxy that has been discovered recently?

- A) Narrow-Line Seyfert 1 ☒
- B) Andromeda
- C) Sky Way
- D) Milk Line



- ✓ Recently, space scientists have discovered a new active galaxy, which is considered to be the farthest gamma-ray emitting galaxy discovered so far. This galaxy is named Narrow-Line Seyfert 1 (NLS1) galaxy, which is about 31 billion light-years away from earth. This has been described as a rare space entity.

2. By what percentage, the net indirect tax collection in 2020-21 has grown over the previous year?

- A) 1%
- B) 10%
- C) 12.3% ☒
- D) 15%

**12.3%**

- ✓ As per the data released by the Union Finance Ministry, net indirect tax collection in 2020-21 grew 12.3% over the previous financial year. The total collection stood at Rs.10.71 lakh, thereby exceeding the indirect tax collection target of Rs.9.89 lakh set for the FY 2020-21.

3. "Central Asia" center for trade and economic cooperation is being constructed by which countries?

- A) Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan ☒
- B) USA and India
- C) China and Japan
- D) USA and UK



- ✓ 'Central Asia' is the name of an international center for trade and economic cooperation, being constructed by Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan at the borders of the two countries.
- ✓ The center would have a capacity of accommodating 35,000 people and 5,000 trucks per day in both directions. It would serve as a large industrial, trade and logistics platform for both countries.

4. Who has been appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner?

- A) Sushil Chandra ☒
- B) Prasanna Chandra
- C) Ajay Kumar Bhalla
- D) Injeti Srinivas



- ✓ The Government of India has appointed Sushil Chandra as the next Chief Election Commissioner of India. He succeeds Sunil Arora who retired on 2021 April.13. Sushil Chandra is the former CBDT (Central Board of Direct Taxes) Chairman and was appointed as an election commissioner on February 14, 2019.

5. Over 4200 tonnes of salmon have been killed by a killer alga in which country?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) United States of America
- C) Canada
- D) Chile ☒



- ✓ In the South American country of Chile, has witnessed the spread of a killer algae which has claimed the lives of more than 4,200 tonnes

of salmon. The algal bloom has led to decreased water availability that led to suffocating the salmon.

- ✓ This is considered to be the latest mass mortality event recorded in Chile, which is the world's second largest producer of salmon.

6. The European Commission has planned to raise what amount annually until 2026, to make its economy green and digital?

- A) 150 billion euros ☒
- B) USD 1000 million
- C) Rs.1000 crore
- D) USD 50 million



- ✓ The European Commission has proposed to make borrowings amounting 150 billion euros till the year 2026. The proceeds of the borrowing will be used to make its economy greener and more digitalized. The funds are proposed to be raised through auctions and syndication through a primary deal network.

7. Which Pakistani Player has topped the ICC men's ODI batting rankings, surpassing Virat Kohli?

- A) Babar Azam ☒
- B) Hasan Ali
- C) Mohammad Amir
- D) Fakhar Zaman



- ✓ Pakistani cricketer Babar Azam has topped the ICC men's ODI batting rankings. He has clinched the top spot after a huge gap by any one from the country since 2003. He has replaced Indian Skipper and Batsman Virat Kohli after he gained 13 points in the Pakistan South Africa series.

8. Which country has mandated banks, insurers and investment managers operating in the country to report the impacts of climate change on their business?

- A) India
- B) New Zealand ☒
- C) Australia
- D) Switzerland



- ✓ The Government of New Zealand has introduced a new legislation, whereby banks, insurers and investment managers operating in the country are required to report the impacts of climate change on their business. New Zealand is the first country to bring such legislation.
- ✓ As per the new legislation, banks with total assets of more than NZ\$1 billion and insurers with more than NZ\$1 billion in total assets have to make the disclosure.

9. What does "C" in NEGVAC stand for?

- A) Commission
- B) Collection
- C) Corruption
- D) COVID-19 ☒



- ✓ The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) was constituted by the Government of India for vaccine procurement, inventory management, vaccine selection, vaccine delivery and tracking mechanism.
- ✓ Recently, the expert group recommended that COVID-19 vaccines manufactured in foreign countries and granted emergency approval by authorities of US, Europe, the UK, Japan or those listed with WHO Emergency Use listing may be given emergency use approval in India.

10. Which board or organisation has launched the National Nursery Portal?

- A) National Housing Board
- B) National Horticulture Board ☒
- C) National Tea Board
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ The National Nursery Portal has been launched by National Horticulture Board. It is a platform which is available both in the form of a web portal and a mobile application. It intends to create an online market place where nurseries and buyers can interact for sale of plants.
-

1. Which technology company has entered the Renewable energy project in India?

- A) Amazon
- B) Facebook ☒
- C) Microsoft
- D) Samsung

facebook.

- ✓ Technology and Social media giant Facebook have signed a deal to buy renewable energy in India. This is the first such deal of Facebook in the country. Facebook and CleanMax are working together for supplying renewable power into India's electrical grid. The 32-megawatt wind power project is located in the state of Karnataka.

2. Which Union Ministry has launched the EatSmart Cities Challenge and Transport 4 All Challenge?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒
- C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D) Ministry of Women and Child Development



- ✓ Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the EatSmart Cities Challenge and Transport 4 All Challenge. EatSmart Cities Challenge was organized in association with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Smart cities mission. It aims to encourage smart cities develop a sustainable food environment.
- ✓ Transport 4 All Challenge was launched in association with Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), to improve public transport.

3. Which organization hosted the BRICS seminar on misuse of the Internet by terrorists?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) Indian Army
- C) National Investigation Agency ☒
- D) CDAC



- ✓ India hosted the BRICS seminar on "Misuse of Internet for Terrorist Purposes and Role of Digital Forensics in Terrorist Investigations", which was organised by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
- ✓ It is a two-day event organized in a virtual format which emphasized on international cooperation and seamless sharing of good practices in tackling cyber terrorism.

