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THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



MARCH 2021

March 15-21

1. Which Indian state/UT has announced to launch special women mohalla clinics?

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) New Delhi ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) Gujarat



- ✓ The Delhi government recently announced that special women mohalla clinics will be opened across the city in the next financial year. While presenting the government's annual budget for year 2021-22, Deputy CM and Finance Minister Manish Sisodia announced the scheme, which would offer free gynaecological and other medical care services to women within walking distance from their homes.

2. Which department has launched online 5G certification course for its officials?

- A) Department of Financial Services
- B) Department of Telecommunications ☒
- C) Department of Electronics and IT
- D) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade



- ✓ The Department of Telecommunications has launched the online 5G certification course for its officials.
- ✓ The Department aims to create an in-house pool of 5G experts and policymakers, by launching a twelve-week online course, which will be conducted by National Telecommunications Institute for Policy Research, Innovation & Training, the training arm of the department.

3. Which institution organised a national-level virtual workshop on Asset Monetisation along with Department of Economic Affairs?

- A) NITI Aayog ☒
- B) TERI
- C) FICCI
- D) ASSOCHAM



- ✓ NITI Aayog, along with the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), organized a national-level virtual workshop on asset monetization.
- ✓ The workshop was chaired by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and it included the Chief Secretaries of States and Administrators of Union Territories.

4. Who has been appointed as the Chief of Asset Reconstruction Co India Ltd (ARCIL)?

- A) A K Bhalla
- B) Pallav Mohapatra ☒
- C) G C Murmu
- D) R K Mathur



- ✓ Central Bank of India Former CEO Pallav Mohapatra has been appointed as chief of Asset Reconstruction Co India Ltd (ARCIL). RCIL is India's oldest asset reconstruction company, and it was founded in 2002. Pallav Mohapatra is succeeding Vinayak Bahuguna as the CEO.

5. Which Indian personality has been appointed as the Chairman of the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations?

- A) A K Bhalla
- B) Pallav Mohapatra
- C) G C Murmu ☒
- D) R K Mathur



- ✓ Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Girish Chandra Murmu, has been appointed Chairman of the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations for the second time in a row for 2021.
- ✓ The panel consists of countries including India, Germany, China, the UK, France, Switzerland, Italy, Indonesia, Russia among others. The UN General Assembly in 1959 established the Panel of External Auditors, with individual external auditors of the United Nations system.

6. What is the name of the third Scorpene-class submarine that has been inducted into the Indian Navy recently?

- A) INS Kanakalata
- B) INS Chennai
- C) INS Kolkata
- D) INS Karanj ☒



- ✓ The Indian Navy has inducted into its fleet INS Karanj - the third Scorpene-class conventional diesel-electric submarine. This has been built by the Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) under its project 75.
- ✓ Under this project, six Scorpene-class submarines are built under technology transfer from France.

7. What is the name given to the proposed celebrations marking 75 years of Indian Independence?

- A) Adi Mahotsav
- B) Independence India
- C) Swathantra India
- D) Amrit Mahotsav ☒



- ✓ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has requested all MPs to be a part of the 'Amrit Mahotsav' which marks the 75 years of Indian Independence. It has been stated that the festival to commemorate the 75th year of Independence would be celebrated across 75 locations of the country for a period of 75 weeks.

8. According to NASA, which lake on earth most resembles the Jezero Crater of Mars?

- A) Pazhaverkadu Lake
- B) Lake Salda ☒
- C) Vembanad Lake
- D) Victoria Lake



- ✓ As per a recent release by NASA, the rock and mineral deposits found on the Turkish Lake Salda, has the closest resemblance to the Jezero Crater of Mars. NASA's spacecraft Perseverance has landed on the Jezero Crater of Mars, which is said to be once flooded with water.

9. The World Consumer Rights Day is observed on which date?

- A) February 12
- B) March 15 ☒
- C) January 16
- D) April 9



- ✓ The World Consumer Rights Day (WCRD) is observed every year on March 15 as an occasion of solidarity among consumers for promotion of the rights of consumers and to ensure that consumers are protected from unscrupulous traders and their consumer grievances are redressed. The 2021 theme is "Tackle plastic pollution".

