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# **FOURTH WEEK**

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**



# **APRIL 2021**

**APRIL 22-30**

1. Refusal to work in essential services is prohibited under which act?

- A) Essential Services Maintenance Act ☒
- B) Disaster Management Act
- C) Epidemic Diseases Act
- D) Pandemic Conditions Act

# ESMA

- ✓ The Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) was enacted in 1968, to maintain certain essential services and the normal life of the community. The Act includes a list of essential services in its charter. After the rapid increase in Covid-19 cases, the Chhattisgarh Government has invoked the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA).
- ✓ The refusal to work in essential services has been prohibited. It includes health workers, sanitation workers, workers in water and power supply services etc.

2. Which institution launched an expert panel called "IP Guru"?

- A) MEITY
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) NIXI ☒
- D) NASSCOM

# nixi

- ✓ The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI), announced some new initiatives to raise awareness of the IPv6 protocol in India. The Department of Telecom (DoT) had, in February last year, mandated all government organizations to transition to IPv6 by March 2020.
- ✓ NIXI launched an expert panel called IP Guru to support transition to IPv6 systems. NIXI is also creating an education platform for IPv6, called NIXI Academy and a NISI IP-Index.

3. The Benin Bronzes, which was seen in the news recently, were found in which country?

- A) South Africa
- B) Nigeria ☒
- C) Greece
- D) Egypt



- ✓ The Benin Bronzes are a group of over a thousand metal plaques and sculptures located in the royal palace of the Kingdom of Benin. The Benin city is situated in modern-day southern Nigeria. It was famous for its skilled artisans that produced works of huge historic and cultural importance.
- ✓ In 1897, the British soldiers plundered Benin City, stealing a set of metal sculptures. Recently, UK accepted that the objects will be supplied by their current European custodians, initially on loan for three years.

4. INS Nireekshak, which was making news recently, is classified under which type of vessel?

- A) Submarine
- B) Diving Support Vehicle ☒
- C) Offshore Patrol Vehicle
- D) Destroyer



- ✓ The Indian Navy deployed its specialised diving support, INS Nireekshak for the search and rescue of the missing fishermen, off the Mangalore coast. Recently, nine fishermen of a Kerala-registered mechanised fishing boat went missing.
- ✓ On account of this issue, the Indian Navy is carrying out deep-sea diving operations using specialised equipment and naval divers.

5. Which company has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force, in collaboration with Lockheed Martin?

- A) BEL
- B) DRDO
- C) Ashok Leyland ☒
- D) TATA Motors



- ✓ Ashok Leyland, which is a flagship firm of the Hinduja group, has delivered the first lot of light bulletproof vehicles to the Indian Air Force. These vehicles have been designed and developed in collaboration with Lockheed Martin, which is a US based aerospace and defence technology company.

6. What is "MK-4482", which was seen in the news recently?

- A) Missile Launcher
- B) Antiviral Drug ☒
- C) Submarine
- D) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle



- ✓ As per a recent study, MK-4482, an experimental antiviral drug, is said to have decreased levels of virus in the lungs of hamsters treated for SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- ✓ The scientists from the US National Institutes of Health published the study in the journal Nature Communications. MK-4482 is now in human clinical trials, and is delivered orally. These data suggest that MK-4482 treatment could mitigate high-risk exposures to the corona virus.

7. 'Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India' Report is set to be released by which department?

- A) Department of Environment
- B) Department of Science and Technology ☒
- C) Department of Atomic Energy
- D) Department of Space



- ✓ A report titled "Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India" is set to be released by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The report gives a detailed national level assessment of climate change vulnerability of states and districts all over India. The compilation of data pertaining to the report was supported by the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC).

8. Which country has drafted 'Ecocide' bill to punish acts of environmental damage?

- A) Germany
- B) France ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) Brazil



- ✓ The National Assembly of France has recently approved the creation of an "ecocide" offence, which seeks to punish acts of environmental damage. The bill will be applied to the most serious cases of environmental damage at national level, such as the pollution of a river. An offence of endangering the environment is punishable on the lines of endangering life.

9. Which is the first known species to be capable of both increasing and decreasing its brain size?

- A) Indian Jumping Ant ☒
- B) Lion Tailed Macaque
- C) Great Indian Bustard
- D) Olive Ridley Turtle



- ✓ Scientists have recently found that the Indian jumping ant can shrink its brain by nearly 20 percent to prepare its body for reproduction. As per the study, the ant can again increase its brain size over the following weeks. The Indian jumping ant is the first insect known to be capable of both increasing and decreasing its brain size.
- ✓ There are other insects including the honey bee which can increase their brain size.