4. USA has decided to withdraw all American troops from which country by September 11?

- A) Iran
- B) Iraq
- C) Ukraine
- D) Afghanistan ☒



- ✓ The United States of America headed by President Biden has decided to withdraw all American troops from Afghanistan over the next few months. The exit of troops is set to be completed by September 11th this year, which marks the 20th year anniversary of Twin tower attacks on the USA by the Taliban.

5. Union Agriculture Ministry has signed a MoU with which organization, for a pilot project in 100 villages of six states?

- A) Amazon
- B) Microsoft ☒
- C) NSDC
- D) ONGC



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Agriculture, has entered into an MoU with Microsoft for implementing a pilot project in 100 villages of six states – Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. Under the project, Microsoft will develop a farmer interface for smart and well-organized agriculture, which includes post-harvest management and distribution.

6. Under the aegis of which ministry, the "Hydrogen Economy– the Indian Dialogue–2021" is organized?

- A) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas ☒
- B) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- C) Ministry of Power
- D) Ministry of Defense



- ✓ Under the aegis of Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, The Energy Forum (TEF) and the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI) have organized a round table conference titled – "Hydrogen Economy– the Indian Dialogue–2021". The round table was conducted in a virtual mode on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- ✓ Discussions on emerging hydrogen ecosystems and exploring opportunities for collaboration were agenda for discussion.

7. Which institution released a report titled "My Body is My Own"?

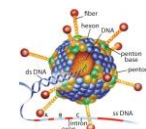
- A) World Bank
- B) UNFPA ☒
- C) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- D) UN Women



- ✓ The United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) flagship State of World Population Report 2021 was released recently. As per the report titled 'My Body is My Own', only 55% of women are fully empowered to make choices. Around half the women from 57 developing countries do not have the right to make decisions regarding their bodies, using contraception, seeking healthcare or on their sexuality.

8. Vaccines produced by Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca use which virus as the basis for COVID-19 vaccines?

- A) Adeno Virus ☒
- B) Papova Virus
- C) Herpes Virus
- D) Pox Virus



- ✓ Adenoviruses are a family of viruses that can cause a wide variety of illnesses in humans, including the common cold, gastrointestinal infections and pink eye. There are 88 types of adenovirus that would infect humans, and these are grouped into 7 different species, A–G.
- ✓ Recently, in several COVID-19 vaccines, including those produced by Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca, these viruses are the basis for several COVID-19 vaccines.

9. With reference to forest, what is the season between winter and monsoon referred to as?

- A) Rainfall Season
- B) Forest fire season ☒
- C) Post-winter season
- D) Spring Season



- ✓ The season between winter and monsoon, referred to as the 'forest fire season', is increasing in India due to climate change and scarce rainfall in the Himalayan regions. The forests of Uttarakhand have not stopped burning in the last six months. There were 470 incidents of fire in Uttarakhand's forests between November 2020 and January 2021 against the previous year's count of 39.

10. Which state is set to form a committee to prepare the "Register of Indigenous Inhabitants" of the state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Arunachal Pradesh
- C) Kerala
- D) Nagaland ☒



- ✓ The Nagaland government has decided to form a joint consultative committee (JCC) for taking an exercise to register the State's indigenous inhabitants.
- ✓ In July 2019, the Nagaland government launched the RIIN, seen as a variant of Assam's National Register of Citizens. The committee will prepare the Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN).

1. Refusal to work in essential services is prohibited under which act?

- A) Essential Services Maintenance Act ☒
- B) Disaster Management Act
- C) Epidemic Diseases Act
- D) Pandemic Conditions Act

# ESMA

- ✓ The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) was enacted in 1968, to maintain certain essential services and the normal life of the community. The Act includes a list of essential services in its charter. After the rapid increase in Covid-19 cases, the Chhattisgarh Government has invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA).
- ✓ The refusal to work in essential services has been prohibited. It includes health workers, sanitation workers, workers in water and power supply services etc.

2. Which institution launched an expert panel called "IP Guru"?

- A) MEITY
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) NIXI ☒
- D) NASSCOM

# nixi

- ✓ The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI), announced some new initiatives to raise awareness of the IPv6 protocol in India. The Department of Telecom (DoT) had, in February last year, mandated all government organizations to transition to IPv6 by March 2020.
- ✓ NIXI launched an expert panel called IP Guru to support transition to IPv6 systems. NIXI is also creating an education platform for IPv6, called NIXI Academy and a NISI IP-Index.

3. The Benin Bronzes, which was seen in the news recently, were found in which country?

- A) South Africa
- B) Nigeria ☒
- C) Greece
- D) Egypt



- ✓ The Benin Bronzes are a group of over a thousand metal plaques and sculptures located in the royal palace of the Kingdom of Benin. The Benin city is situated in modern-day southern Nigeria. It was famous for its skilled artisans that produced works of huge historic and cultural importance.
- ✓ In 1897, the British soldiers plundered Benin City, stealing a set of metal sculptures. Recently, UK accepted that the objects will be supplied by their current European custodians, initially on loan for three years.

4. INS Nireekshak, which was making news recently, is classified under which type of vessel?

- A) Submarine
- B) Diving Support Vehicle ☒
- C) Offshore Patrol Vehicle
- D) Destroyer



- ✓ The Indian Navy deployed its specialised diving support, INS Nireekshak for the search and rescue of the missing fishermen, off the Mangalore coast. Recently, nine fishermen of a Kerala-registered mechanised fishing boat went missing.
- ✓ On account of this issue, the Indian Navy is carrying out deep-sea diving operations using specialised equipment and naval divers.

5. Which company has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force, in collaboration with Lockheed Martin?

- A) BEL
- B) DRDO
- C) Ashok Leyland ☒
- D) TATA Motors



- ✓ Ashok Leyland, which is a flagship firm of the Hinduja group, has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force. These vehicles have been designed and developed in collaboration with Lockheed Martin, which is a US based aerospace and defence technology company.