10. As per the recent amendment in the Telecom License norms, which is the designated authority for upgradation of networks?

- A) DoT Secretary
- B) National Cyber Security Coordinator ☒
- C) Telecom Minister
- D) Prime Minister



- ✓ The Central Government amended telecom license norms that will enable it to control the installation of network equipment from non-trusted sources. As per the amendments, telecom operators will be required to take permission from the National Cyber Security Coordinator (NCSC) for up-gradation of existing networks.
 - ✓ NCSC will be the designated authority that can impose conditions for the procurement of telecom equipment.
-

1. 'APEDA' was established under which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Agriculture
B) Ministry of Rural Development
C) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
D) Ministry of Food Processing



- ✓ The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established by the Government of India under the APEDA Act passed by the Parliament in December, 1985. It was set up under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. APEDA recently launched its first virtual trade fair to boost export of agricultural and processed food products.

2. Gahirmatha beach, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Andhra Pradesh
B) Odisha ☒
C) Maharashtra
D) Gujarat



- ✓ The endangered Olive Ridley female turtles have started arriving at the Gahirmatha beach in Odisha state. It is said to be the world's largest known rookery of these species to lay eggs.
✓ This phenomenon of converging on the nesting ground for mass laying of eggs is otherwise called "Arribada" in Spanish. Last year, around 4.50 lakh turtles turned up in the beach for mass nesting.

3. As per a recent study, the warming of oceans is proved to have affected the metabolism of which species?

- A) Sea Turtles
B) Whales
C) Sharks ☒
D) Dolphins



- ✓ As per a recent study published in the journal Scientific Reports, the warming of oceans is said to have affected the metabolism of sharks. The sharks reared in the warmest temperatures weighed less than those raised in average temperatures. The baby sharks are at risk of being born smaller, without the energy needed to survive.

4. Where is the Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR) located?

- A) Lucknow ☒
B) Thanjavur
C) Varanasi
D) Sivagangai



- ✓ The ICAR – Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR) is located in Lucknow, in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Ministry of Civil Aviation and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have granted a conditional exemption to IISR to use drones.
✓ The institute would conduct trials to evaluate drone spraying solution for controlling pest and diseases of sugarcane crop using drones.

5. Which organisation is to commission India's largest floating solar power plant at Telangana?

- A) NHPC
B) NTPC ☒
C) REC
D) BHEL



- ✓ NTPC (Southern Region) is set to commission India's largest floating solar power plant at Ramagundam, Telangana. It is a 100 MW project and will be the single location largest floating solar plant in the country as of now. NTPC is in the process of implementing about 450 MW of solar capacity and 217 MW floating solar capacity.

6. Who has been re-elected as president of the International Olympic Committee?

- A) Thomas Bach ☒
B) George McNager
C) Mary Kom
D) Richard Carrion



- ✓ The German lawyer Thomas Bach has been re-elected as president of the International Olympic Committee. He has been re-elected for a four-year term with the committee. His immediate task would be to successfully conduct the Tokyo Olympics. He won the elections with a majority vote of 93-1.

7. What percentage of customs duty would be levied on import of solar modules in India?

- A) 5%
B) 10%
C) 15%
D) 40% ☒

40%

- ✓ The Government of India has decided to impose a 40% customs duty for import of solar modules and 25% customs duty for import of solar cells to India. This measure has been made to reduce imports and boost the local manufacturing of solar components. The new customs duty would come to force from April 2022.

8. Which Ministry has launched the convergence of the ESI scheme with PM JAY?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
B) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
C) Ministry of Labor & Employment ☒
D) Ministry of Social Justice



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched the convergence of ESI Scheme with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM JAY) in 113 districts of Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
✓ With this convergence, 1.35 crore ESI beneficiaries can avail the benefits of cashless treatments under PM JAY scheme.

9. Which Indian Research Institute has recently won the International King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award 2020?

- A) NHPC
B) NTPC
C) ICAR ☒
D) HAL



- ✓ ICAR (Indian Council of Agriculture Research), New Delhi has recently won the International King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award 2020. It has been awarded for its commitment to raise awareness about importance of healthy soils.

