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# SECOND WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



## FEBRUARY 2021

February 08-14

1. What is the theme of the International Day of Human Fraternity 2021?

- A) A Pathway to the Future ☒
- B) Let's work together
- C) Let's work for the Future
- D) A Pathway to the Fraternity



- ✓ The International Day of Human Fraternity is observed every year by the United Nations on February 4. This year the theme is: A Pathway to the Future. In the year 2019, on the same day, the document entitled "Human fraternity for world peace and living together" was signed in 2019.

2. Indian-American Bhavya Lal has been appointed as the acting chief of staff of which organisation?

- A) NASA ☒
- B) SpaceX
- C) Blue Sky
- D) JAXA



- ✓ Indian-American Bhavya Lal has been appointed as the acting chief of staff of the US space agency, NASA. She was earlier serving as a member of the research staff at the Institute for Defence Analyses-Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI). She had served in several important positions related to space sector.

3. Who is the author of the book titled 'The Little Book of Encouragement'?

- A) Sachin Tendulkar
- B) Dalai Lama ☒
- C) Malala Yousafzai
- D) P V Sindu



- ✓ 'The Little Book of Encouragement' is a book authored by the Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama recently. The book includes quotes and words of wisdom to the people, to face the realities of the world posed by the pandemic. It also discusses how to combat extremism, polarity and climate change and his views on Tibet in his new book.

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

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



- ✓ 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.

5. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India?

- A) Siddhartha Mohanty ☒
- B) T C Suseel Kumar
- C) Vipin Anand
- D) Mukesh Gupta



- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Siddhartha Mohanty as the new Managing Director of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India.

- ✓ He is currently serving as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of LIC Housing Finance. Siddhartha Mohanty has replaced TC Suseel Kumar, who retired on January 31, 2021. LIC has four Managing Directors and one Chairman.

6. India's first Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management has been set up in which Indian city?

- A) Cochin
- B) Chennai ☒
- C) Visakhapatnam
- D) Guwahati



- ✓ India's first Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management has been set up in Chennai. It aims to strengthen research for conservation and management of the wetlands. This has been set up as a part of the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai. The Centre would also serve as a knowledge hub and facilitate exchanges between state wetland authorities.

7. The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) is an international non-governmental organisation based in which country?

- A) Italy
- B) India ☒
- C) United States
- D) France



- ✓ The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative is an independent and international non-governmental organisation which works towards the realisation of human rights in the Commonwealth countries.
- ✓ The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative has recently issued a statement calling for the withdrawal of sedition cases file against journalists in India. It also sought the repealing of sedition and criminal defamation laws.

8. What is the theme of the 'World Wetlands Day 2021'?

- A) Wetlands for Us
- B) Wetlands and Water ☒
- C) Wetlands and COVID-19
- D) Save Wetlands



- ✓ World Wetlands Day is observed every year on 2<sup>nd</sup> February to create awareness on the importance of wetlands and its role played in the planet. This year, the theme of the World Wetlands Day is 'Wetlands and Water'. This year's theme highlights the importance of wetlands as a source of freshwater.

9. Defence Ministry has signed a deal to procure Tejas Light Combat Aircraft from which organisation?

- A) DRDO
- B) HAL ☒
- C) L&T
- D) GSRE Ltd



- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently inaugurated a new plant at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Bengaluru. It aims to double the production of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft, India's indigenous fighter jet. The Defence Ministry also signed a Rs 48000 crore deal to procure 83 Tejas LCA from HAL. This is said to be the biggest indigenous defence procurement.

10. In which state, the Kailveli Lake is located?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Karnataka
- D) Odisha



- ✓ The Kailveli Lake is a coastal lake and a wet land, situated in Villupuram District of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The lake is near the Bay of Bengal and is the second-largest brackish water lake in Southern India after the lake Pulicat. The district administration has recently issued the 1<sup>st</sup> declaration under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, to declare the wetlands as a bird sanctuary.

