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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



JUNE 2021

JUNE 01-07

1. Which country has announced to launch the "International Pathogen Surveillance Network", to identify COVID-19 variants?

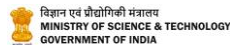
- A) USA
- B) UK ☒
- C) India
- D) Germany



- ✓ The Prime Minister of UK Boris Johnson has announced that the UK would form an "International Pathogen Surveillance Network" in association with the World Health Organisation and other leaders across the globe. The network is aimed to identify the new COVID 19 variants and provide real time data on the same.

2. NIDHI4COVID2.0 has been set up by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Defence
- B) Ministry of Health
- C) Ministry of Commerce
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology ☒



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Science and Technology's Department of Science and Technology has launched the "NIDHI4COVID2.0", which would fund start-ups & companies registered in India which offers solutions in areas like oxygen, medical accessories, portability of equipment, diagnostic etc.
- ✓ This is done to encourage make in India since various medical equipment & devices required for COVID treatment are being imported.

3. Rosalind Franklin Rover is being built by ESA to be launched to which planet?

- A) Moon
- B) Venus
- C) Mars ☒
- D) Jupiter



- ✓ The Rosalind Franklin rover, which is being built by the European Space Agency (ESA) to be launched to Mars has demonstrated successful operations during its trials. The rover is a part of ESA's ExoMars mission which is scheduled to be launched in 2023.
- ✓ Earlier, the mission was planned to be launched in 2020, but has been delayed due to the ongoing COVID pandemic.

4. Mount Nyiragongo is located in which country?

- A) Nigeria
- B) Albania
- C) Congo ☒
- D) USA



- ✓ Mount Nyiragongo is an active stratovolcano located in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It has an elevation of 3,470m. The volcano has erupted recently and has flushed out a river of lava. The lava has destroyed houses and highways.

5. When is the World Turtle Day observed every year?

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



- ✓ Every Year, 23rd May is observed as World Turtle Day, which is aimed to make people aware of turtles – tortoises and their habitats. The theme for this year's turtle day is "Turtles Rock!". This day has been

celebrated widely since 2000 by a non-profit organization named American Tortoise Rescue (ATR).

6. What is the theme of 'World Metrology Day' 2020?

- A) Precision in Measurement
- B) Measurement for Health ☒
- C) Accuracy Matters
- D) Measurement for Science



- ✓ The World Metrology Day is observed every year on May 20 to commemorate anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875. The treaty provides the basis for a coherent measurement system worldwide that underpins scientific discovery & innovation, industrial manufacturing and international trade, as well as the improvement of the quality of life and the protection of the global environment. The 2021 theme is "Measurement for Health".

7. When is 'Africa Day' celebrated across the world, every year?

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



- ✓ Africa Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity, which was established 57 years ago, on May 25th, 1963 and its successor organization is the African Union, which was established in 2002. The day highlights and celebrates the vitality and diversity of Africa and to promote African unity. The 2021 theme is "Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want".

8. Which day is celebrated on May 25 every year, that is associated with an endocrine disorder?

- A) World Diabetes Day
- B) World Thyroid Day ☒
- C) World Osteoporosis Day
- D) Addison's disease Day



- ✓ Every year, May 25 has been observed as the World Thyroid Day since 2008, across the world. The European Thyroid Association and American Thyroid Association established World Thyroid Day to promote public awareness of thyroid disease.
- ✓ Thyroid is the most common endocrine disorder. Jal Shakti Ministry has said that water plays a crucial role in treating the symptoms of thyroid and helping in weight loss.

9. India has signed a 3-year work programme with which country for cooperation in agriculture?

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



- ✓ India and Israel have signed a 3-year work program agreement for development in Agriculture cooperation. India and Israel are already implementing the 'INDO-ISRAEL Agricultural Project Centres of Excellence' and 'INDO-ISRAEL Villages of Excellence'.