10. ISRO has partnered with which country's space agency for air quality monitoring using satellite data?

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



- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) have decided to partner to undertake activities on rice crop area and air quality monitoring using satellite data. The authorities also reviewed on-going cooperation in earth observation, lunar cooperation, and satellite navigation.
✓ The countries agreed to explore space situational awareness and professional exchange programme.

1. Which Union Ministry approves PLI scheme for pharmaceuticals?

- A) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers ☒
 B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 C) Ministry of External Affairs
 D) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas



- ✓ Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry has approved Production Linked Incentive Scheme for promotion of Domestic manufacturing of Key Starting Materials, Drug Intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients. Earlier the Union Cabinet had approved PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals over a period of Financial Year 2020-21 to 2028-29.

2. 'Bharat e Market' is the e-commerce portal launched by which body?

- A) FICCI
 B) KVIC
 C) CAIT ☒
 D) TRIFED



- ✓ Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), launched a mobile application, to onboard vendors for its upcoming e-commerce portal 'Bharat e Market'. The application will enable businesses and service providers to register on the portal and create their own virtual shop. There will be no commission charged for creating their own shop.

3. India recently participated in the first historic virtual summit of which association in March 2021?

- A) BRICS
 B) QUAD ☒
 C) BIMSTEC
 D) G20



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the first historic virtual summit of QUAD leaders along with US President Joe Biden, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. The leaders discussed economic & health impacts of Covid-19, combat climate change & address challenges, including in cyberspace, counterterrorism, quality infrastructure investment & humanitarian-assistance, disaster-relief.

4. The 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations were flagged off from which venue?

- A) Sabarmati Ashram ☒
 B) Raj Ghat
 C) Madurai
 D) Red Fort, New Delhi



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the celebration of 75 years of independence 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' by flagging off a symbolic 386-km "Dandi March" from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad to Dandi.
 ✓ The event marked the 91st anniversary of the historic salt march led by Mahatma Gandhi. He also launched various other cultural and digital initiatives for the India@75 celebrations.

5. Mahamadou Issoufou, who recently won Africa's top prize for leadership, was the President of which country?

- A) Chad
 B) Namibia
 C) Niger ☒
 D) Sudan



- ✓ Mahamadou Issoufou, who is stepping down as the President of Niger after two terms in office, has won Africa's top prize for leadership. He was awarded the 2020 Ibrahim Prize, for facing significant challenges,

ranging from deep poverty to armed rebellion and desertification in the country.

6. What is "2001 F032" that is seen in news recently?

- A) Space Shuttle
 B) COVID Vaccine
 C) Asteroid ☒
 D) Rare Earth Metal



- ✓ The American space agency NASA has stated that the largest asteroid 2001 F032 would pass by the earth at a very close distance of 1.25 million miles, this year. The asteroid is estimated to be 3,000 feet in diameter and was discovered 20 years ago.

7. Which country is the chair of BRICS 2021?

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



- ✓ For the year 2021, India has assumed the chairmanship of BRICS. Recently, BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI) held its first meeting under India's chairmanship from March 9 to 11. The theme of this year's BRICS is "BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus".

8. Bhavani Devi is associated with which sport?

- A) Boxing
 B) Fencing ☒
 C) Javelin Throw
 D) Badminton



- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Fencing champion Bhavani Devi has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics to be held this year. She became the first Indian fencer to be qualified for the Olympics. She has been selected by Adjusted Official Ranking Method.
 ✓ The Tokyo Olympics that were to happen in 2020 have been postponed to July 2021 owing to COVID-19 pandemic.

9. Gowsalya Shankar who has been awarded with International Woman of Courage by the US Consulate, belongs to which state?

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



- ✓ Gowsalya Shankar belonging to Tamil Nadu has been awarded with the International Woman of Courage (IWOC) Award by the US Consulate in Chennai recently. She has been running a trust named Shankar Social Justice Trust since 2017 which aims to fight atrocities against caste-based violence.

10. National Vaccination Day is observed in which date?

- A) March 15
 B) March 10
 C) March 16 ☒
 D) March 14



- ✓ The National Vaccination Day, also known as National Immunisation Day, is annually observed across India on 16th March to create awareness about the importance of vaccination. The government of India aims to raise awareness about the vaccination against poliovirus and other deadly viruses.