6. What is "MK-4482", which was seen in the news recently?

- A) Missile Launcher
- B) Antiviral Drug ☒
- C) Submarine
- D) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle



- ✓ As per a recent study, MK-4482, an experimental antiviral drug, is said to have decreased levels of virus in the lungs of hamsters treated for SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- ✓ The scientists from the US National Institutes of Health published the study in the journal Nature Communications. MK-4482 is now in human clinical trials, and is delivered orally. These data suggest that MK-4482 treatment could mitigate high-risk exposures to the corona virus.

7. 'Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India' Report is set to be released by which department?

- A) Department of Environment
- B) Department of Science and Technology ☒
- C) Department of Atomic Energy
- D) Department of Space



- ✓ A report titled "Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India" is set to be released by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The report gives a detailed national level assessment of climate change vulnerability of states and districts all over India. The compilation of data pertaining to the report was supported by the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC).

8. Which country has drafted 'Ecocide' bill to punish acts of environmental damage?

- A) Germany
- B) France ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) Brazil



- ✓ The National Assembly of France has recently approved the creation of an "ecocide" offence, which seeks to punish acts of environmental damage. The bill will be applied to the most serious cases of environmental damage at national level, such as the pollution of a river. An offence of endangering the environment is punishable on the lines of endangering life.



9. Which is the first known species to be capable of both increasing and decreasing its brain size?

- A) Indian Jumping Ant ☒
- B) Lion Tailed Macaque
- C) Great Indian Bustard
- D) Olive Ridley Turtle



- ✓ Scientists have recently found that the Indian jumping ant can shrink its brain by nearly 20 percent to prepare its body for reproduction. As per the study, the ant can again increase its brain size over the following weeks. The Indian jumping ant is the first insect known to be capable of both increasing and decreasing its brain size.
- ✓ There are other insects including the honey bee which can increase their brain size.

10. Which institution developed the world's first affordable and long-lasting hygiene product named "DuroKea Series"?

- A) IISc Bangalore
- B) IIT Hyderabad ☒
- C) IIT Madras
- D) NIT Warangal



- ✓ Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually launched world's first affordable and long-lasting hygiene product in the name of "DuroKea Series". The hygiene product has been launched by IIT Hyderabad researchers. This innovative and long-lasting technologies was developed to combat COVID-19 virus spreading.

1. Which Ministry hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (ISEA)?

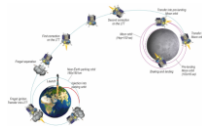
- A) Ministry of Shipping
- B) Ministry of Earth Sciences ☒
- C) Ministry of External Affairs
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (40-ISEA). The expedition has successfully returned to Cape Town on April 10, 2021.
- ✓ The team returned after completing a journey of about 12 thousand nautical miles in just 94 days. The 40-ISEA was onboard the chartered ice-class vessel 'MV Vasily Golovnin'. This achievement concludes four successful decades of India's scientific endeavour in Antarctica.

2. 'Luna 25' is the name of the Lunar Mission of which country?

- A) Russia ☒
- B) Japan
- C) China
- D) UAE



- ✓ Russia has unveiled a new series of space Lunar missions. The first of those missions, named as "Luna 25", is scheduled to launch this October. The country had a 45-year drought of moon landings.
- ✓ The lander has been designed to study the ice permanently frozen below the moon's surface. The scientists will also evaluate the dangers posed by sharp fragments of lunar dust.

3. "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures" is the theme of which special day celebrated on April 18?

- A) World Culture Day
- B) World Heritage Day ☒
- C) World Archaeology Day
- D) World Tourism Day



- ✓ Every year April 18 is celebrated as World Heritage Day or the International Day for Monuments and Sites. This year, the theme of the World Heritage Day is "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures".
- ✓ In India, Tourism and Culture Minister has inaugurated the first-ever online exhibition on Ramayana. The online exhibition showcases 49 miniature paintings collections of National Museum, New Delhi.

4. Table Mountain National Park, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which country?

- A) Australia
- B) South Africa ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) Philippines



- ✓ A massive fire, which has been burning along the Table Mountain National Park, South Africa, is said to be damaging buildings. Around 200 firefighters along with four helicopters have been dispatched to put off the massive blaze. Mostert's Mill, a historic windmill near the University of Cape Town built around 1796, has also been damaged by the fire.

5. Which country launched its first ever mega food park project in India, at Fanidhar, Gujarat?

- A) France
- B) Israel
- C) Italy ☒
- D) USA



- ✓ Italy has recently launched its first ever mega food park project in India involving food processing facilities. The pilot project "The Mega Food Park" was launched in virtual mode.
- ✓ A Letter of Intent was signed between the ICE Office in Mumbai and Fanidhar Mega Food Park, Gujarat.

6. Tehri lake, on whose bank an Adventure Sports Institute has been opened, is in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Uttarakhand ☒
- C) Odisha
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated a water sports and adventure institute on the bank of the Tehri lake. The institute will be run by the Indo Tibetan Border Police and has been built at a cost of Rs 20 crore.
- ✓ The institute is built at a cost of Rs 20 crore and will be run by the Indo Tibetan Border Police.

7. Israel has signed its biggest ever Defence procurement Deal with which country recently?

- A) USA
- B) China
- C) Germany
- D) Greece ☒



- ✓ Israel and Greece have signed their biggest ever defence procurement deal.
- ✓ It includes a USD 1.65 bn contract for establishment and operation of a training centre for the Hellenic Air Force by Israeli defence contractor. This deal is expected to strengthen political and economic ties between the countries. The Air Forces of the two countries also launched a joint exercise.

8. Vera Gedroits, who featured in Google Doodle recently, is the first female military surgeon of which country?

- A) Germany
- B) Russia ☒
- C) Italy
- D) France



- ✓ Google celebrated the 151<sup>st</sup> birthday of Dr. Vera Gedroits, a Russian surgeon, professor, poet, and author. She is also regarded as the country's first female military surgeon and one of the world's first female professors of surgery. Dr. Gedroits volunteered as a surgeon during the Russo-Japanese War in 1904.