10. Which Indian state is the top recipient of FDI equity inflows during 2020–21?

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



- ✓ India attracted the highest ever total FDI inflow of US\$ 81.72 billion during the financial year 2020–21. This is 10% higher as compared to the last financial year 2019–20. Gujarat is the top recipient state of FDI during the FY 2020–21 with 37% share of the total FDI Equity inflows. It is followed by Maharashtra (27%) and Karnataka (13%).
-

1. Which country tops the list of Investor Countries of India in 2020-21?

- A) USA
- B) China
- C) Singapore ☒
- D) UAE



- ✓ As per the recent data released on India's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow during 2020-21, Singapore is at the top with 29%, followed by the U.S.A (23%) and Mauritius (9%).
- ✓ In terms of sector, 'Computer Software & Hardware' is at the top with around 44% share of the total FDI Equity inflow followed by Construction Activities (13%) and Services Sector (8%).

2. Which institution can sanction the amalgamation of District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) with State Cooperative Banks (StCBs)?

- A) RBI ☒
- B) NABARD
- C) Finance Ministry
- D) State Government



- ✓ The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 has been notified for the District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs) with State Cooperative Banks (StCBs). The Reserve Bank is required to sanction the amalgamation these banks.
- ✓ Recently, the RBI said that it will consider amalgamation of StCBs and DCCBs, subject to many conditions, including that a proposal should be made by the state government concerned, NABARD's recommendation, additional capital infusion strategy, assurance regarding financial support etc.

3. CPEC is the flagship project of which global initiative?

- A) Global Infrastructure Connectivity Alliance
- B) Belt and Road Initiative ☒
- C) EU Connectivity partnership
- D) Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program



- ✓ China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is the flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India has been protesting over the project, as it traverses through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). China and Pakistan recently celebrated the establishment of 70 years of their diplomatic relations. China has again defended the USD 60 billion CPEC project with Pakistan.

4. Which country has recently agreed to extend IAEA nuclear monitoring deal?

- A) UAE
- B) Israel ☒
- C) Iran
- D) USA



- ✓ Iran has agreed to extend an agreement allowing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to keep surveillance cameras at nuclear sites, by one month. As per the IAEA chief Rafael Grossi, the deal would end on 24 June.

5. Who has been appointed as the Chief executive officer of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)?

- A) R Gandhi
- B) Rajesh Bansal ☒
- C) Nandan Nilekani
- D) Urjit Patel



- ✓ The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) has appointed Rajesh Bansal, a member of the founding team of Aadhaar, as its Chief executive officer. He has previously served at the RBI in various fields of technology, financial inclusion and payments systems. He also served a key role in designing India's Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) at UIDAI.

6. The Protected Planet Report is a flagship report released by which institution?

- A) FAO
- B) UNEP ☒
- C) IUCN
- D) IMF



- ✓ Protected Planet Report is a biennial landmark publication released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ✓ The report assesses the state of protected and conserved areas around the world. As per the Protected Planet Report 2020, the global community has made major progress towards the target on protected and conserved area coverage, but has not fulfilled on its commitments on the quality.

7. Which country has launched a consultation process for free trade talks with India?

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



- ✓ The United Kingdom has launched a 14-week consultation process involving business representatives to start free trade talks with India. This process comes ahead of formal launch of free trade talks expected in September-October. India is seen as a huge market for British goods like whisky, cars and services.

8. Guillermo Lasso, who was in news recently, was sworn in as the President of which country?

- A) Ecuador ☒
- B) Zimbabwe
- C) South Africa
- D) Australia



- ✓ Conservative businessman Guillermo Lasso was sworn in as Ecuador's new President. The 65-year-old leader has sworn in at the time when the country is facing huge economic and social challenges. After being sworn in, the President appointed Simón Cueva, a 53-year-old economist, as his finance minister. Ecuador is a country located near the equator on the western coast of South America.