- ✓ The National Vaccination day 2021 aims to eradicate both polio and the COVID-19. The day was first observed on 16th March 1995, the day on which the 'Pulse Polio' Immunisation Programme became operational.

1. 'Kalanamak Rice Festival' is set to be held in which state?

- A) Assam
B) Uttar Pradesh ☒
C) Karnataka
D) Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that the state will organise the 'Kalanamak Rice Festival'. Kala Namak Rice, grown in the state, is One District One Product of some Eastern UP districts.
✓ The state had earlier organised Strawberry Festival in Jhansi and the Jaggery Festival in Lucknow.

2. Which Indian body released the report 'India FinTech: A USD 100 Billion Opportunity'?

- A) ASSOCAM
B) FICCI ☒
C) CAIT
D) NASSCOM



- ✓ The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and Boston Consulting Group (BCG) released 'India FinTech: A USD 100 Billion Opportunity' report. The total valuation of India's fintech industry is estimated at USD 50- USD 60 billion. The report sees the fintech industry's valuation at USD 150-160 bn by 2025.

3. Which Union Ministry is set to unveil the draft e-Commerce Policy?

- A) Ministry of Electronics and IT
B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
C) Ministry of Heavy Industries
D) Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is set to unveil the draft e-Commerce Policy.
✓ The policy is expected to lay down the principles for data usage in industrial development. It also aims to put in place protective measures to prevent misuse and access of data by unauthorised persons.

4. India's first centralised Air-Conditioned railway terminal is to come up in which city?

- A) Chennai
B) Bengaluru ☒
C) Madurai
D) Ahmedabad



- ✓ India's first centralised Air-Conditioned railway terminal at the city of Bengaluru is set to be operational soon. It is named after one of the veteran civil engineer Bharat Ratna Sir M Visvesvaraya. The new coach terminal is planned at Baiyappanahalli in the city and is built at an estimated cost of Rs 314 crore.

5. 'Carbon border agreements', which was making news recently, has been proposed by which global association?

- A) G7
B) G20
C) QUAD
D) European Union ☒



- ✓ The European Commission released the European Green Deal in December 2020 and set a deadline of March 2021 to propose the first-ever European Climate Law. The document highlights plan to implement a carbon border agreement.

6. Who was the Chairperson for the government's Commission for Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region?

- A) Injeti Srinivas
B) MM Kutty ☒
C) Siddhartha Mohanty
D) Arundhati Mech



- ✓ The Government of India's "Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region" headed by MM Kutty has been dissolved within five months of its constitution. The commission was set up vide an ordinance in October 2020 and the ordinance has lapsed recently. Hence, it failed to become an act.

7. Who has written the poetry collection "When God is a Traveller"?

- A) Harish Meenakshi
B) Arundhati Subramaniam ☒
C) Anamika
D) R S Bhaskar



- ✓ The poetry collection titled "When God is a Traveller" has been written by this year's Sahitya Akademi Award winner Poet Arundhati Subramaniam. She is among the 20 writers to receive the Sahitya Akademi Award for the year 2020. The list of awards included seven books of poetry, four novels, five short stories, two plays, and one each of memoirs and epic poetry in 20 Indian languages.

8. The 2021 Pi Day is observed on which date?

- A) March 14 ☒
B) March 15
C) March 16
D) March 17



- ✓ 'Pi' day is the day that celebrates the famous mathematical constant π . March 14th is observed as 'Pi' day every year.
✓ According to the American calendar, 3/14 is March 14. This number, i.e., 3.14, also roughly represents π . It is also celebrated on March 14 at 1:59:26. ($\pi = 3.1415926$).

9. Vanvasi Samagam, a tribal congregation was organised in which state?

- A) Madhya Pradesh
B) Uttar Pradesh ☒
C) Andhra Pradesh
D) Odisha



- ✓ A tribal congregation-Vanvasi Samagam was organised in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh. President Ramnath Kovind participated in the congregation as Chief Guest. The President also inaugurated the newly constructed building of Seva Kunj Ashram. The construction of school and hostel buildings were undertaken by NTPC.

10. An advisory committee has been set up to study which Indian river for the next two years, chaired by the Culture Minister?

