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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



MAY 2021

MAY 01-07

1. Which is the third most populous country in the world, with the recently released population of 331,449,281?

- A) Indonesia
- B) Pakistan
- C) USA ☒
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ The Census Bureau of the United States announced that the population of the US is 331,449,281. This is a 7.4% increase over the last decade. The population figures will be used by state legislatures or independent commissions to redraw the country's political maps.

2. Albert Pahimi Padacke has been named as the Interim Prime Minister of which country?

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



- ✓ Chad's new military rulers have recently named Albert Pahimi Padacke, who was runner-up in the country's recent presidential election, as Prime minister of a transitional government. This move comes a week after President Idriss Deby's death during his visit to the troops fighting rebels. Subsequently, a military council seized power and have selected the Interim Prime Minister.

3. Which institution is to conduct 'Bank Customers' Satisfaction Survey' on bank mergers?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) RBI ☒
- C) SEBI
- D) Finance Ministry



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to conduct a customer satisfaction survey to find out the impact of the recent mergers of public sector banks. The 'Bank Customers' Satisfaction Survey' will cover a total of 20,000 respondents from 21 states.
- ✓ As many as 22 questions would be asked to assess if the merger was positive from the point of customer services.

4. Which sports personality is leading the UNICEF Global Vaccination Initiative?

- A) Usain Bolt
- B) Cristiano Ronaldo
- C) David Beckham ☒
- D) Roger Federer



- ✓ Football star and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Beckham is serving as the Vaccine Ambassador, to create awareness and confidence in the process of vaccination. He recently featured in a video released ahead of World Immunization Week.
- ✓ He has also founded '7 Fund for UNICEF' to encourage parents to vaccinate themselves and their children and protect them against diseases such as diphtheria, measles, and polio.

5. Lunglei town, which was hit by forest fires, is situated in which Indian state?

- A) Kerala
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Tripura
- D) Mizoram ☒



- ✓ A massive forest fire has been raging in the hills near Lunglei town, which is situated in the state of Mizoram. The fire is reported to have spread to towns and villages of in and around Lunglei and Lawngtlai districts of the state. The state has deployed the firefighting team, who have taken assistance from the Assam Rifles, Border Security Force and IAF personnel to put off the fire.

6. Worker's Memorial Day is observed on which date?

- A) April 28 ☒
- B) April 29
- C) April 30
- D) May 01



- ✓ Workers' Memorial Day, takes place annually around the world on April 28, an international day of remembrance and action for workers killed, disabled, injured, or made unwell by their work. This year (2021) theme for the day is, "Health and Safety is a fundamental workers' right".

7. During the era of industrialisation, the workers of which country revolted against the exploitative industrialists, which led to the celebration of May Day?

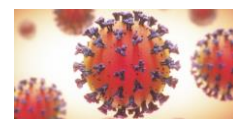
- A) United Kingdom
- B) United States ☒
- C) Germany
- D) Japan



- ✓ During the era of industrialisation, the labourers of the United States revolted together against the unjust labour system and the exploitative industrialists. They demanded for fair wages, breaks between the work and paid leaves. The revolt on May 1 1886 led to the celebration of May Day.
- ✓ May Day, also known as International Workers' Day is celebrated across the world on May 1. In India, the 1st May Day was celebrated on May 1, 1923, by the Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan in Chennai.

8. 'Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Leaving no Country Behind' is a report released by which organisations?

- A) IMF-UNICEF
- B) ADB-UNDP-UNESCAP ☒
- C) World Bank-UNDP
- D) IMF-ADB-UNICEF



- ✓ The 'Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Leaving no Country Behind' is a report jointly released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) along with UNDP and UNESCAP.
- ✓ As per the report, the richer countries in the Asia-Pacific region would recover quickly from the impact of the pandemic than the poorer countries. This difference is because of variation in degree of immunity, healthcare system and vaccine roll-out.

