

1. Which country's Mars Digger probe named the 'Mole' was declared dead recently?

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



- ❖ The Mars Digger probe named the 'Mole' was deployed on the Mars by NASA's InSight Lander. The probe has been recently declared dead by the Scientists, as it failed to burrow deep into the Mars. The heat probe was developed and built by the German Aerospace Center (DLR). It has been trying since 2019, to dig deep and find the internal temperature of the Mars. The InSight lander will continue working till 2022.

2. Which Listed Large Company won the ICSI National Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance?

- A) PFC
- B) ITC ☒
- C) NTPC
- D) ONGC



- ❖ ITC Limited has been named the 'Best Governed Company' at the 20th Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance, in the 'Listed Segment: Large Category'.
- ❖ The award was announced by a jury chaired by Former Supreme Court Judge, Justice A K Sikri. ITC's company secretary, Rajendra Kumar Singhi was also adjudged 'Governance Professional of the Year'.

3. What is 'MINUSMA', which was making news recently?

- A) UN Peacekeeping Mission in Mali ☒
- B) Name of the New Planet
- C) Name of the New Star
- D) USA Federal Tax Act



- ❖ UN - Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) is a peace keeping mission of the United Nations in Mali, which was established in 2013. It is considered to be the most dangerous UN operations in the world.
- ❖ Recently, the peacekeepers' convoy was attacked by an improvised explosive device (IED) by unidentified gunmen of Mali. The attack led to death of 4 peacekeepers and 5 were wounded.

4. Which company has manufactured India's first driverless metro cars?

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



NEW FRONTIERS. NEW DREAMS

- ❖ India's first state of the art driverless metro cars have been manufactured by BEML Limited. It has been manufactured at its manufacturing facility at Bangalore and was unveiled by the Union Defence Minister.
- ❖ The unit is made up of stainless-steel body that has a carrying capacity of 2280 passengers. BEML has obtained orders for manufacture of 576 such cars for Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)'s MRS1 project.

5. Indian Institute of Spices Research, which was seen in the news, is headquartered in which state/UT?

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



ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
Kozhikode-673012, Kerala, India

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) is an autonomous organization and a subsidiary of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), under the Ministry of Agriculture, India.
- ❖ It is engaged in agricultural research related to spices in India and is headquarters in Kozhikode, Kerala. Recently Principal Horticulture Scientist J Rema assumed charge as the new Director of Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR).

6. 'Jallikattu' is an event celebrated in which Indian state/UT?

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



- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami flagged off the famous jallikattu event at Alanganallur in Madurai District of the state. Jallikattu is a bull-taming sport traditionally organised in the state, as an important part of the Pongal Festival called the 'Maatu Pongal'. This event is continued after the state passed an ordinance to conserve the tradition.

7. PMKVY is implemented under the aegis of which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Minority Affairs
- B) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- C) Ministry of Skill Development ☒
- D) Ministry of Coal



- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) was launched in the year 2015 and is implemented by the Union Ministry of Skill Development. The 3rd Phase of the scheme has been launched recently, that aims to impart training to of eight lakh candidates over a scheme period of 2020-2021 with an outlay of Rs 949 crore.

8. What is the term "Bojjannakonda" that is seen in news recently?

- A) Heritage Buddhist site ☒
- B) Heritage Jain site
- C) Cave temple
- D) Memorial Hall



- ❖ "Bojjannakonda" is a Buddhist rock-cut cave situated near a village Sankaram near Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The sites are said to date between 4th and 9th Century A.D, when Buddhism is the majority religion of Sankaram village. Recently, annual Buddha Mela was celebrated in the Buddhist heritage site, which is generally celebrated a day after Sankranti festival.

9. With reference to STARStreak Air Defence system, India has recently teamed up with which country?

- A) Germany
- B) Israel
- C) Japan
- D) United Kingdom ☒



- ❖ India's Bharat Dynamics and the global Aerospace company Thales have signed an agreement to collaborate on the STARStreak Air Defence system.
- ❖ To be undertaken with the support of both the Governments of India and the United Kingdom, the project will enable the export of the system to various customers including the UK Armed Forces. With this, BDL can also offer the system to Indian Armed Force with 60% indigenous content.

10. Who is/was the first U.S President to be impeached twice?

- A) Bill Clinton
- B) Andrew Johnson
- E) Donald Trump ☒
- D) Ronald Reagan



- ❖ United States House of Representatives has voted to impeach President Donald Trump after the riots at the Capitol building.
- ❖ With this round of impeachment, the Donald Trump becomes the only US president to be impeached a second time. The House impeached him on the charge of incitement of insurrection for his role in the recent riot by his supporters, at the US Capitol.