9. What is the name of the condition in which the human body is deprived of adequate oxygen supply at the tissue level?

- A) Myoxia
- B) Hypoxia ☒
- C) Hyperoxia
- D) Typoxia



- ✓ Hypoxia is a condition in which the human body is deprived of adequate oxygen supply at the tissue level. This condition gets repeated in a COVID-19 patient due to the virus infection.
- ✓ Amid a massive shortage of oxygen cylinders in the country due to raise in coronavirus cases, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed SpO<sub>2</sub> (Blood Oxygen Saturation)

supplemental oxygen delivery system. It saves a person from sinking into a state of Hypoxia.

10. India signed a MoU with which country on 'Cities combating plastic entering the marine environment'?

- A) Finland
- B) Germany ☒
- C) Switzerland
- D) France



- ✓ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India and GIZ GmbH India on behalf of the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety signed an agreement on Technical Cooperation titled 'Cities Combating Plastic Entering the Marine Environment'.
- ✓ The project's outcomes are completely in line with the objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban focusing on sustainable solid waste management and the target to phase out single use plastic by 2022.

1. Which authority recently ruled that Flavoured milk is 'beverage containing milk' and will attract 12 percent GST?

- A) Finance Ministry
- B) Authority for Advance Ruling ☒
- C) Finance Commission
- D) Central Board of Indirect Taxes



- ✓ The Gujarat Authority for Advance Ruling (AAR) has ruled that Flavoured milk is 'beverage containing milk' and will attract 12 per cent GST. Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, which markets dairy product under Amul brand, had approached the AAR on the taxability under the GST of flavoured milk.

2. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has confirmed that which country started enriching Uranium up to 60 per cent?

- A) Israel
- B) Iran ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Nigeria



- ✓ The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has confirmed that Iran started enriching uranium up to 60 %.
- ✓ This figure is its highest-ever level of enrichment. The decision to boost uranium enrichment and to install modernized centrifuges at the Natanz nuclear facility was made due to the recent incident damaging the electricity distribution network in Natanz.

3. With reference to defence, what is "INAS 323", that was recently commissioned?

- A) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- B) Air Squadron ☒
- C) Submarine
- D) Missile Launcher



- ✓ Indian Navy's first unit of the indigenously-built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk III, Indian Naval Air Squadron 323 (INAS 323), was commissioned at INS Hansa, Goa.
- ✓ The Mk III version of the ALH will be used for Search and Rescue, Special Operations and Coastal Surveillance. The squadron will operate three ALH Mk III helicopters, a multi-role chopper with the Shakti engine manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

4. Sivasubramanian Ramann, who was making news recently, took over as the Chairman and MD of which organisation?

- A) SEBI
- B) SIDBI ☒
- C) ISRO
- D) DRDO



- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) announced that Sivasubramanian Ramann has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of the bank. The appointment is for a period of three years. Prior to this appointment, Ramann was serving as MD and CEO of National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL).
- ✓ He has also held the position of Executive Director in Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

5. Which is the second largest organ of the human body, which is also related to a special day celebrated on April 19, every year?

- A) Skin
- B) Liver ☒
- C) Lungs
- D) Brain



- ✓ World liver day is observed on every 19 April every year across the world, to spread awareness about liver related diseases.
- ✓ The liver is the second largest organ of the human body and an important part of the digestive system. It is second only to the skin, the largest organ. In 2018, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched National Viral Hepatitis Control Program, which aims to prevent and control viral hepatitis in India.

6. "Blue Nature Alliance", which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Space Conservation
- B) Ocean Conservation ☒
- C) Agricultural Conservation
- D) Peacock Conservation



- ✓ A new global marine initiative has been launched to protect and conserve 18 million square kilometres of the ocean over the next five years. This initiative is known as the "Blue Nature Alliance". It is led by several philanthropic organisations along with national governments, local communities, Indigenous peoples, scientists, and academics.

7. What is the rank of India in the World Press Freedom index 2021?

- A) 142 ☒
- B) 152
- C) 162
- D) 172

142

- ✓ World Press Freedom Index 2021 is published by the international journalism not-for-profit body, Reporters Without Borders (RSF). India is ranked 142, same as last year among the 180 countries and the index is topped by Norway followed by Finland and Denmark.
- ✓ India is regarded among the countries classified "bad" for journalism and is termed as one of the most dangerous countries for journalists trying to do their jobs properly.

8. What is the name of the new digital currency, being explored by the United Kingdom?

- A) UK Coin
- B) Bitcoin ☒
- C) Digi Brit
- D) Brit Currency



- ✓ The United Kingdom is exploring the possibility of creating a new digital currency, which is dubbed as "Bitcoin". The Bank of England and the Treasury are set to work together to assess the benefits of a central bank digital currency. The bank said the new currency, would be a new form of digital money for use by households and businesses.

9. Idriss Deby Itno, who recently passed away, was the ruler of which Central African nation for over three decades?

- A) Sudan
- B) Chad ☒
- C) Egypt
- D) Nigeria



- ✓ The President of the Central African country Chad, Idriss Deby Itno, who ruled the country for more than three decades, died recently during a fight with rebels. Hours earlier, the electoral officials had declared Deby as the winner of the April 11 presidential election.

10. What is the insurance cover extended to healthcare workers under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package?

- A) Rs 5 lakhs
- B) Rs 10 lakhs
- C) Rs 25 lakhs
- D) Rs 50 lakhs ☒



- ✓ The Government of India has recently extended the insurance scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package for health workers for a period of one year. This insurance scheme covers loss of life due to COVID 19 and accidental death due to COVID related duty. A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs would be paid to the claimant of insured person.
-

1. Which organization has released the "Global review of the death penalty" report?

- A) ILO  
B) Amnesty International ☒  
C) NHRC  
D) International Court of Justice



- ✓ The Amnesty International has released its annual report "global review of the death penalty". As per the report, there is an overall decrease in the number of global death penalties in the year 2020, but some countries have increased the death penalty of executions.
- ✓ As per the report, China is considered to be the world's most prolific executioner in the world.