1. Which Union Ministry has launched a unified portal for 'Gobardhan' scheme?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Power
- C) Ministry of Jal Shakti ☒
- D) Ministry of Agriculture



- ✓ The Union Jal Shakti Ministry has recently launched a unified portal on the 'Gobardhan' scheme. The portal aims to monitor the progress made under the scheme. The 'Gobardhan' scheme was launched by the Government of India to manage cattle and biodegradable waste and also help enhance farmers' income. It is being implemented under the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen-Phase 2.

2. 'Pragyan Bharati' and 'Bhasha Gourab' are the recent initiatives of which Indian state?

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Assam ☒
- C) Telangana
- D) Odisha



- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal recently launched two schemes named 'Pragyan Bharati' and 'Bhasha Gourab'.
- ✓ Under Pragyan Bharati scheme, funds are provided to college students for purchasing text books while under the Bhasha Gourab scheme, the state government provides financial assistance to 21 Sahitya Sabhas (literary bodies).

3. Which country hosted the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave in February 2021?

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



- ✓ India hosted the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave on February 4, 2021 on the side-lines of Aero India 2021 event.
- ✓ The broad theme of the conclave is 'Enhanced Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Indian Ocean'. During the conclave, India announced that it is ready to supply missile systems, LCA and other weapons systems to the countries in Indian Ocean Region.

4. What is the classification of Fishing Cat, as per IUCN Red list?

- A) Least Concern
- B) Endangered
- C) Vulnerable ☒
- D) Extinct



- ✓ Fishing Cat is a special cat species that is found in wetland and mangrove ecosystems.
- ✓ The cat species is classified as 'Vulnerable' as per IUCN Red list. A team named Fishing Cat Conservation Alliance has been formed that comprise of conservationists, researchers and enthusiasts across the world working to conserve and protect Fishing Cat species.

5. Which technology entrepreneur has been appointed to the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB)?

- A) Rajni Bector
- B) Rattan Lal
- C) Sridhar Vembu ☒
- D) Ali Manikfan



- ✓ The founder of the Indian multinational Software company Zoho, Sridhar Vembu has been appointed to the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB).
- ✓ The board is led by National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval. Other new members are former ISRO Chairman K Radhakrishnan, academic member Anshuman Tripathy and former ambassador Arun K Singh.

6. Praveen Sinha has been appointed as the Acting Chief of which Indian organisation?

- A) Intelligence Bureau
- B) Central Vigilance Commission
- C) Central Bureau of Investigation ☒
- D) Election Commission of India



- ✓ The Additional Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Praveen Sinha has been appointed as the acting chief of CBI.
- ✓ After Rishi Kumar Shukla who retired recently, the acting Chief has been appointed till a decision on a New Director is taken. This is the third time in last five years that an interim chief will head CBI.

7. India's first thunderstorm research testbed is to be set up in which state/UT?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Odisha ☒
- C) West Bengal
- D) Maharashtra



- ✓ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has announced that the country's first thunderstorm research testbed is to be set up in Balasore, Odisha.
- ✓ The testbed will be established in a collaboration between the Ministry of Earth Sciences, IMD, DRDO and ISRO. It aims to reduce human fatalities and loss of property due to lightning strikes.

8. Which global digital payment company has announced to shut down its payment operations in India?

- A) PayPal ☒
- B) Capital One
- C) American Express
- D) AeroPay



- ✓ American digital payments major, PayPal Inc. announced that it will shut down its payment operations in the country.
- ✓ PayPal, which was offering its payment gateway to Indian brands and online merchants, will shut down its domestic payment services in India, from April 1. It was also providing international remittance services for small and medium enterprises.

9. 'KAPILA' programme, which was making news recently, is associated with which sector?

- A) Science
- B) Politics
- C) Business
- D) Intellectual Property Rights ☒



- ✓ In October 2020, the Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually launched the 'KAPILA' Kalam Program for Intellectual Property Literacy and Awareness campaign.
- ✓ Under the programme students of higher educational institutions will get information about the system of application process for

patenting their invention. It aims to create awareness about the Intellectual Property Rights.

