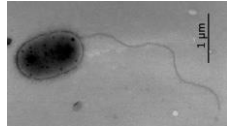


1. New bacteria found in the 'International Space Station' has been named after which Indian scientist?

- A) Jagdish Chandra Bose
- B) APJ Abdul Kalam
- C) Ajmal Khan ☒
- D) CV Raman



- ✓ In a recent research performed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), under a contract with NASA and University of Southern California, four strains of bacteria have been discovered at the ISS. The team of Scientists also included a team from India's University of Hyderabad. One of the strains - *Methylobacterium ajmalii* is named after Ajmal Khan, a renowned Indian scientist specialised in biodiversity.

2. Which country is to play host to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup 2022?

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



- ✓ India has bagged the hosting rights of the Asian Football Confederation 2022 Women's Asian Cup for the first time since 1979. All India Football Federation President Praful Patel announced that the tournament will feature 12 teams, as compared to the previous slot of eight teams.
- ✓ India will qualify to participate in the tournament directly as hosts. This event will also serve as the qualification tournament for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

3. What is the new milestone reached by the Jal Jeevan Mission scheme across the country, as on March 31, 2021?

- A) 1 Crore
- B) 2 Crore
- C) 4 Crore ☒
- D) 5 Crore



- ✓ Jal Jeevan Mission was announced on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2019, with the aim to provide tap water supply to every rural home by 2024. The scheme has recently reached a new milestone of providing over 4 Crore rural households with tap water supply. Goa has become the first State in the country to provide 100 per cent tap water supply.

4. 'Earth Hour Day' is annually observed on the last Saturday of which month?

- A) February
- B) March ☒
- C) December
- D) January



- ✓ Earth Hour, is being held annually on the last Saturday of March across the world. This year, the Earth Hour Day was observed on March 27. The Earth hour began as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney by WWF and partners in 2007.
- ✓ The event calls for actions to raise awareness about the importance of nature and the role people can play in global efforts for nature.

5. 'Mitali Express', a new passenger train which was inaugurated recently, connects Dhaka with which Indian city?

- A) New Jalpaiguri ☒
- B) Varanasi
- C) Jaipur
- D) Tiruchirapalli



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina has recently inaugurated the new passenger train named 'Mithali Express'. It connects Dhaka Cantonment and New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal via Chilahati, a border railway station in Bangladesh. This is the third passenger train after Maitree Express (Dhaka-Kolkata) and Bandhan Express (Khulna-Kolkata).

6. Which state has the largest number of old vehicles in India, as per the recent Road Ministry Data?

- A) Telangana
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Karnataka ☒
- D) Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ As per the data released by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Karnataka has the highest number of vehicles which are older than 15 years are plying on roads. The number of such vehicles pan India is more than four crore vehicles and Karnataka has topped the list with 70 lakh vehicles.

7. As per the annual report of the Central Information Commission, which Union ministry made the highest rejections of requests?

- A) Agricultural Ministry
- B) Defence Ministry
- C) Home Ministry ☒
- D) External Affairs Ministry



- ✓ According to the Central Information Commission's annual report, the Centre has only rejected 4.3% of all Right to Information (RTI) requests in 2019-20. Almost 40% of these rejections did not include any valid reason and did not come under the permissible exemption clauses in the RTI Act.
- ✓ 90% of rejections were done by the Prime Minister's Office. Home Ministry had the highest rate of rejections, at 20% of all RTIs received.

8. 'Shantir Ogroshena -2021' is a joint Military exercise between India and which country?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Bangladesh ☒
- C) Nepal
- D) Myanmar



- ✓ India is set to participate in a joint Military Exercise with Bangladesh. The exercise is named "Shantir Ogroshena -2021" and would commence in Bangladesh from 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- ✓ This is a nine-day exercise between the two armies, and the start date of the exercise marks to commemorate the birth centenary of Bangladesh Father of the Nation - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

9. 'VAJRA PRAHAR 2021' is a military exercise held between the special forces of India and which other country?

- A) United States of America ☒
- B) China
- C) Russia
- D) France



- ✓ Special forces of India carried out a joint military exercise with the US Special forces at Bakloh in Himachal Pradesh.

- ✓ The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the joint special forces exercise 'Vajra Prahar 2021' was held with an aim to share the best practices and experiences in joint mission planning and operational tactics. In February 2021, the Armies of both the countries carried out 'Exercise Yudh Abhyas'.

---

10. "Anandam: The Center for Happiness" has been inaugurated at which institution?

- A) IIT Madras
- B) IISc, Bengaluru
- C) IIM Jammu ☒
- D) IIM Ahmedabad



- ✓ Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal recently inaugurated "Anandam: The Center for Happiness" at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Jammu virtually. The Center aims to help people overcome mental stress and help spread positivity.
- ✓ The prime objectives will be divided into five broad categories: Counselling, Holistic wellness, Elective courses on Happiness Development, Research and Leadership & Faculty Development.