10. Which institution developed the world's first affordable and long-lasting hygiene product named "DuroKea Series"?

- A) IISc Bangalore
- B) IIT Hyderabad ☒
- C) IIT Madras
- D) NIT Warangal



- ✓ Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually launched world's first affordable and long-lasting hygiene product in the name of "DuroKea Series". The hygiene product has been launched by IIT Hyderabad researchers. This innovative and long-lasting technologies was developed to combat COVID-19 virus spreading.

1. Which Ministry hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (ISEA)?

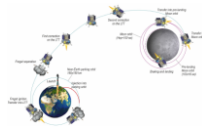
- A) Ministry of Shipping
- B) Ministry of Earth Sciences ☒
- C) Ministry of External Affairs
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has hosted the 40<sup>th</sup> Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (40-ISEA). The expedition has successfully returned to Cape Town on April 10, 2021.
- ✓ The team returned after completing a journey of about 12 thousand nautical miles in just 94 days. The 40-ISEA was onboard the chartered ice-class vessel 'MV Vasily Golovnin'. This achievement concludes four successful decades of India's scientific endeavour in Antarctica.

2. 'Luna 25' is the name of the Lunar Mission of which country?

- A) Russia ☒
- B) Japan
- C) China
- D) UAE



- ✓ Russia has unveiled a new series of space Lunar missions. The first of those missions, named as "Luna 25", is scheduled to launch this October. The country had a 45-year drought of moon landings.
- ✓ The lander has been designed to study the ice permanently frozen below the moon's surface. The scientists will also evaluate the dangers posed by sharp fragments of lunar dust.

3. "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures" is the theme of which special day celebrated on April 18?

- A) World Culture Day
- B) World Heritage Day ☒
- C) World Archaeology Day
- D) World Tourism Day



- ✓ Every year April 18 is celebrated as World Heritage Day or the International Day for Monuments and Sites. This year, the theme of the World Heritage Day is "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures".
- ✓ In India, Tourism and Culture Minister has inaugurated the first-ever online exhibition on Ramayana. The online exhibition showcases 49 miniature paintings collections of National Museum, New Delhi.

4. Table Mountain National Park, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which country?

- A) Australia
- B) South Africa ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) Philippines



- ✓ A massive fire, which has been burning along the Table Mountain National Park, South Africa, is said to be damaging buildings. Around 200 firefighters along with four helicopters have been dispatched to put off the massive blaze. Mostert's Mill, a historic windmill near the University of Cape Town built around 1796, has also been damaged by the fire.

5. Which country launched its first ever mega food park project in India, at Fanidhar, Gujarat?

- A) France
- B) Israel
- C) Italy ☒
- D) USA



- ✓ Italy has recently launched its first ever mega food park project in India involving food processing facilities. The pilot project "The Mega Food Park" was launched in virtual mode.
- ✓ A Letter of Intent was signed between the ICE Office in Mumbai and Fanidhar Mega Food Park, Gujarat.

6. Tehri lake, on whose bank an Adventure Sports Institute has been opened, is in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Uttarakhand ☒
- C) Odisha
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated a water sports and adventure institute on the bank of the Tehri lake. The institute will be run by the Indo Tibetan Border Police and has been built at a cost of Rs 20 crore.
- ✓ The institute is built at a cost of Rs 20 crore and will be run by the Indo Tibetan Border Police.

7. Israel has signed its biggest ever Defence procurement Deal with which country recently?

- A) USA
- B) China
- C) Germany
- D) Greece ☒



- ✓ Israel and Greece have signed their biggest ever defence procurement deal.
- ✓ It includes a USD 1.65 bn contract for establishment and operation of a training centre for the Hellenic Air Force by Israeli defence contractor. This deal is expected to strengthen political and economic ties between the countries. The Air Forces of the two countries also launched a joint exercise.

8. Vera Gedroits, who featured in Google Doodle recently, is the first female military surgeon of which country?

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



- ✓ Google celebrated the 151<sup>st</sup> birthday of Dr. Vera Gedroits, a Russian surgeon, professor, poet, and author. She is also regarded as the country's first female military surgeon and one of the world's first female professors of surgery. Dr. Gedroits volunteered as a surgeon during the Russo-Japanese War in 1904.

9. What is the name of the condition in which the human body is deprived of adequate oxygen supply at the tissue level?

- A) Myoxia
- B) Hypoxia ☒
- C) Hyperoxia
- D) Typoxia



- ✓ Hypoxia is a condition in which the human body is deprived of adequate oxygen supply at the tissue level. This condition gets repeated in a COVID-19 patient due to the virus infection.
- ✓ Amid a massive shortage of oxygen cylinders in the country due to raise in coronavirus cases, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed SpO<sub>2</sub> (Blood Oxygen Saturation)

supplemental oxygen delivery system. It saves a person from sinking into a state of Hypoxia.