10. India recently participated in the first meeting of Joint Working Group in the field of Renewable Energy, with which country?

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Bahrain ☒
- C) France
- D) Japan



- ✓ The first meeting of the Joint Working Group in the field of Renewable Energy between India and the Kingdom of Bahrain was held recently in virtual format.
- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Bahrain in July 2018, for promoting bilateral cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy. The meeting focussed on enhanced cooperation in the field of solar, wind and clean hydrogen.

1. 'National Safety Council' was set up by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) Ministry of Labor ☒
- E) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- D) Ministry of Heavy Industries



- ✓ National Safety Council (NSC) was set up by the Ministry of Labour in 1966 as a not-for-profit body on Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) at the national level. As per a press statement by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, S.N. Subrahmanyam, CEO and Managing Director of L&T Ltd, has been recently appointed as Chairman of the National Safety Council, for a period of three years.

2. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, which crossed 1.75 crore beneficiaries, is a scheme under which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) Ministry of Women and Child Development ☒
- C) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- D) Ministry of Law and Justice



- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana is a scheme under Ministry of Women and Child Development. It was launched in the year 2016.
- ✓ Under this scheme, pregnant women and lactating mothers receive Rs 5,000 on the birth of their first child in three instalments. The Ministry recently announced that the scheme has crossed over 1.75 crore beneficiary women till 2020.

3. What is the capital city of Barbados, which recently received COVID-19 vaccines from India?

- A) Bridgetown ☒
- B) Churchtown
- C) Oistins
- D) Bathsheba



- ✓ Barbados is an island country located in the Caribbean region of North America. It is an independent British Commonwealth nation with Bridgetown as its capital.
- ✓ Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley has thanked the Indian government for donation of COVID-19 vaccine doses. The country has a population of over 2.87 lakhs with 1641 coronavirus cases.

4. As per the third round of the Sero survey by ICMR, how many Indians out of every five were infected by the coronavirus?

- A) 0.5
- B) 1
- C) 2
- D) 5 ☒



- ✓ As per the third round of the serological survey by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) finds that nearly one in five Indians were infected by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.
- ✓ This nation-wide survey found the affected cases till December 2020. A serological test detects whether a person has antibodies to the Sars-Cov-2, which indicates the occurrence of past infection.

5. India held its first High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment with which association?

- A) EU ☒
- B) BRICS
- C) ASEAN
- D) BIMSTEC



- ✓ India held its first High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment with the European Union. The dialogue was co-chaired by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal.
- ✓ During the 15<sup>th</sup> India-EU Leader's Summit held in July 2020, the leaders from both the sides committed to establish this dialogue. It aims to provide ministerial-level guidance for promoting the bilateral trade and investment relations.

6. Srivilliputhur – Megamalai Tiger Reserve, which was recently approved, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Telangana
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ The Central government has given its approval for the creation of Srivilliputhur – Megamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ This is the fifth tiger reserve in Tamil Nadu and will include the Meghamalai and Srivilliputhur Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuaries. The State government will notify its fifth tiger reserve, after the notification from the Centre.

7. Which Union Ministry is to set up 'Investment Clearance Cell' single window clearance system?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- B) Ministry of Labor
- C) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
- D) Ministry of Heavy Industries



- ✓ As the Union Commerce and Industry, the Central Government is working on establishing a Single Window System for clearances and approvals of industries in the country.
- ✓ A centralized Investment Clearance Cell was proposed last year, to prevent the investors from visiting various IT platforms and offices to obtain clearances. This one-stop digital platform will enable them receive all central and state clearances and approvals required.