- A) Saraswati ☒
B) Sarayu
C) Mahanadi
D) Narmada



- ✓ The Centre has reconstituted an advisory committee to create a plan for studying the mythical Sarasvati river for the next two years. The term of the previous panel, which was set up by the Archaeological Survey of India in 2017, ended in 2019. The 27-member panel would include officials from various ministries, archaeologists and other experts.

1. OTPRMS certificates, which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which Union Ministry?

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



- ✓ Online Teacher Pupil Registration Management System (OTPRMS) enable the candidates who have passed or undergoing any of the courses under National Council for Teacher Education, to register themselves, in order to be recruited as teachers. The Ministry of Education has decided to link the OTPRMS certificates with DigiLocker service, to facilitate free access to the certificates.

2. All India Tourist Vehicles Authorization and Permit Rules, will be applicable from which date?

- A) April 1, 2021 ☒
- B) May 1, 2021
- C) June 1, 2021
- D) August 1, 2021



- ✓ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has announced a new scheme, named 'All India Tourist Vehicles Authorization and Permit Rules, 2021. Under the new set of rules, any tourist vehicle operator may apply for an "All India Tourist Authorization/Permit" through online mode. After required documents are submitted and fees deposited, it will be issued within 30 days of submission of such applications.

3. In which state is the Shetrunjay Hills reserve forest located?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat ☒
- C) Karnataka
- D) Rajasthan



- ✓ The Shetrunjay Hills reserve forest area is located in the state of Gujarat and is home to a large number of Asiatic Lions. Recently a massive fire broke out in the Shetrunjay Hills reserve forest area and the fire is said to have spread to more than 200 hectares.

4. In which state / UT is the Chenab bridge of Indian Railways being constructed?

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Jammu & Kashmir ☒
- D) Assam



- ✓ The Chenab Bridge is a steel and concrete arch bridge being constructed by the Indian railways. It is constructed between Bakkal and Kauri of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ When completed, it would be the world's highest bridge. Recently, the Railways has achieved an engineering fete by completing the construction of the arch bottom of the bridge.

5. Where is the headquarters of the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) located?

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



- ✓ Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) was founded in 1889, to promote peace through parliamentary diplomacy and dialogue. Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) President Mr. Duarte Pacheco visited New Delhi recently and witnessed the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. IPU has 179 Member of Parliament and 13 Associate Members.

6. The first National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research was established in which state?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Punjab ☒
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Maharashtra



- ✓ The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998 was enacted to declare the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research at Mohali, Punjab to be an institute of national importance.
- ✓ 6 new institutes in Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Hajipur, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Raebareli were set up during 2007-08. Recently a bill was introduced in Lok Sabha to provide the national importance tag to six institutes.

7. The Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill 2021 seeks to empower Central Government to issue directions to DMF. What is a DMF?

- A) Deposit Mineral Fund
- B) District Mineral Foundation ☒
- C) Deep Mine Fund
- D) District Mine Fund



- ✓ The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill 2021 was introduced in the Lok Sabha. It amends the Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957. The legislation seeks to remove the distinction between captive and merchant mines.
- ✓ It empowers the Central Government to issue directions on composition and utilisation of funds maintained by the District Mineral Foundation (DMF).

8. 'My Life in Full: Work, Family and Our Future' is a memoir of which Indian personality?

- A) Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
- B) Indra Nooyi ☒
- C) Sudha Murthy
- D) Shikha Sharma



- ✓ My Life in Full: Work, Family and Our Future, is the memoir of 65-year-old former PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi. It will be published in the month of September 2021 by Portfolio books.
- ✓ It narrates her life from childhood till her becoming one of the world's most powerful women. Indra Nooyi served as the CEO of PepsiCo for 12 years and worked there for 24 years.

9. MPLADS Fund has been suspended till which year, due to COVID-19 pandemic?

- A) 2021
- B) 2022 ☒
- C) 2023
- D) 2024

2022

- ✓ The Union Government announced that no new Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) Fund would be provided for 2020-21 and 2021-22 due to the Corona pandemic.
- ✓ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Rajya Sabha that the MPLADS Fund for 2019-20 had been released by the Ministry of Finance and sent to the districts.