2. What sum has been allocated to the Start Up India Seed Fund?

- A) Rs 145 Crore  
B) Rs 500 Crore  
C) Rs 945 Crore ☒  
D) Rs 2000 Crore



- ✓ The Startup India Seed Fund has been officially unveiled by the Union Minister for commerce Piyush Goyal. A sum of Rs.945 crore is allocated for the fund and is expected to benefit more than 3600 startups in the country. Also, it is expected to boost the start-up ecosystem in tier-2 and 3 cities.

3. Jagananna Vidya Deevena scheme is being implemented by which state?

- A) Telangana  
B) Andhra Pradesh ☒  
C) Odisha  
D) Karnataka



- ✓ The state government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing a scheme named Jagananna Vidya Deevena scheme, under which financial assistance is given to students for pursuing higher education. Recently, the Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy released the 1st instalment of education fee reimbursement under the scheme to the bank accounts of 10.88 lakh mothers.

4. Where is the International Energy Agency headquartered?

- A) Washington  
B) Geneva  
C) Paris ☒  
D) New Delhi



- ✓ The International Energy Agency, which is headquartered in Paris (France) has recently released a report, which states that energy related carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions across the globe have risen by about 1.5 billion tonnes in the year 2021. This is considered to be the largest increase in carbon emission since the year 2010.

5. India's first 'Oxygen Express' carried oxygen to which state?

- A) Uttar Pradesh  
B) Maharashtra ☒  
C) Assam  
D) Haryana



- ✓ The country's very first 'Oxygen Express' departed from Andhra Pradesh to supply oxygen to the state of Maharashtra. The Ro-Ro (roll-on, roll-off) service operated by Central Railways is ferrying

oxygen from Vishakhapatnam steel plant to meet the sudden surge in oxygen demand in Maharashtra due to COVID-19 pandemic.

6. "State of the Global Climate 2020" is the report released by which organization?

- A) World Bank  
B) IMF  
C) Asian Development Bank  
D) United Nations ☒



- ✓ The United Nation's 'State of the Global Climate' report has been released for the year 2020.
- ✓ The report has stated that Cyclone Amphan that made landfall in the India-Bangladesh border last year, was the costliest tropical cyclone on record for the North Indian Ocean. It has led to economic losses amounting \$14 billion to the affected nations.

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

- A) 74 ☒  
B) 84  
C) 94  
D) 104

74

- ✓ The World Economic Forum has recently released the global 'Energy Transition Index'. The index ranks 115 economies on the current performance of their energy systems and their readiness for transition to secure and sustainable energy systems.
- ✓ India has moved up two positions to rank 74<sup>th</sup> from previous year, and has improved on all key parameters. Sweden has topped the Energy Transition Index (ETI) for the third consecutive year. Switzerland and Finland were ranked in the next two positions.

8. FACT rebel group, who were seen in the news recently, are associated with which country?

- A) Sudan  
B) Chad ☒  
C) Afghanistan  
D) Nigeria



- ✓ Fighters of the Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT) rebel group was formed in 2016. The group said to have crossed into Chad recently with the aim of overthrowing President Idriss Deby.
- ✓ A day after provisional results of Deby being re-elected, the military announced that President, had died due to wounds suffered during a battle against the rebels.

9. Which space agency released the image of interacting galaxies Arp 273, in the shape of a 'Cosmic Rose'?

- A) ISRO  
B) JAXA  
C) ROSCOSMOS  
D) NASA ☒



- ✓ The NASA has recently released the image of interacting galaxies Arp 273, in the shape of a 'Cosmic Rose'. The image has been shared on the official Instagram handle of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. In the image, a group of spiral galaxies create a shape resembling a rose. This structure made of galaxies lies in the Andromeda constellation, at about 300 million light-years away.



10. What is the theme of the 'Earth Day 2021'?

- A) Covid and Climate Change
- B) Restore Our Earth ☒
- C) One Earth
- D) Earth is our asset



- ✓ April 22 is observed as the Earth Day throughout the world. It is an international event celebrated around the world to support for environmental protection. This year marks the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the annual celebrations. The theme for Earth Day 2021 is 'Restore Our Earth'.
  - ✓ The United Nations designated April 22 as 'International Mother Earth Day'.
-

1. As per the recent report released by the S&P Global Ratings in April 2021, what is the growth forecast of India in 2021?

- A) 6 percent  
B) 8 percent  
C) 11 percent ☒  
D) 14 percent



- ✓ The S&P Global Ratings in its report on Asia-Pacific Financial Institutions, highlighted that the Indian economy is projected to grow at 11% in the current fiscal year. The agency also revealed that some more targeted lockdowns will likely be needed and the impact of broader lockdowns on the economy could be substantial. As per official estimates, the Indian economy contracted 8% in 2020-21 fiscal.

2. 'COVIRAP' technology has been developed by which institute?

- A) NIT Tiruchirappalli  
B) AIIMS  
C) MIT  
D) IIT Kharagpur ☒



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology – Kharagpur has commercialized its healthcare product COVIRAP. This is a diagnostic technology to zero on Covid infections. Using this technology, the COVID test results can be obtained within 45 minutes of sampling and the results can be seen using a smartphone application.

3. The statehood day of which Indian state is celebrated as 'Utkal Divas' on April 1?

- A) Telangana  
B) Andhra Pradesh  
C) Odisha ☒  
D) Karnataka



- ✓ The Indian state of Odisha was formed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1936. Its statehood day is called as 'Utkal Divas', which is celebrated in the state and across the country.  
✓ On the memory of the formation of Odisha as a separate state from the earlier Bihar and Orissa province, the day has been celebrated.