10. India signed a MoU with which country on 'Cities combating plastic entering the marine environment'?

- A) Finland
- B) Germany ☒
- C) Switzerland
- D) France



- ✓ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India and GIZ GmbH India on behalf of the German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety signed an agreement on Technical Cooperation titled 'Cities Combating Plastic Entering the Marine Environment'.
- ✓ The project's outcomes are completely in line with the objectives of Swachh Bharat Mission–Urban focusing on sustainable solid waste management and the target to phase out single use plastic by 2022.



1. Which authority recently ruled that Flavoured milk is 'beverage containing milk' and will attract 12 percent GST?

- A) Finance Ministry
- B) Authority for Advance Ruling ☒
- C) Finance Commission
- D) Central Board of Indirect Taxes



- ✓ The Gujarat Authority for Advance Ruling (AAR) has ruled that Flavoured milk is 'beverage containing milk' and will attract 12 per cent GST. Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, which markets dairy product under Amul brand, had approached the AAR on the taxability under the GST of flavoured milk.

2. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has confirmed that which country started enriching Uranium up to 60 per cent?

- A) Israel
- B) Iran ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Nigeria



- ✓ The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has confirmed that Iran started enriching uranium up to 60 %.
- ✓ This figure is its highest-ever level of enrichment. The decision to boost uranium enrichment and to install modernized centrifuges at the Natanz nuclear facility was made due to the recent incident damaging the electricity distribution network in Natanz.

3. With reference to defence, what is "INAS 323", that was recently commissioned?

- A) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- B) Air Squadron ☒
- C) Submarine
- D) Missile Launcher



- ✓ Indian Navy's first unit of the indigenously-built Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Mk III, Indian Naval Air Squadron 323 (INAS 323), was commissioned at INS Hansa, Goa.
- ✓ The Mk III version of the ALH will be used for Search and Rescue, Special Operations and Coastal Surveillance. The squadron will operate three ALH Mk III helicopters, a multi-role chopper with the Shakti engine manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

4. Sivasubramanian Ramann, who was making news recently, took over as the Chairman and MD of which organisation?

- A) SEBI
- B) SIDBI ☒
- C) ISRO
- D) DRDO



- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) announced that Sivasubramanian Ramann has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of the bank. The appointment is for a period of three years. Prior to this appointment, Ramann was serving as MD and CEO of National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL).
- ✓ He has also held the position of Executive Director in Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

5. Which is the second largest organ of the human body, which is also related to a special day celebrated on April 19, every year?

- A) Skin
- B) Liver ☒
- C) Lungs
- D) Brain



- ✓ World liver day is observed on every 19 April every year across the world, to spread awareness about liver related diseases.
- ✓ The liver is the second largest organ of the human body and an important part of the digestive system. It is second only to the skin, the largest organ. In 2018, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched National Viral Hepatitis Control Program, which aims to prevent and control viral hepatitis in India.

6. "Blue Nature Alliance", which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Space Conservation
- B) Ocean Conservation ☒
- C) Agricultural Conservation
- D) Peacock Conservation



- ✓ A new global marine initiative has been launched to protect and conserve 18 million square kilometres of the ocean over the next five years. This initiative is known as the "Blue Nature Alliance". It is led by several philanthropic organisations along with national governments, local communities, Indigenous peoples, scientists, and academics.

7. What is the rank of India in the World Press Freedom index 2021?

- A) 142 ☒
- B) 152
- C) 162
- D) 172

142

- ✓ World Press Freedom Index 2021 is published by the international journalism not-for-profit body, Reporters Without Borders (RSF). India is ranked 142, same as last year among the 180 countries and the index is topped by Norway followed by Finland and Denmark.
- ✓ India is regarded among the countries classified "bad" for journalism and is termed as one of the most dangerous countries for journalists trying to do their jobs properly.

8. What is the name of the new digital currency, being explored by the United Kingdom?

- A) UK Coin
- B) Bitcoin ☒
- C) Digi Brit
- D) Brit Currency



- ✓ The United Kingdom is exploring the possibility of creating a new digital currency, which is dubbed as "Bitcoin". The Bank of England and the Treasury are set to work together to assess the benefits of a central bank digital currency. The bank said the new currency, would be a new form of digital money for use by households and businesses.

9. Idriss Deby Itno, who recently passed away, was the ruler of which Central African nation for over three decades?

- A) Sudan
- B) Chad ☒
- C) Egypt
- D) Nigeria



- ✓ The President of the Central African country Chad, Idriss Deby Itno, who ruled the country for more than three decades, died recently during a fight with rebels. Hours earlier, the electoral officials had declared Deby as the winner of the April 11 presidential election.

10. What is the insurance cover extended to healthcare workers under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package?