9. African violets, an endangered Africa-native flowering plant, has been recorded for the first time in which Indian state?

- A) Kerala
- B) Goa
- C) Mizoram ☒
- D) Sikkim



- ✓ Scientists from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal have found the variant of the African violets in Mizoram. Named as *Didymocarpus vickifunkiae*, the endangered species has been recorded scientifically for the first time in India. African violets, native to Tanzania and Kenya, are epiphytes, that grows on trees and produces light pink flowers during the monsoons.
-

10. Mekedatu Dam, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

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



- ✓ The National Green Tribunal has set up a committee to submit a report on alleged violation of norms in the construction of a dam across the Cauvery River at Mekedatu, in Karnataka.
 - ✓ Karnataka earlier proposed to construct the dam in the area and the proposal was deferred by the Cauvery Water Management Authority twice. Tamil Nadu Government had expressed its strong opposition citing the pendency of case before the Supreme Court.
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1. What is the name of the application used to know the case status and case details of High Courts and District Courts?

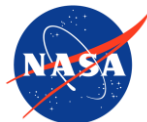
- A) E-Justice
- B) E-Courts Services ☒
- C) E-Nyay
- D) E-Netra



- ✓ The E-Committee of the Supreme Court of India has released a manual for the "e-Courts Services Mobile app" in 14 languages which includes English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Khasi, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu. This app aims to benefit litigants, citizens, lawyers, police and other governmental agencies.

2. Which space agency has proposed to develop an 'Earth System Observatory'?

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



- ✓ The American space agency NASA has proposed an Earth System Observatory, which would provide key information regarding climate change, disaster mitigation, fighting forest fires, and improving real-time agricultural processes. The design involves a constellation of satellites, which would develop a holistic 3D model of the earth from bedrock to atmosphere.

3. What is the name of the panel set up by WHO and partners, to prevent the spread of diseases from animals to humans?

- A) One Health Panel ☒
- B) World Health Panel
- C) Zoonotic Diseases Panel
- D) World Health Panel



- ✓ WHO, along with FAO, UNEP and the World Organization for Animal Health formed a panel of experts to develop a global plan, to prevent the spread of diseases from animals to humans. Named the One Health High-Level Expert Panel, it was an initiative launched by France and Germany. It will advise the UN bodies to develop risk assessment and establish good practices to prevent zoonotic outbreaks.

4. One-Stop Centres is a flagship scheme of which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Affairs
- B) Ministry of Women and Child Development ☒
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of AYUSH

- ✓ The Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) announced that it will set up One-Stop Centres (OSC).
- ✓ This scheme aims to support women affected by violence in public and private spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace. OSCs will be first introduced in 10 foreign missions in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs.

5. Which Ministry is associated with the new Social Media Rules notified in 2021?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology ☒
- C) Ministry of External Affairs

D) Ministry of Science and Technology

- ✓ Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeiTY) has asked the compliance details over the new 'the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Ethics Code) Rules, 2021', from all social media intermediaries. The three-month window provided to social media platforms to comply with the new social media rules ended on May 26. The rules impose a code of ethics and mandating a three-tier grievance redressal framework.

6. Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May, is the sacred day of which religion?

- A) Sikhism
- B) Jainism
- C) Buddhism ☒
- D) Islam



- ✓ Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May, is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists across the world. It was on the Day of Vesak in the year 623 BC that the Buddha was born. It was also on the same day, the Buddha attained enlightenment, on another Day of Vesak in his eightieth year, he passed away.

7. The full moon of which month is usually referred to as the 'Flower Moon'?

- A) April
- B) May ☒
- C) June
- D) July



- ✓ The full moon during the month of May is called the flower moon because of the abundance of flowers around the world. This year, it coincided with the lunar eclipse in which the moon will turn red. It was also closest to the Earth during its orbit, making it appear larger and brighter. The super flower blood moon was visible only in parts of South America, Australia and south-east Asia.

