

1. The first-ever National Road Safety Month was observed in which year, in India?

- A) 2010
- B) 2015
- C) 2017
- D) 2021 ☒



- ❖ The Union Road Transport Minister and Union Defence Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the first-ever National Road Safety Month on January 18, 2021. The campaign seeks to build awareness on road safety and reduce road accidents in India.
- ❖ In the recent past, only 'Road safety week' was being organised. The Minister also presented various awards including best performing State in Road Safety works, Good Samaritan award, Best State Transport Corporations, among others.

2. With reference to DRDO, what is 'Rakshita', which was making news recently?

- A) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- B) Bike-based Ambulance ☒
- C) Air Ambulance
- D) Water Ambulance



- ❖ A bike-based ambulance named 'Rakshita' has been developed by the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), a laboratory of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ❖ It has been handed over to the Central Reserve Police Force. It seeks to provide quicker medical support to those living in narrow populous streets and remote locations.

3. Which country chaired the recent session of Executive Board of WHO, held in January 2021?

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



- ❖ Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan chaired the 148th session of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization, through video conference. He also said that the year 2020 is described as the Year of Science, while the Year 2021 would be the year of global solidarity and survival. He also sought for fair and equitable distribution of the COVID vaccines.

4. The Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS), which was making news, functions under which Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Jal Sakthi ☒
- C) Ministry of Agriculture
- D) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change



- ❖ The Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS) is an attached office of the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Jal Shakti ministry.
- ❖ Based at New Delhi, it deals with investigations and research in Geotechnical engineering, construction materials and river valley projects. It helps in development of water resources sector in the country, through Central Water Commission. Minister of State Jal Shakti conducted a Review Meeting of CSMRS recently.

5. 'Davos Agenda', which was making news recently, is the online event of which organisation?

- A) International Monetary Fund
- B) World Economic Forum ☒
- C) G7 Association
- D) International Olympic Committee



- ❖ Davos Agenda is the online event of World Economic Forum's annual meeting held at Davos, Switzerland. The rich and powerful of the world are said to be the participants.
- ❖ This year, the five-day meeting is scheduled to be held between January 25 and 29, in the virtual mode, on account of COVID pandemic. WEF's 'Great Reset Initiative' is also to be launched during the meeting. Several Union Ministers and top businesspersons from India are to attend the event.

6. Siang River, which was making news with reference to Red Panda species, is located in which state?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) West Bengal
- D) Odisha



- ❖ As per the recent study by the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Both the species of Panda, namely Himalayan red panda (Ailurus fulgens) and the Chinese red panda (Ailurus styani) are present in India.
- ❖ It also revealed that the Siang River in Arunachal Pradesh serves as the boundary by splitting the red panda into these two genetic species. As per another study, the Himalayan red panda was affected more during the Pleistocene glaciation.

7. Who is the Chairperson of the task force set up by Government of India on "age of marriage for women"?

- A) Menaka Gandhi
- B) Usha Thorat
- C) Jaya Jaitley ☒
- D) G Rohini



- ❖ The Government of India had earlier set up a task force under the chairmanship of Jaya Jaitley, to revisit the apt age for marriage of women.
- ❖ This committee was set up in accordance to the Prime Ministers Independence Day speech on "right age of marriage for women". Recently, the panel has submitted its findings in the form of a report to the Ministry of Women & Child Development and to the Prime Minister's Office.

8. Who is the first woman Fighter pilot of India at the Republic Day parade?

- A) Bhawana Kanth ☒
- B) Mohana Singh
- C) Avani Chaturvedi
- D) Shivangi



- ❖ Flight lieutenant Bhawana Kanth is to become the first woman fighter pilot to take part in India's Republic Day parade. She will be a part of the Indian Air Force's tableau which will showcase the light combat aircraft, light combat helicopter and the Sukhoi-30 fighter plane. In 2016, She was declared as the first combat pilot along with two other pilots Mohana Singh, and Avani Chaturvedi.

9. 'Desert Knight-21', which was making news recently, is the Military exercise between India and which country?

- A) Brazil
- B) France ☒
- C) Japan
- D) United Kingdom



- ❖ The bilateral Air Exercise, 'Desert Knight Exercise' between Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force is scheduled to be held this month. To participate in the exercise, A-400M tactical aircraft from France arrived at Jodhpur.
- ❖ Indian Air Force's Mirage 2000, Su-30 MKI, Rafale, and IL-78 Flight Refuelling Aircraft will feature in the exercise. The two countries have organised six editions of air exercises named Garuda.

10. Which institution releases the 'India Innovation Index'?

- A) NITI Aayog ☒
- B) CSIR
- C) RBI
- D) ISRO



NITI Aayog

- ❖ NITI Aayog released the second edition of its India Innovation Index, which ranks different states and UTs based on the basis of their support to innovation.
- ❖ The first edition of the index was launched in October 2019. The states and UTs have been divided into 17 'Major States', 10 'North-East and Hill States', and 9 'City-States and UTs'. Karnataka retained the first spot in this year's index followed by Maharashtra.