8. Who is the first cricket player to score a double century in the 100<sup>th</sup> test match?

- A) Joe Root ☒
- B) Virat Kohli
- C) M S Dhoni
- D) Ben Stokes



- ✓ The England Cricket Team Captain Joe Root has become the first cricket player to score a double century in the 100<sup>th</sup> test match. Joe Root achieved this feat during the test match against India at Chennai. He scored fifth double century of his career.

9. *Brookesia nana*, which was making news recently, is one of the smallest species of which family?

- A) Chameleon ☒
- B) Frog
- C) Lizard
- D) Turtles



- ✓ A German-Madagascan expedition team has discovered a chameleon subspecies in Madagascar, which might be the smallest reptile on earth. Named as *Brookesia nana*, the male reptile has a body of only 13.5 mm and top to tail length of 22mm.



- ✓ As per the Scientists, the species native to northern Madagascar rainforest might be threatened by extinction.
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10. Which state has launched a project called 'Thozhi'?

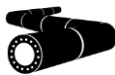
- A) Tamil Nadu ☒  
B) Kerala  
C) Telangana  
D) Karnataka



- ✓ A unit called 'Thozhi' has been set up at the Chennai Police to provide direct and psychological assistance and counseling to children, women and their families affected by sexual offenses in their place of residence.
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1. Dobhi – Durgapur Natural Gas Pipeline, a part of Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project, is located in which state?

- A) Assam
- B) West Bengal ☒
- E) Odisha
- D) Bihar



- ✓ The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi dedicated the 348 km Dobhi – Durgapur Natural Gas Pipeline section. The LPG import terminal is a part of the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project.
- ✓ He also laid the foundation stone of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Catalytic-Isodewaxing unit of Haldia Refinery in the state.

2. 'Asom Mala' programme has been launched in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a programme in the state of Assam named 'Asom Mala'. It aims to improve state highways and major district roads.
- ✓ The programme also aims to provide quality inter-linking roads between the National Highways and the Rural roads. Another objective of the scheme is to promote 'Multi-modal transportation' in the state.

3. India's first geothermal field development project is to be established in which state?

- A) Himachal Pradesh
- B) Ladakh ☒
- C) Punjab
- D) Rajasthan



- ✓ India's first-ever geothermal field development project is to be established in Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ✓ A tripartite agreement regarding the project has been signed between Union Territory Administration Ladakh, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

4. Which Indian documentary film won the audience award at the Sundance Film Festival 2021?

- A) Writing with Fire ☒
- B) The Pink Cloud
- C) I was a simple Man
- D) The Changing same



- ✓ An Indian documentary film titled "Writing with Fire", won the audience award in the World Cinema Documentary category at the Sundance Film Festival 2021. The film narrates the rise of India's only newspaper run by Dalit women, the 'Khabar Lahariya'.
- ✓ The festival is presented by US-based Sundance non-profit institute, which has been recognising independent artists across the world.

5. Education Ministry is to rename Samagra Shiksha Scheme-funded residential schools and hostels after whose name?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) 'Netaji' Subash Chandra Bose ☒
- C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- D) B R Ambedkar



- ✓ The Education Ministry is set to name the 383 residential schools and 680 hostels funded under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme as 'Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose residential schools'.
- ✓ Under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, the Ministry provides financial assistance to States and UTs to open and run residential schools, to promote schooling in less populated areas and tribal areas.

6. 'Business Confidence Index', which was making news recently, is released by which institution?

- A) RBI
- B) NABARD
- C) NCAER ☒
- D) SEBI



- ✓ The Business Confidence Index (BCI) is developed by the Delhi-based economic think tank National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). As per the recent edition, the index increased 29.6 percent between second and third quarter of the current financial year. The survey findings are based on the responses from 500 companies.

7. "Al-Amal", which was making news recently, is the unmanned space probe of the country?

- A) Israel
- B) UAE ☒
- C) Qatar
- D) Oman



- ✓ "Al-Amal" ('Hope' in Arabic), is the unmanned space probe of the United Arab Emirates. The ambitious space programme is the first interplanetary mission of the Arab countries.
- ✓ It is expected to reach the orbit of Mars and study on its weather. UAE launched the probe from Japan last year. It also has plans to launch an unmanned rover to the moon by 2024.