8. What is 'Tasmanian Devil', that was making news recently?

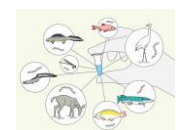
- A) Malware
- B) Cryptocurrency
- C) Wild Animal ☒
- D) Submarine



- ✓ *Sarcophilus harrisii*, also called as the Tasmanian devil, is a carnivorous marsupial. It has a muscular build, black fur, pungent odour, extremely loud screech, high sense of smell and fast feeding. As per media reports, seven animals have been born in the wild of Australia's mainland for the first time in more than 3,000 years. This is expected to promote the endangered animals.

9. What is eDNA analysis, which is used in Pest Control?

- A) ecological DNA
- B) environmental DNA ☒
- C) entomological DNA
- D) endemic DNA



- ✓ Environmental DNA (eDNA) is the DNA collected from a variety of environmental samples such as soil, seawater or air, through their interactions with the environment. Researchers have successfully detected the environmental DNA (eDNA) of the Argentine ant in surface soil samples from two sites in Japan. This method can be used to understand the habitat which will be used in pest control.

10. 'Van Gujjars' a nomadic tribe usually inhabit in which region of India?

- A) Himalayan Region ☒
- B) Deccan Region
- C) Western Ghats
- D) Southern Coast



- ✓ Van Gujjars is a nomadic tribe, who inhabit in the Himalayan region. They usually dwell in foothills of Himalayas and in states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
 - ✓ Recently, Uttarakhand high court has slammed the state government for forcing the tribe to live in inhuman conditions. The state, which feared to let them enter Govind Pashu Vihar National Park, Uttarkashi, was asked to provide accommodation.
-

1. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is being implemented by which Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Power
- B) Ministry of Petroleum ☒
- C) Ministry of Rural Development
- D) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has finalised the guidelines for the next round of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) scheme and it is expected that the government would disburse 10 million fresh LPG connections under the scheme.
- ✓ The scheme aims to provide LPG gas connections to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, free of cost.

2. Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, who was in the news recently, is the newly appointed Director of which organisation?

- A) CVC
- B) CIC
- C) CBI ☒
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, a 1985-batch IPS officer of the Maharashtra cadre, has been appointed as the chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation for a two-year period. He is also serving as the chief of Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF). He had also been part of the Intelligence Bureau and the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW).

3. Cabinet has approved the opening of a new Consulate General of India in Addu City in which country?

- A) Maldives ☒
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Bhutan
- D) Myanmar



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the opening of a new Consulate General of India in Addu City, Maldives in 2021. Maldives has an important place in the Neighbourhood First Policy and the SAGAR- Security and Growth for All in the Region- initiative of the Government of India.
- ✓ This opening of a Consulate General in Addu City will help promote India's diplomatic presence in Maldives.

4. What is UHI, that the Government is set to launch under the National Digital Health Mission?

- A) Union Health Institution
- B) Unified Health Interface ☒
- C) United Health Institute
- D) Union Health Initiative



- ✓ The Government has decided to fast track the expansion of operations under the National Digital Health Mission. It is set to launch of a unified health interface (UHI) which will enable people to use the digital platform for hosting health services, including online medical consultation and booking of laboratory tests.

5. Which molecule is the genetic material of the SARS-CoV-2 virus?

- A) DNA
- B) RNA ☒
- C) Both the above
- D) None of the above



- ✓ Viruses have either RNA or DNA as their genetic material. The nucleic acid may be single- or double-stranded. The SARS-CoV-2 virus has RNA as its genetic material. Recently, Scientists in Taiwan have developed a new DNA-based COVID-19 vaccine that successfully induced antibodies against novel coronavirus in mice and hamsters. Currently available COVID-19 vaccines use messenger RNA (mRNA) to teach human immune system to recognise the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

6. Tsang Yin-hung, who became the world's fastest woman to scale the Mount Everest, belongs to which country?

- A) China
- B) Hong Kong ☒
- C) Vietnam
- D) Japan



- ✓ Hong Kong mountaineer Tsang Yin-hung has recorded the world's fastest ascent of Everest by a woman. The 44-year-old mountaineer scaled the summit in a record time of 25 hours and 50 minutes. Another mountaineer, the 75-year-old Arthur Muir, became the oldest American to climb the world's highest peak at 8,848.86-metres.