- A) Rs 5 lakhs
- B) Rs 10 lakhs
- C) Rs 25 lakhs
- D) Rs 50 lakhs ☒



- ✓ The Government of India has recently extended the insurance scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package for health workers for a period of one year. This insurance scheme covers loss of life due to COVID 19 and accidental death due to COVID related duty. A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs would be paid to the claimant of insured person.
-

1. Which organization has released the "Global review of the death penalty" report?

- A) ILO  
B) Amnesty International ☒  
C) NHRC  
D) International Court of Justice



- ✓ The Amnesty International has released its annual report "global review of the death penalty". As per the report, there is an overall decrease in the number of global death penalties in the year 2020, but some countries have increased the death penalty of executions.
- ✓ As per the report, China is considered to be the world's most prolific executioner in the world.

2. What sum has been allocated to the Start Up India Seed Fund?

- A) Rs 145 Crore  
B) Rs 500 Crore  
C) Rs 945 Crore ☒  
D) Rs 2000 Crore



- ✓ The Startup India Seed Fund has been officially unveiled by the Union Minister for commerce Piyush Goyal. A sum of Rs.945 crore is allocated for the fund and is expected to benefit more than 3600 startups in the country. Also, it is expected to boost the start-up ecosystem in tier-2 and 3 cities.

3. Jagananna Vidya Deevena scheme is being implemented by which state?

- A) Telangana  
B) Andhra Pradesh ☒  
C) Odisha  
D) Karnataka



- ✓ The state government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing a scheme named Jagananna Vidya Deevena scheme, under which financial assistance is given to students for pursuing higher education. Recently, the Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy released the 1st instalment of education fee reimbursement under the scheme to the bank accounts of 10.88 lakh mothers.

4. Where is the International Energy Agency headquartered?

- A) Washington  
B) Geneva  
C) Paris ☒  
D) New Delhi



- ✓ The International Energy Agency, which is headquartered in Paris (France) has recently released a report, which states that energy related carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions across the globe have risen by about 1.5 billion tonnes in the year 2021. This is considered to be the largest increase in carbon emission since the year 2010.

5. India's first 'Oxygen Express' carried oxygen to which state?

- A) Uttar Pradesh  
B) Maharashtra ☒  
C) Assam  
D) Haryana



- ✓ The country's very first 'Oxygen Express' departed from Andhra Pradesh to supply oxygen to the state of Maharashtra. The Ro-Ro (roll-on, roll-off) service operated by Central Railways is ferrying

oxygen from Vishakhapatnam steel plant to meet the sudden surge in oxygen demand in Maharashtra due to COVID-19 pandemic.

6. "State of the Global Climate 2020" is the report released by which organization?

- A) World Bank  
B) IMF  
C) Asian Development Bank  
D) United Nations ☒



- ✓ The United Nation's 'State of the Global Climate' report has been released for the year 2020.
- ✓ The report has stated that Cyclone Amphan that made landfall in the India-Bangladesh border last year, was the costliest tropical cyclone on record for the North Indian Ocean. It has led to economic losses amounting \$14 billion to the affected nations.

7. What is the rank of India in the recently released global 'Energy Transition Index' (ETI) of the World Economic Forum?

- A) 74 ☒  
B) 84  
C) 94  
D) 104

74

- ✓ The World Economic Forum has recently released the global 'Energy Transition Index'. The index ranks 115 economies on the current performance of their energy systems and their readiness for transition to secure and sustainable energy systems.
- ✓ India has moved up two positions to rank 74<sup>th</sup> from previous year, and has improved on all key parameters. Sweden has topped the Energy Transition Index (ETI) for the third consecutive year. Switzerland and Finland were ranked in the next two positions.

8. FACT rebel group, who were seen in the news recently, are associated with which country?

- A) Sudan  
B) Chad ☒  
C) Afghanistan  
D) Nigeria



- ✓ Fighters of the Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT) rebel group was formed in 2016. The group said to have crossed into Chad recently with the aim of overthrowing President Idriss Deby.
- ✓ A day after provisional results of Deby being re-elected, the military announced that President, had died due to wounds suffered during a battle against the rebels.

9. Which space agency released the image of interacting galaxies Arp 273, in the shape of a 'Cosmic Rose'?

- A) ISRO  
B) JAXA  
C) ROSCOSMOS  
D) NASA ☒



- ✓ The NASA has recently released the image of interacting galaxies Arp 273, in the shape of a 'Cosmic Rose'. The image has been shared on the official Instagram handle of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. In the image, a group of spiral galaxies create a shape resembling a rose. This structure made of galaxies lies in the Andromeda constellation, at about 300 million light-years away.



10. What is the theme of the 'Earth Day 2021'?

- A) Covid and Climate Change
- B) Restore Our Earth ☒
- C) One Earth
- D) Earth is our asset



- ✓ April 22 is observed as the Earth Day throughout the world. It is an international event celebrated around the world to support for environmental protection. This year marks the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the annual celebrations. The theme for Earth Day 2021 is 'Restore Our Earth'.
  - ✓ The United Nations designated April 22 as 'International Mother Earth Day'.
-

1. As per the recent report released by the S&P Global Ratings in April 2021, what is the growth forecast of India in 2021?