8. Which country clinched the ATP Cup tennis tournament?

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



- ✓ Russia defeated Italy to clinch the ATP Cup tennis tournament, held recently in Melbourne. Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev won their singles matches in straight sets. With this win, the two Russian players head into the Australian Open.
- ✓ Ashleigh Barty also enters the Australian Open by winning her ninth WTA singles title by winning the Yarra Valley Classic final.

9. Tapovan hydel project, which was making news recently, is located in which Indian state?

- A) Uttarakhand ☒
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Arunachal Pradesh
- D) Nagaland



- ✓ After the Glacier burst occurred in the state of Uttarakhand, over hundred persons are missing in the massive flash flood.
- ✓ The flood washed away two hydel power projects namely the Rishiganga small hydro project and National Thermal Power Corporation's (NTPC) Tapovan project. The projects are located on the banks of the Dhauliganga river in the state.



10. When is the World Pulses Day observed, across the world?

- A) February 8
- B) February 9
- C) February 10 ☒
- D) February 11



- ✓ In 2019, the United Nations General Assembly announced 10 February as the World Pulses Day. This was followed by the celebration of the year 2016 as the International Year of Pulses (IYP), across the world, led by the Food and Agriculture Organization.
  - ✓ The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the nutritional values of pulses and ways to tackle malnutrition through pulses. In this year 2021, World Pulses Day was celebrated on social media with the hash tag #Love\_Pulses.
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1. When is the 'International Day of Women and Girls in Science' observed?

- A) February 10
- B) February 11 ☒
- E) February 12
- D) February 13



- ✓ International Day of Women and Girls in Science' is observed every year on February 11, across the world. This year, the day will mark the sixth International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly. United Nations leads the observance of the day. This year, the theme is 'Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19'.

2. Which Indian airport has bagged the World's 'Voice of the Customer' award from the Airports Council International?

- A) Bengaluru International Airport ☒
- B) Chennai International Airport
- C) Cochin International Airport
- D) Mumbai International Airport



- ✓ The Bangalore International Airport Limited's (BIAL) has won the World's 'Voice of the Customer' award from the Airports Council International. The award recognises airports which continued to prioritise the customers during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. As per the council, the airport showed significant efforts in collecting passenger feedback.

3. 'World Sustainable Development Summit' is organised by which institution?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) UNDP
- C) The Energy and Resources Institute ☒
- D) World Economic Forum



- ✓ 'World Sustainable Development Summit' is the flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI). The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and the Ministry of Earth Sciences are key partners of the summit.
- ✓ TERI is a New Delhi-based non-profit research institute. The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the summit is to be inaugurated by the PM. The theme of the summit is 'Redefining Our Common Future: Safe and Secure Environment for All'.

4. Who won the 'Business reformer of the year award' at the Economic Times Awards?

- A) Urjit Patel
- B) Raghuram Rajan
- C) Shaktikanta Das ☒
- D) Amitabh Kant



- ✓ In this year's Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das won the Business reformer of the year. The jury was led by the Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai.
- ✓ Lifetime Achievement Award was won by former HDFC Bank MD Aditya Puri. Entrepreneur of the year award was won by Adar Poonawalla.

5. Which cricket player recently became the 6<sup>th</sup> Indian to take 300 wickets in test cricket?

- A) Jasprit Bumrah
- B) Ishant Sharma ☒
- C) Ravichandran Ashwin
- D) Bhuvaneshwar Kumar



- ✓ India fast bowler Ishant Sharma became the sixth Indian bowler to take 300 wickets in Test cricket. He achieved this feat in his 98<sup>th</sup> test against England at Chennai. Previously, Anil Kumble, Kapil Dev, Ravichandran Ashwin, Harbhajan Singh and Zaheer Khan are the other Indian bowlers who had taken over 300 wickets in tests.