7. "Action and Investment in Menstrual Hygiene and Health" is the theme of which special day celebrated on May 28?

- A) World Menstrual Hygiene Day ☒
- B) World Women Health Day
- C) World Personal Health Day
- D) World Hygiene Day



- ✓ World Menstrual Hygiene Day is observed on May 28 across the world. The theme for this year is: "Action and Investment in Menstrual Hygiene and Health." The day aims to change the social stigma associated with menstruation.
- ✓ The date May 28 was chosen to represent the menstrual cycle of 28 days and the menstruation period of 5 days. The day was initiated by the German non-profit WASH United in 2013.

8. Which Indian economist has been conferred with Spain's top Princess of Asturias Award?

- A) Amartya Sen ☒
- B) Urjit Patel
- C) Manmohan Singh
- D) Arvind Subramanian



- ✓ Indian economist and Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen has been conferred with Spain's top Princess of Asturias Award in the social sciences category.
- ✓ He was selected out of the 41 candidatures from 20 countries nominated for the Social Sciences Award. His research on famines and his theory of human development, welfare economics and the underlying mechanisms of poverty was recognised by the institute.

9. Tigray, which was making news recently, is a city located in which country?

- A) Ethiopia ☒
- B) UAE
- C) Israel
- D) Zimbabwe



- ✓ The United Nations has warned that urgent measures are needed to avoid famine in Tigray, an embattled region of Ethiopia. The conflict in Tigray has reached over seven months and is estimated to have killed thousands of people and left around five million in need of aid.

- ✓ Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed ordered a military operation in Tigray in 2020.

10. Prevention of Anti-Social Activities Act (PASA), which was in the news recently, is set to be introduced in which Indian UT?

- A) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- B) Lakshadweep ☒
- C) Chandigarh
- D) Puducherry



- ✓ The Lakshadweep administration has announced to introduce Lakshadweep Development Authority Regulation 2021 (LDAR) and the Prevention of Anti-Social Activities Act (PASA) in the islands.
- ✓ It has drawn criticism from across the country as LDAR gives powers to the administration to remove the small holding for property owned by the islanders belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. PASA gives powers to the administration to detain a person without any public disclosure for a period of up to one year.

1. Six sacrificial pits have been discovered in Sanxingdui city, is located in which country?

- A) Japan
B) China ☒
C) Vietnam
D) North Korea



- ✓ Archaeologists have recently discovered six sacrificial pits in Sanxingdui. The pits are said to contain about 500 artifacts, including gold and bronze masks. Sanxingdui is an ancient Chinese city, located about 1,500 kilometers southwest of Beijing. The artifacts date back around 3,000 years, to a time when this part of China was ruled by the ancient kingdom of Shu.

2. Which Ministry has launched the Clinical Case Repository portal?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
B) Ministry of AYUSH ☒
C) Ministry of Labour and Employment
D) Ministry of External Affairs



- ✓ The Union Minister of State (IC) for Ayush – Kiren Rijiju has recently launched a portal named "Ayush Clinical Case Repository portal". This portal aims to support Ayush medical professionals and the public. It would provide information about the clinical outcomes achieved by Ayush medicine. In addition to this portal, the Minister has also launched the third version of Ayush Sanjivani mobile App.

3. Who authored the book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"?

- A) Rowan Atkinson
B) Eric Carle ☒
C) JK Rowling
D) Salman Rushdie



- ✓ The artist and author who created the very famous children book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" –Eric Carle, died recently owing to kidney failure. He was 91 years old. The book has been one of the best sellers in the world. First published in the year 1969, till date it has been translated into more than 70 languages.

4. The Annual Report of the Reserve Bank of India for 2020–21 covers how many months of RBI's operations?

- A) 6
B) 9 ☒
C) 11
D) 12

9

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has released its Annual Report for the financial year 2020–21, which ended on 31st March 2021. Previously the financial year adopted by RBI was from July to June. But RBI has amended its financial year to April – March from FY 2020–21. Hence, the annual report for FY 2020–21 covers the functions of RBI for 9 months period from July 2020 to March 2021.

5. In which state is the Banni grassland Reserve located?

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



- ✓ The Banni Grasslands Reserve is a arid grassland ecosystem located in the Kutch District of Gujarat. Recently, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered that all encroachments in this region should be removed within a period of six months. The NGT has also ordered that a joint committee should form an action plan for the same.

6. Where is the Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture located?

- A) Chennai ☒
B) Kochi
C) Mumbai
D) Kolkata



- ✓ The Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture (CIBA) is located in Chennai. The institute functions under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The institute has recently developed an indigenous vaccine for viral nervous necrosis (VNN) disease – a viral disease that affects several fish species.

7. Which Indian personality has been conferred with the Eni Award 2020?

- A) CNR Rao ☒
B) Narendra Modi
C) Raghuram Rajan
D) Virat Kohli



- ✓ Professor C.N.R. Rao, who is a Bharat Ratna recipient has been conferred with International Eni Award 2020. This has been awarded for his dedicated research in renewable energy sources and energy storage. This award is also known as the Energy Frontier award and is considered to be the Noble Prize in Energy Research.

8. Which Ministry has launched the SeHAT OPD portal?

- A) Health Ministry
B) Defence Ministry ☒
C) Finance Ministry
D) Commerce Ministry



- ✓ The Union Defence Ministry has launched the SeHAT OPD portal, which aims to provide telemedicine services to the armed force personnel, veterans and their family members. SeHAT stands for 'Services e-Health Assistance & Tele-consultation, whose service can be availed by registering in the Defence Ministry's website – <https://sehatopd.in/>.

9. Which country became the second in the world after the USA to achieve 20 crore vaccinations?

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



- ✓ India has become the second country after the USA to achieve 20 crore vaccination mark. This feat has been achieved by India in a period of 130 days. USA who is in the top spot had achieved the 20-crore mark in 124 days. Union Health Ministry has stated that more than 34% of above 45 age population have been vaccinated at least once.

10. Which Union Ministry has launched the "The Eclipse and After" festival?

- A) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting ☒
- B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- C) Ministry of External Affairs
- D) Ministry of Power



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has launched a film festival named "The Eclipse and After". This includes a series of films on women, which have been made by women. These are screened online from 28 to 30 May 2021. The festival comprises a package of 10 films which narrates stories of women coming out from inequality and injustice.
-

1. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has approved eight names for features on the Moon, in which language?

- A) English
- B) Chinese ☒
- C) Spanish
- D) French



- ✓ The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has approved eight Chinese names for features around the area on the Moon. Last year, China's spacecraft Chang'e-5 probe landed near those places to collect samples from the lunar surface and return to Earth. China has been naming geographical entities on the Moon since 2010.

2. When is the 'World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day' to be observed?

- A) January 30 ☒
- B) February 28
- C) March 31
- D) April 30



- ✓ The ongoing 74th World Health Assembly declared January 30 as 'World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day'. The proposal to recognise the day was initiated by the United Arab Emirates and it was adopted unanimously by the member countries. NTDs are a group of infections caused by a variety of pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, protozoa and parasitic worms.

3. Dal Lake, which was seen in the news, is situated in which city of Jammu & Kashmir?

- A) Srinagar ☒
- B) Jammu
- C) Anantnag
- D) Leh



- ✓ Dal is a lake in Srinagar city, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. It is also called as the "Jewel in the crown of Kashmir". Recently, illegal constructions have been reported in the lake. The Lakes and Water Ways Development Authority (LAWDA), has demolished more than 170 illegal structures around the lake, in the last three months.

4. Little Bloodtail, which is considered as a harbinger of monsoon, belong to which type of species?

- A) Humming Bird
- B) Dragonfly ☒
- C) Frog
- D) Turtle



- ✓ Little Bloodtail is a small dragonfly, which has wide presence in the state of Kerala. This species of dragonfly can be spotted from the beginning of June till September. Since the life cycle of little bloodtail is very closely linked with monsoon, they are considered as a harbinger of monsoon.

5. Who chairs the Goods and services tax (GST) council meeting?

- A) Prime Minister
- B) Finance Minister ☒
- C) Finance Secretary
- D) NITI Aayog CEO



- ✓ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs the Goods and services tax (GST) council meeting. Recently, the 43rd GST Council

meeting was conducted through video conferencing. The decision over tax rates on COVID vaccines was referred to a group of ministers (GOM). Quarterly returns for small traders will continue and has provided relaxation of the late fee penalty for payment of GST.

6. What is the objective of the YUVA programme, launched by the Prime Minister recently?

- A) Women Empowerment
- B) Author Mentorship ☒
- C) Climate Change Control
- D) Protection of Children



- ✓ The Ministry of Education has recently launched YUVA- (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors. It is an Author Mentorship programme to train young authors.
- ✓ The launch of YUVA (Young, Upcoming and Versatile Authors) is a part of India@75 Project to highlight the perspectives of young writers on themes like Unsung Heroes, Freedom Fighters and Forgotten Places.

7. Which country holds the BRICS 2021 Chairship?

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



- ✓ India holds the BRICS 2021 Chairship. It is the third time that India will be hosting the BRICS Summit after 2012 and 2016. Recently, the second BRICS Sherpas' and Sous Sherpas' meeting was convened by India to prepare for the upcoming meeting of the BRICS Foreign Ministers. The theme of the Chairship is "BRICS @ 15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation with Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus".

8. The 'National AI Portal (indiaAI)', is an initiative of which Union Ministry?

- A) Health Ministry
- B) Electronics and IT Ministry ☒
- C) Finance Ministry
- D) Commerce Ministry



- ✓ The 'National AI Portal (indiaai.gov.in)', celebrated its first anniversary on May 28, 2021.
- ✓ The Portal is a joint initiative by Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), National e-Governance Division (NeGD) and NASSCOM. It serves as a central hub for AI related news, learning, articles, events and activities etc., across the world. During the virtual event, a report titled 'One year of INDIAai' and a new look of the website homepage were unveiled.

9. Where is Indian Immunological limited, (IIL) located?

- A) Chennai
- B) Hyderabad ☒
- C) Mumbai
- D) Pune



- ✓ The Central Government is set to provide grants to some public sector companies under the Mission COVID Suraksha, to increase the vaccine production. Hyderabad based Indian Immunological limited, IIL, is a facility under the National Dairy Development Board.
- ✓ As per the Science and Technology Ministry, IIL and Bharat Biotech has collaborated to supply the drug substance for manufacturing

Covaxin Vaccine.

10. The death anniversary of which former Indian Prime Minister is observed as 'Anti-terrorism Day'?

- A) Rajiv Gandhi ☒
- B) Indira Gandhi
- C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- D) Morarji Desai



- ✓ The death anniversary of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is observed across the country as 'Anti-terrorism Day'. The 29th death anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi was observed on May 21. On the same day in 1991, he was assassinated at Sriperumbudur, Chennai during an election campaign. Rajiv Gandhi was the youngest ever Prime Minister of India, when he took over as the sixth Prime Minister at the age of 40.
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