4. The World Homeopathy Day is celebrated on which day, every year across the world?

- A) April 10 ☒  
B) April 11  
C) April 12  
D) April 13



- ✓ Every year April 10<sup>th</sup> is observed as World Homeopathy Day. The theme of this year's World Homeopathy Day is selected as "Homeopathy-Roadmap for Integrative Medicine". This day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, the father of the Homeopathy system of medicines.

5. The National Safe Motherhood Day is observed on which date in India?

- A) April 10  
B) April 11 ☒  
C) April 12  
D) April 13



- ✓ The National Safe Motherhood Day is observed every year on April 11 to create awareness on maternity care for pregnant and lactating

women. The NSMD is an initiative of White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood, India (WRAI). The theme of this year's NSMD is selected as "Stay at home during coronavirus, keep mother and newborn safe from coronavirus".

6. When did Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place?

- A) 1919 ☒  
B) 1820  
C) 1819  
D) 1857



- ✓ Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919): To protest against the repressive policies of the British Government, the unarmed peaceful people were gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar on April 13, 1919.  
✓ To suppress mass agitation, General Dyer ordered his troops to open fire on them without warning. That act of cruelty and barbarism by the britishers in that bagh was known in history as Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (or Amritsar Massacre).

7. National Civil Services Day is celebrated on which date?

- A) April 20  
B) April 21 ☒  
C) April 22  
D) April 23



- ✓ On April 21, 1947 the first Home Minister of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947. While delivering the historical address at the Metcalf House, Delhi, he described the Civil servants as 'Steel frame of India'.  
✓ To commemorate this occasion, April 21 has been observed as the Civil Services Day every year, across the country.

8. The 2021 National Panchayat Raj Day is celebrated on which date in India?

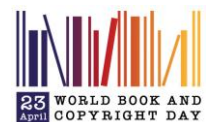
- A) April 23  
B) April 24 ☒  
C) April 25  
D) April 26



- ✓ The National Panchayat Raj Day is celebrated every year in India on April 24 by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj. On this day, in 1993, the Constitution (73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment) Act, 1992 came into force that has institutionalized Panchayat Raj through the village, Intermediate and District level Panchayats.

9. The World Book and Copyright Day is observed on which date?

- A) April 22  
B) April 23 ☒  
C) April 24  
D) April 25



- ✓ The World Book and Copyright Day is observed every year on April 23 to raise public awareness of books and reading and pay tribute to authors in the book industry, professionals or volunteers. The day is being organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote reading, publishing and copyright. It is a symbolic date for world literature.  
✓ In 1616, on this date, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega died. The day is also known as International Day of the Book or World Book Days. Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, has been designated as the UNESCO World Book Capital – 2021.

10. When is World Malaria Day observed?

- A) April 24
- B) April 25 ☒
- C) April 26
- D) April 27



- ✓ The World Malaria Day for the year 2021 was observed on 25th April this year. The theme for this year's World Malaria Day was "Reaching the zero-malaria target".
  - ✓ As per a WHO Report 2019, India represents 3% of the global malaria burden and it has registered a reduction in malaria cases by 49% and reduction in deaths by 50.5% compared with 2017 levels.
-

1. When is World Intellectual Property day celebrated?

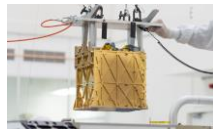
- A) April 25  
B) April 26 ☒  
C) April 27  
D) April 28



- ✓ World Intellectual Property Day is observed annually on 26 April. The event was established by the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2000 to "raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks and designs impact on daily life" and "to celebrate creativity, and the contribution made by creators and innovators to the development of societies across the globe". The theme for this year's World Intellectual Property Day is "IP and SMEs: Taking your ideas to market".

2. With reference to a recent NASA project, what does "M" in MOXIE stand for?

- A) Maintained  
B) Minimum  
C) Maximum  
D) Mars ☒



- ✓ NASA's Perseverance mission has extracted oxygen on the Mars planet, using its MOXIE (i.e) Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment. MOXIE has produced 5 grams of oxygen from carbon dioxide in the Martian atmosphere, which is enough for an astronaut to breathe for 10 minutes.
- ✓ On Mars, carbon dioxide makes up 96% of the gas in its atmosphere while Oxygen is only 0.13%. MOXIE intakes CO<sub>2</sub> and produces O<sub>2</sub> from it.

3. As per IEA report, by what percentage of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in India in 2021 will be higher than that of 2020?

- A) 1.4% ☒  
B) 5.4%  
C) 10.4%  
D) 20%

1.4%

- ✓ The International Energy Agency (IEA) in its recent report has stated that the carbon di oxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in India for the year 2021 would be 1.4% more than that in the year 2020 (i.e) 30 million tonnes more than the year 2020. Also, the report has stated that the expected rise in coal-based electricity generation would be 3 times more than the generation from other sources.

4. What is the name of the programme which is backed by WHO, that aims to fund young people's ideas to combat COVID-19's impact?

- A) Global Youth Mobilization ☒  
B) World COVID Response Program  
C) World Health Programme  
D) Global Economy Recover Programme



- ✓ "Global youth mobilization" aims to fund young people's ideas to combat the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, in various communities.
- ✓ This is supported by the World Health Organization and United Nations Foundation. It is also backed by UNICEF, USAID, UNFPA, European Commission, Salesforce, FIFA and Heads of State and Governments from around the world.

5. Which state / UT has recently formed an Oxygen audit committee?

- A) Kerala  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Goa  
D) Delhi ☒

O<sub>2</sub>

- ✓ The Government of Delhi has formed a 24-member oxygen audit committee, in wake of the acute shortage of medical oxygen in hospitals across Delhi. The committee would be monitoring the oxygen stocks and their consumption continuously. It would also ensure that the utilization of oxygen is rational and optimal.