6. 'The India Toy Fair' was launched in which year?

- A) 2018
- B) 2019
- C) 2020
- D) 2021 ☒



- ✓ The Government of India has launched the 'The India Toy Fair 2021', to promote domestic manufacturing of toys. It is to be held as a digitally accessible exhibition and platform to connect various stakeholders of Toy industry. The programme is scheduled from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. Webinars by State Governments, Knowledge sessions and Competitions are being planned.

7. Which organisation released the "India Energy Outlook 2021"?

- A) International Energy Agency ☒
- B) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
- C) International Energy Forum
- D) Bureau of Energy Efficiency



- ✓ In accordance with the International Energy Agency's (IEA) "India Energy Outlook 2021", India will surpass European Union as the world's third-biggest energy consumer by 2030.
- ✓ In this regard, India energy demand growth share will be maximum at 25% in the next two decades. India needs to spend an additional \$1.4 trillion, to adopt clean energy technologies over the next 20 years.

8. What is the theme of RBI's Financial Literacy Week - 2021 that was celebrated from February 8 to 12?

- A) KYC, Exercising Credit Discipline, Grievance Redressal and Going Digital
- B) Consumer Protection
- C) Credit Discipline and Credit from Formal Institutions ☒
- D) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India observes Financial Literacy Week (FLW) annually since 2016, to promote and spread awareness about financial education messages. 'FLW 2021' is being celebrated from Feb.8 to 12.
- ✓ Theme of FLW - 2021 is, "Credit Discipline and Credit from Formal Institutions". The strategy recommends the '5C' approach to disseminate financial education in the country. 5C - Content, Capacity, Community, Communication and Collaboration.

9. What is the theme of National Horticulture Fair - 2021?

- A) Horticulture for Start-up and Stand-up India ☒
- B) Making Farming an Enterprise
- C) Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life
- D) Horticulture for Promotion of Rural Entrepreneurship



- ✓ A 5-day National horticulture fair is to be held here by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research - Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bangalore from Feb.8. The national fair would be organised under the theme "Horticulture for Startup & Standup India".

10. Who authored the book, 'By Many a Happy Accident: Recollections of a Life'?

- A) Pratibha Patil
- B) Ram Nath Kovind
- C) L K Advani
- D) Hamid Ansari ☒



- ✓ Former Vice President of India Mohammad Hamid Ansari has authored a book titled 'By Many a Happy Accident: Recollections of a Life'. It describes the unplanned happenings that took place in the life of Mohammad Hamid Ansari. Mohammad Hamid Ansari has twice served as the Vice President of India.
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1. The foreign grants received by NGOs in the country are regulated by which act?

- A) Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) ☒
- B) Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA)
- C) Anti-money Laundering Act
- D) Non-Government Organisations Act



- ✓ Foreign grants received by NGOs are regulated by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 or FCRA.
- ✓ After registering with the Home Affairs Ministry, the NGO would be provided a unique FCRA registration number, to be renewed every five years. As per the recent Government data, the FCRA licences of over 20,600 NGOs were cancelled in the last 10 years, on violation of the provisions of FCRA act.

2. As per the recent CAG data, what is the profit earned by 247 central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) during 2018-19?

- A) Rs 56,000 crore
- B) Rs 98,000 crore
- C) Rs 1.78 lakh crore ☒
- D) Rs 3.20 lakh crore



- ✓ The Comptroller Auditor General (CAG) announced that 247 central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) earned profit of Rs 1.78 lakh crore during 2018-19. Out of the total profit, 73% was contributed by 63 companies in the fields of petroleum, coal and lignite and power.
- ✓ It also revealed that 189 CPSEs had suffered losses of Rs 1.4 lakh crore as on March 31, 2019.