- A) 6 percent  
B) 8 percent  
C) 11 percent ☒  
D) 14 percent



- ✓ The S&P Global Ratings in its report on Asia-Pacific Financial Institutions, highlighted that the Indian economy is projected to grow at 11% in the current fiscal year. The agency also revealed that some more targeted lockdowns will likely be needed and the impact of broader lockdowns on the economy could be substantial. As per official estimates, the Indian economy contracted 8% in 2020-21 fiscal.

2. 'COVIRAP' technology has been developed by which institute?

- A) NIT Tiruchirappalli  
B) AIIMS  
C) MIT  
D) IIT Kharagpur ☒



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology – Kharagpur has commercialized its healthcare product COVIRAP. This is a diagnostic technology to zero on Covid infections. Using this technology, the COVID test results can be obtained within 45 minutes of sampling and the results can be seen using a smartphone application.

3. The statehood day of which Indian state is celebrated as 'Utkal Divas' on April 1?

- A) Telangana  
B) Andhra Pradesh  
C) Odisha ☒  
D) Karnataka



- ✓ The Indian state of Odisha was formed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1936. Its statehood day is called as 'Utkal Divas', which is celebrated in the state and across the country.  
✓ On the memory of the formation of Odisha as a separate state from the earlier Bihar and Orissa province, the day has been celebrated.

4. The World Homeopathy Day is celebrated on which day, every year across the world?

- A) April 10 ☒  
B) April 11  
C) April 12  
D) April 13



- ✓ Every year April 10<sup>th</sup> is observed as World Homeopathy Day. The theme of this year's World Homeopathy Day is selected as "Homeopathy-Roadmap for Integrative Medicine". This day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, the father of the Homeopathy system of medicines.

5. The National Safe Motherhood Day is observed on which date in India?

- A) April 10  
B) April 11 ☒  
C) April 12  
D) April 13



- ✓ The National Safe Motherhood Day is observed every year on April 11 to create awareness on maternity care for pregnant and lactating

women. The NSMD is an initiative of White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood, India (WRAI). The theme of this year's NSMD is selected as "Stay at home during coronavirus, keep mother and newborn safe from coronavirus".

6. When did Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place?

- A) 1919 ☒  
B) 1820  
C) 1819  
D) 1857



- ✓ Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919): To protest against the repressive policies of the British Government, the unarmed peaceful people were gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar on April 13, 1919.  
✓ To suppress mass agitation, General Dyer ordered his troops to open fire on them without warning. That act of cruelty and barbarism by the britishers in that bagh was known in history as Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (or Amritsar Massacre).

7. National Civil Services Day is celebrated on which date?

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



- ✓ On April 21, 1947 the first Home Minister of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947. While delivering the historical address at the Metcalf House, Delhi, he described the Civil servants as 'Steel frame of India'.  
✓ To commemorate this occasion, April 21 has been observed as the Civil Services Day every year, across the country.

8. The 2021 National Panchayat Raj Day is celebrated on which date in India?

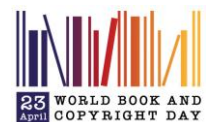
- A) April 23  
B) April 24 ☒  
C) April 25  
D) April 26



- ✓ The National Panchayat Raj Day is celebrated every year in India on April 24 by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj. On this day, in 1993, the Constitution (73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment) Act, 1992 came into force that has institutionalized Panchayat Raj through the village, Intermediate and District level Panchayats.

9. The World Book and Copyright Day is observed on which date?

- A) April 22  
B) April 23 ☒  
C) April 24  
D) April 25



- ✓ The World Book and Copyright Day is observed every year on April 23 to raise public awareness of books and reading and pay tribute to authors in the book industry, professionals or volunteers. The day is being organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote reading, publishing and copyright. It is a symbolic date for world literature.  
✓ In 1616, on this date, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega died. The day is also known as International Day of the Book or World Book Days. Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, has been designated as the UNESCO World Book Capital – 2021.

10. When is World Malaria Day observed?

- A) April 24
- B) April 25 ☒
- C) April 26
- D) April 27



- ✓ The World Malaria Day for the year 2021 was observed on 25th April this year. The theme for this year's World Malaria Day was "Reaching the zero-malaria target".
  - ✓ As per a WHO Report 2019, India represents 3% of the global malaria burden and it has registered a reduction in malaria cases by 49% and reduction in deaths by 50.5% compared with 2017 levels.
-

1. When is World Intellectual Property day celebrated?

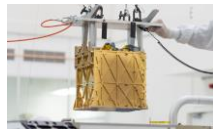
- A) April 25  
B) April 26 ☒  
C) April 27  
D) April 28



- ✓ World Intellectual Property Day is observed annually on 26 April. The event was established by the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2000 to "raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks and designs impact on daily life" and "to celebrate creativity, and the contribution made by creators and innovators to the development of societies across the globe". The theme for this year's World Intellectual Property Day is "IP and SMEs: Taking your ideas to market".