10. Which organisation released the "Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2021"?

- A) ADB
- B) UN ESCAP ☒
- C) IMF
- D) AIIB



- ✓ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) released the 2021 edition of the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report. As per the report, the region fell short of its 2020 milestones for the Goals, before entering the global pandemic.
- ✓ The Asia-Pacific region is responsible for more than half of the global greenhouse gas emissions.

1. Which ministry has moved the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in the Lok Sabha?

- A) Ministry of Education
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs ☒
- C) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- D) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has recently moved the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in Lok Sabha. This bill seeks to redefine the meaning of "Government of Delhi" as "Lieutenant Governor of Delhi". The bill seeks to give discretionary powers to the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi in aspects in which the Legislative Assembly of Delhi is empowered to make laws.

2. Which state has topped in employment generation under MGNREGS during 2020-21?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Goa
- C) Rajasthan ☒
- D) Haryana



- ✓ During the year 2020-21, India as a whole has generated 366 crore person days of work under MGNREGS. This is the highest ever employment generation under the scheme. Among the states, Rajasthan has generated the highest employment of 43 crore person days, which is followed by West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

3. World Recycling Day is observed in which date?

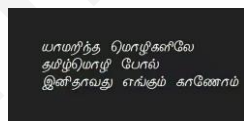
- A) March 18 ☒
- B) April 18
- C) May 18
- D) June 18



- ✓ Global Recycling Day is observed every year on March 18 to create awareness among the masses about the rapid pace at which our natural resources are being used.
- ✓ The day also promotes the concept and practice of recycling. In 2021, the theme of Global Recycling Day is "Recycling Heroes".

4. The World Poetry Day is celebrated on which date?

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



- ✓ World Poetry Day is celebrated on March 21 every year with the aim of promoting the reading, creating and teaching of poetry. Announced during the 30th session of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1999, the day is celebrated around the world.

5. What is the theme of the 2021 International Day of Happiness?

- A) Share Happiness
- B) Angry Birds Happy Planet
- C) Reclaim Happiness
- D) Happiness for all, forever ☒



- ✓ The International Day of Happiness is observed every year on March 20 to recognize the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. The day is to inspire individuals to share happiness

with others and create a happier world for all. The 2021 theme is "Happiness for all, forever".

6. World Sparrow Day is observed on which date?

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



- ✓ The World Sparrow Day is observed every year on March 20 to highlight the declining population of the bird due to modern infrastructure, pollution by microwave towers and pesticides and lesser green spaces. The 2021 theme is "I Love Sparrows".
- ✓ It is an international initiative by the Nature Forever Society of India in collaboration with the Eco-Sys Action Foundation (France) and numerous other international organizations across the world.

7. When is the 2021 World Sleep Day observed?

- A) March 19 ☒
- B) March 20
- C) March 21
- D) March 22



- ✓ The day before the Vernal Equinox of every year is observed as World Sleep Day. This year falls on 19th March. It is organised by the World Sleep Day Committee of the World Sleep Society. The 2021 theme is "Regular Sleep, Healthy Future".

8. What is the theme of the 2021 International Day of Forests?

- A) Forests and Water
- B) Forests and Energy
- C) Forests and Sustainable Cities
- D) Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being ☒



- ✓ The International Day of Forests is observed every year on March 21 to provide a platform to raise awareness of the importance of all types of woodlands and trees and celebrate the ways in which they sustain and protect us. The 2021 theme is "Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being".

9. What is the theme of the 2021 World Water Day?

- A) Why Waste Water?
- B) Valuing Water ☒
- C) Water is Life
- D) Better Water, Better Jobs



The World Water Day is observed every year on 22 March to raise awareness about the importance of water. The 2021 theme "Valuing Water". The day is about focusing on the importance of water and the need to preserve it.

10. What is the upper limit to permit abortion to special categories of women, as per the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill, 2020?

- A) 20 weeks
- B) 24 weeks ☒
- C) 28 weeks
- D) 32 weeks



- ✓ Rajya Sabha passed the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2020, to raise the upper limit for permitting abortions from the present 20 weeks to 24 weeks.
 - ✓ This limit is applicable for special categories of women including rape survivors, victims of incest, minors and the differently-abled. The bill was passed by Lok Sabha about a year ago.
-