3. Where is the headquarters of the Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals -cals Ltd located?

- A) Hyderabad
- B) Jaipur
- C) Gurgaon ☒
- D) Bengaluru



- ✓ Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is a state-owned pharmaceutical, bulk drug manufacturing and drug discovery company headquartered in Gurgaon. Recently, it was announced that IDPL and Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd (RDPL) would be closed.
- ✓ The Government is to disinvest Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd (HAL), Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd (BCPL), and Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceutical Ltd (KAPL).

4. Which top populous country recorded over 15% dip in registered births year on year?

- A) India
- B) China ☒
- C) Pakistan
- D) Indonesia



- ✓ The number of registered births in 2020 was 10.04 million, which is over 15 percent down from the number of registered births of the last year.
- ✓ As per the data, this is the fourth consecutive year to register a decline in birth rate. China launched the one-child policy in the late 1970s to slow rapid population growth. It was reversed only in the year 2016.

5. Which body has set up a sub-group for preparing the 'National Action Plan for Migrant Workers'?

- A) NITI Aayog ☒
- B) RBI
- C) NABARD
- D) Ministry of Labour



- ✓ The NITI Aayog has constituted a sub-group to prepare the 'National Action Plan for Migrant Workers', as per the recent announcement of Union Labour Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar. The sub-group includes members from various ministries, experts, NGOs and other organisations. The Labour Bureau under the Labour Ministry will also begin to conduct an All-India Survey on Migrant workers.

6. 'SVAMITVA' scheme, which was making news recently, is implemented by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Rural Development
- B) Ministry of Panchayati Raj ☒
- C) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- D) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment



- ✓ 'SVAMITVA' is a new scheme launched under the Panchayati Raj Ministry in 2020. It aims to provide the property cards to the property owners through drone survey by Survey of India.
- ✓ Out of the total budget allocation to the Ministry, a provision of Rs.200 crores has been made for the 'SVAMITVA' scheme. The pilot phase of the scheme was approved with Budget outlay of Rs.79.65 crore, to be implemented in 9 States.

7. As per the International Energy Agency's (IEA) latest report, what is the position of India, in Energy consumption?

- A) First
- B) Fourth ☒
- C) Eighth
- D) Second



- ✓ The International Energy Agency (IEA) released the 'India Energy Outlook 2021' recently. As per the report, India is the world's fourth-largest energy consuming country.
- ✓ The report also highlighted that India will have the biggest share of energy demand growth at 25% over the next two decades. It will overtake EU as the third largest energy consumer by 2030. India's energy consumption could touch USD 8.6 trillion by 2040.

8. Which Indian state has topped the list of beneficiaries of Ayushman Bharat Yojana, as of 2020?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Gujarat
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ As per the information provided by the Health Ministry, Tamil Nadu tops the beneficiaries list with around 25.56 lakh people getting treatment worth Rs 3,239.5 crore, since 2018.
- ✓ Till Feb.4 this year, there were around 1.6 crore hospital admissions worth Rs 19, 714 crores under the scheme. Tamil Nadu is followed by Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. The scheme aims to provide a health assurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year to poor families.

9. Soyuz-2 carrier rocket is the flagship launch vehicle of which country?

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



- ✓ Soyuz-2 is a flagship 3 stage launch vehicle of Russia, which places satellites in the low Earth orbit. It is the modernised form of the Soyuz rocket. Recently, it was announced that the country has planned to launch around 40 satellites from over 12 countries using the Soyuz-2 rocket. It includes the CAS500-1 (Compact Advanced Satellite 500) of South Korea.

10. India signed a MoU with which country to build the 'Lalandar or Shatoot dam'?

- A) Afghanistan ☒
- B) Tajikistan
- C) Japan
- D) South Korea



- ✓ India recently signed an agreement with Afghanistan for building Lalandar or Shatoot dam. The MoU was signed by Union External affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Afghan counterpart.
- ✓ The dam is expected to provide water supply to almost two million people in Kabul city. The dam would also provide irrigation water to nearby areas. This is the second major dam being built by India in Afghanistan, after the 'Friendship Dam' or Salma dam.