6. Which space agency has launched a mission named SHIELDS?

- A) NASA ☒  
B) ISRO  
C) ESA  
D) ROSCOSMOS



- ✓ The American Space Agency – NASA has recently launched a mission named – SHIELDS [Spatial Heterodyne Interferometric Emission Line Dynamics Spectrometer]. This mission aims to study light from interstellar particles which have drifted into the solar system.
- ✓ The mission was launched using a NASA black Brant IX sounding rocket from Mexico.

7. "CODEX ALIMENTARIUS" which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Defence Procurement  
B) Climate Change  
C) Food Standards ☒  
D) Artificial Intelligence



- ✓ The 'CODEX ALIMENTARIUS' international food standards and guidelines contribute to the safety and quality of international food trade. Founded in 1963, the standards are provided by risk assessment bodies or consultations organized by FAO and WHO.
- ✓ Recently, the fifth session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) established under Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) was inaugurated virtually. It is taking place from April 20 to April 29 virtually with over 300 participants.

8. Which country has been validated by the World Health Organization (WHO) for having eliminated trachoma?

- A) Zambia ☒  
B) Zimbabwe  
C) South Africa  
D) Chad



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently validated Gambia for having eliminated trachoma as a public health problem. With this, Gambia became the second country in WHO's African Region to achieve this milestone.
- ✓ World Health Organization launched the 2021-2030 road map for neglected tropical diseases. Côte d'Ivoire was the 1<sup>st</sup> to achieve this feat.

9. KRI Nanggala-402, is a submarine of which country, in search of which the Indian Navy has joined the rescue operation?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Indonesia ☒
- D) Japan



- ✓ The Indian Navy has recently joined the rescue operation for an Indonesian submarine KRI Nanggala-402 and its 53-member crew that went missing.
- ✓ After its 44-year-old submarine went missing while conducting a torpedo drill north of the island of Bali, Indonesia had sought assistance from India. Indian Navy's Deep-Submergence Rescue Vessel left from Visakhapatnam as a part of the rescue operation.

10. World Youth Boxing Championships, where Indian women won 7 gold medals, were organised in which country?

- A) Russia
- B) Poland ☒
- C) Ukraine
- D) France



- ✓ In the World Youth Boxing Championships held in Kielce, Poland, Indian women boxers created history with seven gold medals. All the women finalists Gitika, Naorem Babyrojisana Chanu, Poonam, Vinka, Arundhati Choudhary, T Sanamacha Chanu and Alfiya Pathan finished on the top of the podium. Three other Indian boxers also won bronze medals.

1. India launched a "Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership", with which country?

- A) Australia
- B) Germany
- C) France
- D) USA ☒



- ✓ During the virtual summit on climate change convened by US President Joe Biden, India Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India and the US are launching an "Agenda 2030" partnership on green collaborations. "India-US Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership", aims to implement actions at high speed and on a large scale globally, to combat climate change.
- ✓ The summit was attended by various country leaders like Chinese President Xi Jinping, his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin etc.

2. Who has been selected as the external auditor to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)?

- A) Venkaiah Naidu
- B) GC Murmu ☒
- C) Rajesh Kumar
- D) SA Bobde



- ✓ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) GC Murmu has been selected as the external auditor of Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). He would serve the position for a term of three years. His term as an external auditor commences from the year 2021.
- ✓ OPCW is an intergovernmental organisation and the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention, which is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands.

3. The Indian government is to provide free food grains to the poor in May and June under which scheme?

- A) PM Jan Dhan Yojana
- B) PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana ☒
- C) PM Mudra Yojana
- D) PM Atma Nirbhar Kalyan Yojana



- ✓ The Indian Government has decided to resume providing free food grains to the poor in May and June. The 5-kg additional food grains to PDS beneficiaries are to be provided under the PMGKAY for two months – May and June. But this time, pulses are not being provided to the poor. PMGKAY was announced to help poor people tackle the pandemic.

4. When was the 2021 International Girls in ICT Day observed by ITU?

- A) April 21
- B) April 22 ☒
- C) April 23
- D) April 24



- ✓ Every year, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) celebrates the fourth Thursday of April as the International Girls in ICT Day. This year, 22<sup>nd</sup> April marked the 10th Anniversary of the day and was observed with the theme Connected Girls; Creating Brighter Futures."
- ✓ The International Telecommunication Union is an UN specialized agency and is headquartered in Geneva.

5. Japan is set to hold its first joint military drill with which two countries against China's aggression?

- A) India and US
- B) US and France ☒
- C) Russia and US
- D) Russia and France



- ✓ Japan is set to hold its first joint military drill with the US and French troops, amidst the increased actions of China in the regional waters. The exercise would be held from May 11 to 17 and will be the first large-scale exercise in Japan involving ground troops from all three countries. The exercise also would deepen the Defence cooperation between the three countries.

6. Which country announced the "International Climate Finance Plan", to double climate finance to developing countries?

- A) China
- B) USA ☒
- C) Germany
- D) France



- ✓ The United States President Joe Biden unveiled the "US International Climate Finance Plan". He announced that the country would double public climate finance to help poor countries reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The new climate finance plan has been released in lines with a new goal to cut emissions by 50%-52% from 2005 levels.

7. 'Mt Annapurna', which was making news recently, is located in which country?

- A) India
- B) Nepal ☒
- C) Bangladesh
- D) China



- ✓ The Annapurna Mountain Range in the Himalayas is located in north-central Nepal. It is the tenth highest mountain peak in the world, which includes a peak over 8000 metres.
- ✓ Recently, Priyanka Mohite from Satara in Maharashtra became the first Indian woman to scale Mt Annapurna. She had earlier summited several peaks including Mt Everest.

8. Which state launched the 'HARIHAR' policy, for Rehabilitation of abandoned children?

- A) Bihar
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Haryana ☒
- D) Punjab



- ✓ The Haryana Cabinet approved HARIHAR- Homeless Abandoned and Surrendered Children Rehabilitation Initiative Haryana Policy. The children abandoned when below 5 years of age and surrendered before turning one-year-old will be eligible for benefits of education, employment, and financial support, up to the age of 25 years or marriage.



9. What is the name given to small models of human organs that contain multiple cell types that behave similarly to the human body?

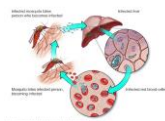
- A) Body models
- B) Tissue Chips ☒
- C) Cell Models
- D) Tissue Genes



- ✓ Tissue Chips are small models of human organs that contain multiple cell types that behave similarly to the human body. Four astronauts were recently launched to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a collaboration between NASA and SpaceX under the Commercial Crew Program. Their prime focus during this time will be to carry out a series of Tissue Chips in Space studies.

10. 'E-2025 Initiative', which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Climate Change
- B) Eradication of Malaria ☒
- C) Fintech
- D) Nutrition



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified 25 countries, with the potential to eradicate malaria by 2025 under its 'E-2025 Initiative'. As per a new report of the WHO—Zeroing in on malaria elimination, these 25 countries including three from Africa will have to work by responding to the dual threat of malaria and COVID-19. The WHO will provide support and technical guidance to these countries.

1. Which type of institutions have been allowed to start functioning in Gujarat's GIFT City?

- A) Payment Banks
- B) Non-Banking Financial Company ☒
- C) All India Financial Institutions
- D) Neo Banks



- ✓ Non-bank finance companies both local and global, are allowed to start operations in Gujarat's GIFT City, by the International Financial Services Centre. They will be allowed to offer the complete range of financial services including loans, investment banking & 3<sup>rd</sup> party product sales.

2. Which country has recently joined the Leadership Group for Industry Transition "LeadIT"?

- A) USA ☒
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) Japan



- ✓ The United States of America (USA) has joined Leadership Group for Industry Transition "LeadIT" - which is a climate initiative by India and Sweden. With USA joining the LeadIT, it is expected that the partnership would help meet Paris Agreement goals, strengthen competitiveness and create new sustainable jobs in all the three countries.

3. By what % India's export of processed food products has grown during April-February 2020-21, as per APEDA?

- A) 5.51%
- B) 10.51%
- C) 26.51% ☒
- D) 50.51%

**26.51%**

- ✓ As per a statement by APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), the export of processed food by India has increased by 26.51 per cent during April-February 2020-21. By value, the increase stood at Rs.43,798 crore. This increase has been achieved despite COVID 19 pandemic prevailing throughout the world.

4. The World's most powerful climate-change forecasting super computer is to be built in which country?

- A) India
- B) UK ☒
- C) China
- D) USA



- ✓ Microsoft and Met Office (UK) have joined hands to build the world's most powerful supercomputer to forecast weather and climate-change. The supercomputer, which is likely to be operational in 2022, will provide accurate warnings on severe weather and help protect from impact of extreme storms, floods and snow in the country.

5. Sterlite copper smelter plant, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Punjab



- ✓ After an all-party meet chaired by Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami, the Tamil Nadu state government decided to reopen the

Sterlite copper smelter plant at Thoothukudi. The plant was permitted to operate for a period of four months to produce medical oxygen.

- ✓ The company will not be allowed to open or operate other plants used for copper production. This plant was shut down by the Government of Tamil Nadu in 2018 after protests from locals.

6. Which player has clinched the 12<sup>th</sup> Barcelona Open title in tennis?

- A) Rafael Nadal ☒
- B) Stefanos Tsitsipas
- C) Jannik Sinner
- D) Andrey Rublev



- ✓ In the 12<sup>th</sup> Barcelona Open tournament, Spanish professional tennis player Rafael Nadal clinched the title. This victory marks his 87<sup>th</sup> title. He defeated his opponent Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece, who is also one among the top ten international players.
- ✓ The final match played between Nadal and Tsitsipas is considered to be longest ATP match in the year 2021.

7. 'Varuna' is a multilateral Defence Exercise between India and .....?

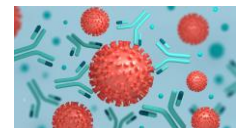
- A) Australia
- B) France ☒
- C) Indonesia
- D) Italy



- ✓ VARUNA is a multilateral Naval Exercise between India and France. The 19<sup>th</sup> edition of the bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2021' concluded on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Conducted in the Arabian Sea, the exercise included advanced air defence and anti-submarine programmes, intense flying operations, surface and anti-air weapon firings and other maritime security operations.

8. As per the Sero survey conducted by the CSIR, the recurrence of coronavirus outbreak in March is due to the lack of .....?

- A) Antigens
- B) Antibodies ☒
- C) Lymphocytes
- D) White Blood Cells



- ✓ As per the Sero survey conducted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the recurrence of coronavirus outbreak in March could be due to lack of meaningful antibodies in seropositive people after a peak in September 2020. The CSIR conducted a sero-survey on 10,427 people from 17 states and two union territories. The average sero positivity was 10.14 per cent, among the sample people.

9. What is the name of the medical device which concentrates oxygen from ambient air?

- A) Nebuliser
- B) Oxygen Concentrator ☒
- C) Oxygen Ventilator
- D) Oxygen Generator



- ✓ An oxygen concentrator is a medical device which concentrates oxygen from ambient air. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is highly needed for treating patients.
- ✓ The oxygen concentrator takes in the atmospheric air, which has 78% Nitrogen and 21% oxygen, filters it through a sieve, releases the nitrogen back into the air, and works on the remaining oxygen.

10. What is the theme of the "World Immunization Week" 2021?

- A) Vaccines bring us closer ☒
- B) Vaccine Works
- C) Educate and Immunise
- D) Vaccination Vacation



- ✓ The "World Immunization Week" is observed every year in the last week of April. It aims to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. This year, the theme of the week is 'Vaccines bring us closer'. Google also created a Doodle to thank the health workers on the onset of the World Immunization Week 2021.
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