2. With reference to a recent NASA project, what does "M" in MOXIE stand for?

- A) Maintained  
B) Minimum  
C) Maximum  
D) Mars ☒



- ✓ NASA's Perseverance mission has extracted oxygen on the Mars planet, using its MOXIE (i.e) Mars Oxygen In-Situ Resource Utilization Experiment. MOXIE has produced 5 grams of oxygen from carbon dioxide in the Martian atmosphere, which is enough for an astronaut to breathe for 10 minutes.
- ✓ On Mars, carbon dioxide makes up 96% of the gas in its atmosphere while Oxygen is only 0.13%. MOXIE intakes CO<sub>2</sub> and produces O<sub>2</sub> from it.

3. As per IEA report, by what percentage of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in India in 2021 will be higher than that of 2020?

- A) 1.4% ☒  
B) 5.4%  
C) 10.4%  
D) 20%

1.4%

- ✓ The International Energy Agency (IEA) in its recent report has stated that the carbon di oxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in India for the year 2021 would be 1.4% more than that in the year 2020 (i.e) 30 million tonnes more than the year 2020. Also, the report has stated that the expected rise in coal-based electricity generation would be 3 times more than the generation from other sources.

4. What is the name of the programme which is backed by WHO, that aims to fund young people's ideas to combat COVID-19's impact?

- A) Global Youth Mobilization ☒  
B) World COVID Response Program  
C) World Health Programme  
D) Global Economy Recover Programme



- ✓ "Global youth mobilization" aims to fund young people's ideas to combat the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, in various communities.
- ✓ This is supported by the World Health Organization and United Nations Foundation. It is also backed by UNICEF, USAID, UNFPA, European Commission, Salesforce, FIFA and Heads of State and Governments from around the world.

5. Which state / UT has recently formed an Oxygen audit committee?

- A) Kerala  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Goa  
D) Delhi ☒

O<sub>2</sub>

- ✓ The Government of Delhi has formed a 24-member oxygen audit committee, in wake of the acute shortage of medical oxygen in hospitals across Delhi. The committee would be monitoring the oxygen stocks and their consumption continuously. It would also ensure that the utilization of oxygen is rational and optimal.

6. Which space agency has launched a mission named SHIELDS?

- A) NASA ☒  
B) ISRO  
C) ESA  
D) ROSCOSMOS



- ✓ The American Space Agency – NASA has recently launched a mission named – SHIELDS (Spatial Heterodyne Interferometric Emission Line Dynamics Spectrometer). This mission aims to study light from interstellar particles which have drifted into the solar system.
- ✓ The mission was launched using a NASA black Brant IX sounding rocket from Mexico.

7. "CODEX ALIMENTARIUS" which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Defence Procurement  
B) Climate Change  
C) Food Standards ☒  
D) Artificial Intelligence



- ✓ The 'CODEX ALIMENTARIUS' international food standards and guidelines contribute to the safety and quality of international food trade. Founded in 1963, the standards are provided by risk assessment bodies or consultations organized by FAO and WHO.
- ✓ Recently, the fifth session of the Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) established under Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) was inaugurated virtually. It is taking place from April 20 to April 29 virtually with over 300 participants.

8. Which country has been validated by the World Health Organization (WHO) for having eliminated trachoma?

- A) Zambia ☒  
B) Zimbabwe  
C) South Africa  
D) Chad



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently validated Gambia for having eliminated trachoma as a public health problem. With this, Gambia became the second country in WHO's African Region to achieve this milestone.
- ✓ World Health Organization launched the 2021-2030 road map for neglected tropical diseases. Côte d'Ivoire was the 1<sup>st</sup> to achieve this feat.

9. KRI Nanggala-402, is a submarine of which country, in search of which the Indian Navy has joined the rescue operation?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Indonesia ☒
- D) Japan



- ✓ The Indian Navy has recently joined the rescue operation for an Indonesian submarine KRI Nanggala-402 and its 53-member crew that went missing.
- ✓ After its 44-year-old submarine went missing while conducting a torpedo drill north of the island of Bali, Indonesia had sought assistance from India. Indian Navy's Deep-Submergence Rescue Vessel left from Visakhapatnam as a part of the rescue operation.

10. World Youth Boxing Championships, where Indian women won 7 gold medals, were organised in which country?

- A) Russia
- B) Poland ☒
- C) Ukraine
- D) France



- ✓ In the World Youth Boxing Championships held in Kielce, Poland, Indian women boxers created history with seven gold medals. All the women finalists Gitika, Naorem Babyrojisana Chanu, Poonam, Vinka, Arundhati Choudhary, T Sanamacha Chanu and Alfiya Pathan finished on the top of the podium. Three other Indian boxers also won bronze medals.