9. Which country is the world's largest military spender in 2020, as per the recent report by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)?

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



- ✓ As per the recent report by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the USA is the world's largest military spender in

2020. The top five spenders are the China, India, Russia and the United Kingdom, other than the USA. These 5 countries together accounted for 62% of global military expenditure. An increase of 2.6% in military spending was recorded in the year.

10. Which is the smallest of all living rhinoceroses and the only Asian rhinoceros with two horns?

- A) Sumatran Rhino ☒
- B) Malaysian Rhino
- C) Assam Rhino
- D) Javan Rhino



- ✓ Sumatran rhinos are the smallest of the living rhinoceroses. They are the only Asian rhinoceros with two horns. They are characterised by their long hair and hence are known as the hairy rhinoceros. With just less than 100 individuals remaining, the Sumatran rhinoceros is one of the world's most endangered mammal species.
 - ✓ Recently, a study found that the remaining populations of the Sumatran rhinoceros display very low levels of inbreeding, which is a good sign for conservation.
-

1. Which institution has released the "State of the Economy Report"?

- A) IMF
B) World Bank
C) Reserve Bank of India ☒
D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ The country's apex financial regulator the Reserve Bank of India has recently released the 'State of the Economy' report. In the report, RBI has stated that of COVID infections are not brought under immediate control, it would severely affect the supply chain and hence lead to inflationary pressures.

2. What is India's rank in Chandler Good Government Index?

- A) 14
B) 49 ☒
C) 100
D) 150

49

- ✓ India has been ranked at 49th position in Chandler Good Government Index. Finland has topped the index. The index ranks 104 countries, under which each country is measured across over 50 open data points. It is based in seven pillars which are leadership and foresight; robust laws and policies; strong institutions; financial stewardship; attractive marketplace; global influence and reputation; and helping people rise.

3. Deepika Kumari and Atanu Das, who were in the news recently, are associated which sports?

- A) Boxing
B) Wrestling
C) Table Tennis
D) Archery ☒



- ✓ India's lead Archery champions - Deepika Kumari and her husband Atanu Das have won Gold medals in at the recurve event of Archery World Cup Stage 1 women's and men's event. This is the first World Cup gold medal for the women's recurve team in the last seven years.
- ✓ Also, India's mixed team consisting of Atanu Das and Ankita have secure Bronze medal in the same tournament.

4. On which date, UN observes International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day?

- A) April 20
B) April 26 ☒
C) April 30
D) May 1



- ✓ The Chernobyl nuclear disaster took place in the year 1986. Every year the United Nations observes April 26 as the International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the nuclear disaster.
- ✓ This day is dedicated to raise awareness of regarding the risks of nuclear energy and the consequences of Chernobyl disaster.

5. Which organisation developed 'Crystal blade technology' for aero engines?

- A) ISRO
B) HAL
C) BEL
D) DRDO ☒



- ✓ Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has developed single crystal blade technology. This has been developed for Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to be used for their helicopter development programme. 60 blades under the newly developed technology have been supplied to HAL.

6. Project DANTAK, which was seen in the news recently, is the flagship project of BRO, carried out in which country?

- A) Bangladesh
B) Nepal
C) Bhutan ☒
D) Myanmar



- ✓ Project DANTAK was established on April 24, 1961 under the leadership of the then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. It is one of the oldest projects of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), which was tasked to construct motorable roads in Bhutan.
- ✓ Recently, the Diamond Jubilee of the Project was commemorated in Bhutan, at the DANTAK Memorial.

7. 'Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health' is associated with which organisation?

- A) WTO
B) ILO ☒
C) IMF
D) WCO



- ✓ The World Day for Safety and Health at Work was first practised in the year 2003 by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), as a part of its 'Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health'. Every year, April 28 is observed as the 'World Day for Safety and Health at Work', to focus on the importance and prevention of accidents and diseases at workplaces.

8. Indo-German project 'Pyrasol', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Reduce Carbon Emission
B) Urban Waste Management ☒
C) Eradication of Malaria
D) Improve Nutrition in Women



- ✓ Indo-German project 'Pyrasol' was launched to transform urban organic waste into biochar and energy in smart cities. It was awarded to CSIR-CLRI by the Indo-German Science & Technology Centre.
- ✓ It aims for joint processing of Fibrous Organic Waste and Sewage Sludge of Indian smart cities into Biochar. The foundation stone of the Integrated Solar Dryer and Pyrolysis pilot was recently laid at CSIR-CLRI, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

9. What is the main objective of the Crypto Climate Accord, an alliance of crypto firms?

- A) Eliminate GHG Emissions ☒
B) Investment in Climate Change Projects
C) Using Block-Chain for Climate change Projects
D) Awareness Generation on Cryptocurrencies



- ✓ An alliance of cryptocurrency firms and organisations have announced the Crypto Climate Accord (CCA). It is an industry-driven agreement in which the firms vow to switch to renewable energy sources by 2025 and go completely eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2040.

- ✓ CCA is led by three non-profit groups: The Rocky Mountain Institute; the Alliance for Innovative Regulation; and Energy Web Foundation.

10. What is the first indigenous vaccine name for fish is?

- A) Nodavac-R ☒
- B) Fishaxin-R
- C) Fishyvac-R
- D) Newvac-R



- ✓ The Central Institute of Brackish Aquaculture located in Chennai has developed an indigenous vaccine for Viral Nervous Necrosis. The name of the vaccine is Nodavac-R.
- ✓ The disease is caused by the Betanodavirus. It mostly affects teleost fish. More than forty species are affected by this virus and most of them are marine species. This virus transmits through passive diffusion and contact. The disease mostly occurs in juveniles. However, it also affects the adults.

1. On which date, Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated in India?

- A) April 25
B) April 28
C) April 30 ☒
D) May 02



- ✓ Ayushman Bharat Diwas is to be celebrated across the country on April 30. The Ayushman Bharat programme seeks to provide easily available and affordable medical facilities in the remote parts of the country. The Scheme has the benefits cover of 5 lakh rupees per family per year.

2. According to the Government of National Capital Territory (GNCT) of Delhi Amendment Act 2021, the 'Government of Delhi' means

- A) Chief Minister of Delhi
B) Cabinet Ministers of Delhi
C) Prime Minister of India
D) Lieutenant Governor of Delhi ☒



- ✓ The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Act, 2021 has come into force in the national capital. According to the amended legislation, the "government" in Delhi means the "Lieutenant Governor".
- ✓ The elected representatives of the UT will have to seek the opinion of the Lieutenant Governor before taking any executive decision.

3. Two new species of damselflies that were discovered recently (Euphaea thosegharensis and Euphaea pseudodispar) are endemic to which region of India?

- A) Peninsular
B) Sundarbans
C) Western Ghats ☒
D) Himalayas



- ✓ Researchers in India have discovered two new species of damselflies, named Euphaea thosegharensis and Euphaea pseudodispar in Satara district of Maharashtra. These damsels are commonly called as Torrent Darts and are endemic to the Western Ghats. These are large insects which belong to the genus Euphaea.

4. Which international institution has released the report "Developing Asia's Economic Outlook"?

- A) World Bank
B) New Development Bank
C) Asian Development Bank ☒
D) International Monetary Fund



- ✓ The Asian Development Bank has recently released a report titled Developing Asia's Economic Outlook. As per the report, Asia's economy shrank by 0.2% in 2020. Although recovery has commenced in Asia, the recovery is registered at different speeds. Also, average inflation in the region is forecast to fall from 2.8% in 2020 to 2.3% in 2021.

5. Union Cabinet approved the signing of an agreement, between India and which country / countries for preventing Customs offences?

- A) Australia
B) USA and Japan
C) UK and Northern Ireland ☒
D) Brazil and South Korea



- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the signing of an agreement between India and the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, for sharing information and preventing Customs offences.
- ✓ The proposed agreement is expected to facilitate trade and ensure faster customs clearance between the three countries.

6. Yanbu port, which was making news recently, is located in which country?

- A) Afghanistan
B) Saudi Arabia ☒
C) Sudan
D) Chad



- ✓ Yanbu is a port city on the Red Sea coast of western part of the Saudi Arabia. Recently, a remotely piloted boat packed with explosives has been found by the kingdom near the port of Yanbu in the Red Sea. Saudi Arabia claimed to have intercepted and destroyed the attack boat, which caused a blast.

7. 'World Tuna Day' is observed on May 3, 2020. Tuna belongs to which species?

- A) Bird
B) Fish ☒
C) Insect
D) Reptile



- ✓ 'World Tuna Day' is observed on May 3, 2020 across the world. Tuna belongs to the species of fish, which is rich in Omega-3. As the fish contains high nutritional values including minerals, proteins and vitamin B12, it is threatened by an overwhelming demand. In December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly voted to officially observe the World Tuna Day on May 3, 2020.

8. Immunisation Agenda, proposed by WHO and their partners (UNICEF and GAVI) aims to save 50 million lives by

- A) 2022
B) 2025
C) 2030 ☒
D) 2040



- ✓ The World Health Organisation (WHO) and its partners namely UN children's agency and the vaccine alliance Gavi, have set a new global vaccination strategy- Immunisation Agenda 2030 (IA2030). It aims to save 50 million lives within the year 2030, with 75% of the children in poor countries. This strategy calls for boost in vaccination drives against measles and other diseases prevailing worldwide.

9. Which body approves the appointment of Finance Secretary of India?

- A) Supreme Court of India
B) Appointments committee of the Cabinet ☒
C) Finance Ministry
D) Lok Sabha



- ✓ The Appointments committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of present Expenditure Secretary TV Somanathan as the Finance Secretary of Government of India. An order by the Personnel Ministry has been issued in this regard. He is a 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre.

10. Which organisation has released the 'Global Forest Goals Report 2021'?

- A) WWF
- B) UN ECOSOC ☒
- C) UNEP
- D) UNDP



- ✓ The Global Forest Goals Report 2021 was prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations. The report provides an overview of progress towards achieving the six Global Forest Goals and their 26 associated targets as mentioned in the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2030. The first Global Forest Goal provides for increasing forest area by three per cent by 2030.
-

1. Operation Samudra Setu-II has been launched by?

- A) Indian Army
- B) Indian Air Force
- C) Indian Navy ☒
- D) Indo-Tibetan Border Police



- ✓ The Indian Navy has launched the Operation Samudra Setu-II, under which Indian Naval warships would ship liquid oxygen filled cryogenic containers from foreign nations. As a part of the operation, two naval ships INS Kolkata and INS Talwar have been deployed to bring oxygen from Bahrain to Mumbai.

2. Vaishali S Hiwase, has been appointed as the first woman officer of which Central Armed Police Force?

- A) BRO ☒
- B) ITBP
- C) CAPF
- D) CRPF



- ✓ The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has appointed Vaishali S Hiwase as the first woman officer to command a Road Construction Company (RCC). The officer would command the company, to provide connectivity in a high-altitude area along the India-China border. She is a M Tech graduate and has already carried out a demanding tenure in Kargil.

3. PM Jan Arogya Yojana was launched in line with which Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)?

- A) SDG 1
- B) SDG 3 ☒
- C) SDG 5
- D) SDG 10



- ✓ Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 states "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages". The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana is a key component of Ayushman Bharat Yojna and was launched in 2018.
- ✓ Being the largest health scheme in the world, it aims to provide a health cover of ₹5 lakh per family per year to over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families. April 30 is celebrated as Ayushman Bharat Diwas.

4. Which institute has demonstrated the conversion of Nitrogen Generator into Oxygen Generator?

- A) IISc Bangalore
- B) IIT Bombay ☒
- C) IIT Madras
- D) IIT Guwahati



- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B), has set up a demonstration unit to convert nitrogen generators, into oxygen generators by modifying the existing nitrogen plant set up. The oxygen generated by this plant at IIT-B lab was tested and found to be 93-96% pure and at 3.5 atmospheric pressure.

5. Central Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (CFMTTI) is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Madhya Pradesh ☒
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ The Central Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute, Budni is a premier institute under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. It is located in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Recently, the first-ever electric tractor in the country has been tested at the institute. This new electric tractor will be more environmentally friendly than other types of tractors.

6. Which is the first Small Finance Bank formed from a cooperative bank in India?

- A) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- B) Jana Small Finance Bank
- C) Bandhan Small Finance Bank
- D) Shivalik Small Finance Bank ☒



- ✓ Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd. was granted an in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India, for transition into a small finance bank in 2020. It is the first cooperative bank to be converted into a small finance bank, under the transition scheme. Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd. has commenced operations as a small finance bank with effect from April 26.

7. Which Indian state Government is to launch a Cleanliness Drive named 'CLAP'?

- A) Andhra Pradesh ☒
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Kerala



- ✓ The state government of Andhra Pradesh is set to launch CLAP (Clean Andhra Pradesh) Jagananna Swachha Sankalpam programme. The scheme is expected to be launched in the month of July. 100 days sanitation drive to keep the villages clean will start from May 1.
- ✓ The state has also planning for better sewage water treatment and solid waste management.

8. Chota Char Dham, a famous Hindu pilgrimage circuit, is located in which state?

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) Uttarakhand ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) Odisha



- ✓ The Chota Char Dham is an important Hindu pilgrimage circuit located in the Indian Himalayas, in the Garhwal region of the state of Uttarakhand. The circuit consists of four sites: Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath. The Uttarakhand government has suspended the Char Dham Yatra, which was scheduled to begin in May. Only priests will perform the rituals inside the shrines.

9. Which Indian insurance company has featured in the top 10 list of most valuable insurance brands globally?

- A) UIIC
- B) LIC ☒
- C) NIA
- D) NICL



- ✓ Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has become the third strongest and the tenth most valuable insurance brand globally. According to a report by Brand Finance Insurance 100 2021, LIC's brand value increased by almost 7 per cent to \$8.65 billion.

- ✓ There are 5 Chinese Insurance companies in the top 10 with Ping An Insurance at the top place.
-

10. Which space agency has recently launched a new batch of 60 Starlink internet satellites into orbit?

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



- ✓ Elon Musk-owned SpaceX recently launched a new batch of 60 Starlink internet satellites into orbit onboard its Falcon 9 rocket. Marking the company's 10th launch of the year, the flagship Falcon 9 rocket blasted off from Space Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. It successfully landed at sea, for the seventh time.
-

1. What is Patania II, which was seen in the news recently, for being stranded on the Pacific Ocean floor?

- A) Container Ship
- B) Submarine
- C) Mining Robot ☒
- D) Satellite module



- ✓ A seabed mining robot, which was being tested on the Pacific Ocean floor at a depth of more than 4 km has become detached. Patania II is a 25-tonne mining robot prototype, which was being tested by Global Sea Mineral Resources (GSR), the deep-sea exploratory division of the famous dredging company DEME Group. The robot was meant to collect the nodules rich in cobalt and other battery metals found on the seabed.

2. Which state has been permitted by the Civil Aviation Ministry to use drones for experimental delivery of vaccines?

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



- ✓ The Civil Aviation Ministry has permitted the Telangana government to use drones for experimental delivery of vaccines. This exemption will be valid for a period of one year or until further orders.
- ✓ In the month of April, the Ministry had permitted the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to conduct a feasibility study on using drones to deliver COVID-19 vaccine.

3. Which institution has unveiled a collaborative project titled "Sustainable Livelihoods for Tribal Households in India"?

- A) APEDA
- B) MPEDA
- C) TRIFED ☒
- D) NABARD

Finance
Commis
sion
tribes
India



- ✓ TRIFED is the nodal agency working for the empowerment of tribal people, under the aegis of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. TRIFED has entered into a collaborative project titled "Sustainable Livelihoods for Tribal Households in India". The LINK Fund, a foundation which aims to eradicate poverty and mitigate the effects of climate change, is also joining hands with TRIFED for this project.

4. Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays is an honour conferred by which country?

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



- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B), has set up a demonstration unit to convert nitrogen generators, into oxygen generators by modifying the existing nitrogen plant set up. The oxygen generated by this plant at IIT-B lab was tested and found to be 93-96% pure and at 3.5 atmospheric pressure.

5. When is the World Press Freedom Day observed every year?

- A) May 3 ☒
- B) May 4
- C) May 5
- D) May 6



- ✓ Every year, 3rd May is observed as World Press Freedom Day by the United Nations. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared this day to raise awareness of the importance of freedom of the press and to lay emphasis on the right to freedom of expression. A resolution in this regard was passed by the UN in the year 1993. The theme for the year 2021 is "Information as a Public Good".

6. Indian Army has inaugurated the First Green Solar Energy harnessing plant in which state?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Sikkim ☒
- C) Nagaland
- D) Telangana



- ✓ Indian Army inaugurated the First Green Solar Energy harnessing plant of 56 KVA in North Sikkim, at an altitude of 16000 ft. The project, which uses Vanadium based battery technology, was completed in collaboration with IIT Mumbai. India has fixed a target of producing 175 GW of renewable energy by 2022.

7. The SDRF contribution is released in two equal instalments to the states, as per the recommendation of

- A) Planning Commission
- B) ☒
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) Supreme Court of India



- ✓ The Finance Ministry has recently released in advance the first instalment worth Rs 8,873.6 crore of the state disaster response fund (SDRF) for the current fiscal, to the states.
- ✓ SDRF contribution is released in two equal instalments to the states, as per the recommendation of the Finance Commission. Normally, the first instalment of SDRF is released in the month of June. Around half of the amount released, can be used by the states for COVID-19 containment measures.

8. Litani river and Qaraoun lake, which were making the news recently, are located in which country?

- A) Laos
- B) Lebanon ☒
- C) Iran
- D) Israel



- ✓ The Litani River is an important water resource located in Lebanon. It rises Beqaa Valley and gets into the Mediterranean Sea. Recently, tonnes of dead fish have washed up on the banks of the Qaraoun lake on Lebanon's Litani river.
- ✓ Environmental Activists have been warning of water pollution caused by sewage and waste, near the lake for several years.

9. Which type of mummy was discovered for the first time in the Warsaw Mummy Project?

- A) Amputee Mummy
- B) Pregnant Mummy ☒
- C) Transgender Mummy
- D) Newborn Mummy



- ✓ Researchers have discovered the world's first-known pregnant mummy, in the Warsaw Mummy Project. The mummy, which is said to be dating from the first century in Egypt, has been found inside the coffin belonging to a male priest. The mummy was donated to the University of Warsaw in Poland in 1826.

- ✓ This discovery helps the researchers to gather first hand evidence of prenatal health in ancient times.

10. What is "MACS 1407", which is seen in the news recently?

- A) COVID vaccine
- B) Soybean variety ☒
- C) New planet
- D) Anti-tank missile



- ✓ Scientists of Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune in collaboration with Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) have developed a new high-yielding and pest-resistant variety of soybean named MACS 1407. This seed is suited for cultivation in North Eastern states and in states like West Bengal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

1. Rushikulya river, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

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



- ✓ The Rushikulya river mouth, located in the state of Odisha is considered as the second-biggest rookery of Olive Ridley Turtles in India after Gahirmatha. This year, the annual mass nesting of millions of Olive Ridley sea turtles near the Rushikulya river mouth is likely to be missed, as the time for nesting process is set to be over. In March 2020, over 3 lakh turtles nested in the same place.

2. World Tuna Day is observed on May 2 every year. Which SDG calls for sustainable use of Oceans and marine resources?

- A) SDG 7
- B) SDG 9
- C) SDG 11
- D) SDG 14 ☒



- ✓ Tuna and tuna-like species is a significant source of food, due to their nutritional properties, in both developed and developing countries. Their meat is rich in Omega-3 and it also contains minerals, proteins, and vitamin B12. In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly declared to officially observe World Tuna Day on May 2 every year.
- ✓ Sustainable Development Goal 14 aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources – applies to the global tuna market.

3. Crimson Solar Project, is a mega solar energy project, is to be set up in which country?

- A) UAE
- B) Russia
- C) Germany
- D) USA ☒



- ✓ The USA Government has approved a major solar energy project in the California desert that would be capable of powering nearly 90,000 homes. The USD-550 million Crimson Solar Project will be set up on 2,000 acres of federal land at California. It is being developed by Canadian Solar unit Recurrent Energy. This step aims to fight climate change, create jobs and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

4. The Democratic Republic of Congo has declared the end of outbreak of which disease?

- A) Smallpox
- B) Ebola ☒
- C) Malaria
- D) Encephalitis



- ✓ The Democratic Republic of Congo declared the end of Ebola outbreak, which infected 12 people in the eastern province and killed six of them. The country contained the outbreak using Merck's (MRK.N) Ebola vaccine. The virus can remain in certain body fluids, including semen, of a patient who has recovered from the disease.

5. What is "Dhruv Mk - III MR"?

- A) ICAR's new rice variety
- B) Advanced Light Helicopter ☒
- C) Surface to Surface Missile
- D) Pulse Doppler Radar

- ✓ Dhruv Mk - III MR is an Advanced Light Helicopter designed and developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bengaluru.
- ✓ The helicopter has been tested and it has successfully demonstrated deck operations on board an Indian Coast Guard Ship, off the coast of Chennai. The helicopter has been developed to be deployed by the Indian Coast Guard.

6. What is the new rate of IGST applicable to Import of Oxygen Concentrators for personal use?

- A) 5%
- B) 10%
- C) 12% ☒
- D) 18%



- ✓ The Government of India has brought down the IGST for import of Oxygen Concentrators for personal use from the present 28% slab to 12%. This would be applicable till 30th June 2021. This rare reduction comes in the wake of a sudden surge in the demand for oxygen, used for COVID infected patients.

7. Article 164 of the Indian constitution deals with

- A) President of India
- B) Provisions of Minister of State Government ☒
- C) Division of Powers between Centre and state
- D) Appointment of Chief Justice of Supreme Court



- ✓ The Article 164 of the Indian constitution deals with the Provisions of the Minister of a state.
- ✓ It stated that the Chief Minister of a state shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers of the state shall be appointed by the Governor in consultation with the Chief Minister. It also states that a Minister, who is not an MLA for six consecutive months, ceases to be a Minister, after the expiry of 6 months.

8. Who has been appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

- A) S A Bobde
- B) A K Sikri
- C) P K Mishra
- D) P C Pant ☒



- ✓ Justice (retired) Prafulla Chandra Pant, who is a member of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), has been appointed its Acting Chairperson with effect from April 25 2021. Prior to his appointment as NHRC member, he was a Judge of the Supreme Court from 2014 to 2017. He had also held the position of Chief Justice of the High Court of Meghalaya from 2013 to 2014.

9. What is the name of the operation launched by the Indian Armed Force, to tackle COVID-19 pandemic?

- A) Operation Bharat
- B) Operation AatmaNirbhar
- C) Operation CO-JEET ☒
- D) