

1. A three-judge bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar delivered verdict on which case, by 2:1 majority?

- A) Hathras Case
- B) Central Vista Project Case ☒
- C) Ayodhya Land Case
- D) Covid-19 vaccination case



- ❖ The Supreme Court's three-judge bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar delivered its verdict on Central Vista Project Case.
- ❖ The bench approved the re-development project by a 2:1 majority and upheld the exercise of power by the Centre as just and valid. It also confirmed the modifications in the change in land use and the recommendations of the environmental committee.

2. As per the recent statement of UNICEF, which country recorded the highest number of births on the New Year's Day?

- A) China
- B) India ☒
- C) United States
- D) Indonesia



- ❖ According to the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), over 371,500 babies were born on New Year's Day across the world. It also revealed that India has recorded the highest number of births at around 60,000.
- ❖ India is followed by China, Nigeria and Pakistan. It also estimated that 140 million children are estimated to be born in 2021 with average life expectancy of 84 years.

3. 'Freight Business Development Portal', which was making news, was launched by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B) Ministry of Railways ☒
- C) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- D) Ministry of MSME



- ❖ Union Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal has recently launched the Freight Business Development Portal.
- ❖ The portal aims to reduce the costs for logistics providers, provide online tracking facility for suppliers and to simplify the process of goods transportation. The portal, which aims to improve ease of doing business, can be accessed via the Indian Railways website.

4. What is the name of the webinar series launched by the Commerce Ministry, along with NPC and QCI?

- A) Atmanirbhar Industries
- B) Udyog Manthan ☒
- C) MSME Manthan
- D) Self-Reliance Series



- ❖ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, is organizing 'Udyog Manthan', in association with Quality Council of India, National Productivity Council, and major Industry bodies. It is a series of sector-specific webinars to promote the quality and productivity in Indian Industries.
- ❖ The webinar marathon focussing on both manufacturing and services is being held from January 4, 2021 to March 2, 2021.

5. Which organisation has issued a Statement on Climate of India during 2020?

- A) India Meteorological Department ☒
- B) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- C) Indian Institute of Tropical Studies
- D) DRDO



- ❖ The Climate Research and Services (CRS) of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has released a Statement on Climate of India during 2020. As per the statement, the annual mean land surface air temperature over India was above normal during the year 2020. The year 2020 was also named the eighth warmest year on record.

6. Which country has passed the "Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Bill" recently?

- A) India
- B) Pakistan
- C) United States of America ☒
- D) Afghanistan



- ❖ The US Congress has recently passed the "Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Bill".
- ❖ The bill makes it mandatory for U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to award 50% of scholarships to Pakistani Women under a Pakistan-based higher education scholarship programme. The scholarships are to be awarded from 2020 to 2022.

7. Omkareshwar dam, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Madhya Pradesh ☒
- C) Gujarat
- D) Jharkhand



- ❖ The world's largest floating solar energy project is set to be constructed at Omkareshwar dam on Narmada river, Madhya Pradesh. The 3,000-crore project, which will construct a 600 MW plant, will begin power generation by 2022-23.
- ❖ World Bank's IFC and Power Grid will provide the financial assistance to this project, which includes installing solar panels in the dam.

8. What is 'Bhartiya Nirdeshak Dravya', that was seen in the news recently?

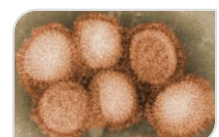
- A) COVID-19 Vaccination Framework
- B) Certified Reference Material ☒
- C) Space Technology Framework
- D) Cryptocurrency Technique



- ❖ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL) has adopted an international practice for production of Indian Certified Reference Material (CRMs).
- ❖ The CRM, which is branded as 'Bhartiya Nirdeshak Dravya', supports the testing and calibration of laboratories, for assuring quality at par with international standards.

9. Kottayam, where H5N8 - avian influenza has been confirmed recently, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala ☒
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Karnataka



- ❖ Several ducks in Kottayam city of Kerala state have been found to be infected with Avian influenza – H5N8.
- ❖ The state and district administration have initiated war-footing steps to prevent further spread of the disease. It has been stated that the virus killed 1,700 ducklings in the city which are around 70 days old.

10. India's 40th Scientific Expedition to which destination is being fuelled by Indian Oil?

- A) Antarctica ☒
- B) Arctic Ocean
- C) Mt. Everest
- D) Sentinel Islands



- ❖ Researchers of National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) are on a voyage to Antarctica, which marks the 40th Indian Scientific Expedition.
- ❖ Fuel for the expedition is provided by the Indian Oil. The expedition is flagged off from Mormugao Port, Goa with 43 members on board the expedition vessel. Jet A1 fuel, lubes and Marine Gas Oil (MGO) have been offered by Indian Oil.