1. India launched a "Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership", with which country?

- A) Australia
- B) Germany
- C) France
- D) USA ☒



- ✓ During the virtual summit on climate change convened by US President Joe Biden, India Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India and the US are launching an "Agenda 2030" partnership on green collaborations. "India-US Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership", aims to implement actions at high speed and on a large scale globally, to combat climate change.
- ✓ The summit was attended by various country leaders like Chinese President Xi Jinping, his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin etc.

2. Who has been selected as the external auditor to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)?

- A) Venkaiah Naidu
- B) GC Murmu ☒
- C) Rajesh Kumar
- D) SA Bobde



- ✓ The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) GC Murmu has been selected as the external auditor of Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). He would serve the position for a term of three years. His term as an external auditor commences from the year 2021.
- ✓ OPCW is an intergovernmental organisation and the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention, which is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands.

3. The Indian government is to provide free food grains to the poor in May and June under which scheme?

- A) PM Jan Dhan Yojana
- B) PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana ☒
- C) PM Mudra Yojana
- D) PM Atma Nirbhar Kalyan Yojana



- ✓ The Indian Government has decided to resume providing free food grains to the poor in May and June. The 5-kg additional food grains to PDS beneficiaries are to be provided under the PMGKAY for two months – May and June. But this time, pulses are not being provided to the poor. PMGKAY was announced to help poor people tackle the pandemic.

4. When was the 2021 International Girls in ICT Day observed by ITU?

- A) April 21
- B) April 22 ☒
- C) April 23
- D) April 24



- ✓ Every year, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) celebrates the fourth Thursday of April as the International Girls in ICT Day. This year, 22<sup>nd</sup> April marked the 10th Anniversary of the day and was observed with the theme Connected Girls; Creating Brighter Futures."
- ✓ The International Telecommunication Union is an UN specialized agency and is headquartered in Geneva.

5. Japan is set to hold its first joint military drill with which two countries against China's aggression?

- A) India and US
- B) US and France ☒
- C) Russia and US
- D) Russia and France



- ✓ Japan is set to hold its first joint military drill with the US and French troops, amidst the increased actions of China in the regional waters. The exercise would be held from May 11 to 17 and will be the first large-scale exercise in Japan involving ground troops from all three countries. The exercise also would deepen the Defence cooperation between the three countries.

6. Which country announced the "International Climate Finance Plan", to double climate finance to developing countries?

- A) China
- B) USA ☒
- C) Germany
- D) France



- ✓ The United States President Joe Biden unveiled the "US International Climate Finance Plan". He announced that the country would double public climate finance to help poor countries reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The new climate finance plan has been released in lines with a new goal to cut emissions by 50%-52% from 2005 levels.

7. 'Mt Annapurna', which was making news recently, is located in which country?

- A) India
- B) Nepal ☒
- C) Bangladesh
- D) China



- ✓ The Annapurna Mountain Range in the Himalayas is located in north-central Nepal. It is the tenth highest mountain peak in the world, which includes a peak over 8000 metres.
- ✓ Recently, Priyanka Mohite from Satara in Maharashtra became the first Indian woman to scale Mt Annapurna. She had earlier summited several peaks including Mt Everest.

8. Which state launched the 'HARIHAR' policy, for Rehabilitation of abandoned children?

- A) Bihar
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Haryana ☒
- D) Punjab



- ✓ The Haryana Cabinet approved HARIHAR- Homeless Abandoned and Surrendered Children Rehabilitation Initiative Haryana Policy. The children abandoned when below 5 years of age and surrendered before turning one-year-old will be eligible for benefits of education, employment, and financial support, up to the age of 25 years or marriage.



9. What is the name given to small models of human organs that contain multiple cell types that behave similarly to the human body?

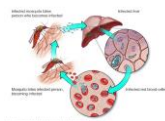
- A) Body models
- B) Tissue Chips ☒
- C) Cell Models
- D) Tissue Genes



- ✓ Tissue Chips are small models of human organs that contain multiple cell types that behave similarly to the human body. Four astronauts were recently launched to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a collaboration between NASA and SpaceX under the Commercial Crew Program. Their prime focus during this time will be to carry out a series of Tissue Chips in Space studies.

10. 'E-2025 Initiative', which was making news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Climate Change
- B) Eradication of Malaria ☒
- C) Fintech
- D) Nutrition



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified 25 countries, with the potential to eradicate malaria by 2025 under its 'E-2025 Initiative'. As per a new report of the WHO—Zeroing in on malaria elimination, these 25 countries including three from Africa will have to work by responding to the dual threat of malaria and COVID-19. The WHO will provide support and technical guidance to these countries.

1. Which type of institutions have been allowed to start functioning in Gujarat's GIFT City?

- A) Payment Banks
- B) Non-Banking Financial Company ☒
- C) All India Financial Institutions
- D) Neo Banks



- ✓ Non-bank finance companies both local and global, are allowed to start operations in Gujarat's GIFT City, by the International Financial Services Centre. They will be allowed to offer the complete range of financial services including loans, investment banking & 3<sup>rd</sup> party product sales.

2. Which country has recently joined the Leadership Group for Industry Transition "LeadIT"?

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



- ✓ The United States of America (USA) has joined Leadership Group for Industry Transition "LeadIT" - which is a climate initiative by India and Sweden. With USA joining the LeadIT, it is expected that the partnership would help meet Paris Agreement goals, strengthen competitiveness and create new sustainable jobs in all the three countries.

3. By what % India's export of processed food products has grown during April-February 2020-21, as per APEDA?

- A) 5.51%
- B) 10.51%
- C) 26.51% ☒
- D) 50.51%

**26.51%**

- ✓ As per a statement by APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), the export of processed food by India has increased by 26.51 per cent during April-February 2020-21. By value, the increase stood at Rs.43,798 crore. This increase has been achieved despite COVID 19 pandemic prevailing throughout the world.

4. The World's most powerful climate-change forecasting super computer is to be built in which country?

- A) India
- B) UK ☒
- C) China
- D) USA



- ✓ Microsoft and Met Office (UK) have joined hands to build the world's most powerful supercomputer to forecast weather and climate-change. The supercomputer, which is likely to be operational in 2022, will provide accurate warnings on severe weather and help protect from impact of extreme storms, floods and snow in the country.

5. Sterlite copper smelter plant, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Punjab



- ✓ After an all-party meet chaired by Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami, the Tamil Nadu state government decided to reopen the

Sterlite copper smelter plant at Thoothukudi. The plant was permitted to operate for a period of four months to produce medical oxygen.

- ✓ The company will not be allowed to open or operate other plants used for copper production. This plant was shut down by the Government of Tamil Nadu in 2018 after protests from locals.

6. Which player has clinched the 12<sup>th</sup> Barcelona Open title in tennis?

- A) Rafael Nadal ☒
- B) Stefanos Tsitsipas
- C) Jannik Sinner
- D) Andrey Rublev



- ✓ In the 12<sup>th</sup> Barcelona Open tournament, Spanish professional tennis player Rafael Nadal clinched the title. This victory marks his 87<sup>th</sup> title. He defeated his opponent Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece, who is also one among the top ten international players.
- ✓ The final match played between Nadal and Tsitsipas is considered to be longest ATP match in the year 2021.

7. 'Varuna' is a multilateral Defence Exercise between India and .....

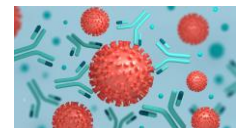
- A) Australia
- B) France ☒
- C) Indonesia
- D) Italy



- ✓ VARUNA is a multilateral Naval Exercise between India and France. The 19<sup>th</sup> edition of the bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2021' concluded on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Conducted in the Arabian Sea, the exercise included advanced air defence and anti-submarine programmes, intense flying operations, surface and anti-air weapon firings and other maritime security operations.

8. As per the Sero survey conducted by the CSIR, the recurrence of coronavirus outbreak in March is due to the lack of .....

- A) Antigens
- B) Antibodies ☒
- C) Lymphocytes
- D) White Blood Cells



- ✓ As per the Sero survey conducted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the recurrence of coronavirus outbreak in March could be due to lack of meaningful antibodies in seropositive people after a peak in September 2020. The CSIR conducted a sero-survey on 10,427 people from 17 states and two union territories. The average sero positivity was 10.14 per cent, among the sample people.

9. What is the name of the medical device which concentrates oxygen from ambient air?

- A) Nebuliser
- B) Oxygen Concentrator ☒
- C) Oxygen Ventilator
- D) Oxygen Generator



- ✓ An oxygen concentrator is a medical device which concentrates oxygen from ambient air. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is highly needed for treating patients.
- ✓ The oxygen concentrator takes in the atmospheric air, which has 78% Nitrogen and 21% oxygen, filters it through a sieve, releases the nitrogen back into the air, and works on the remaining oxygen.

10. What is the theme of the "World Immunization Week" 2021?

- A) Vaccines bring us closer ☒
- B) Vaccine Works
- C) Educate and Immunise
- D) Vaccination Vacation



- ✓ The "World Immunization Week" is observed every year in the last week of April. It aims to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. This year, the theme of the week is 'Vaccines bring us closer'. Google also created a Doodle to thank the health workers on the onset of the World Immunization Week 2021.
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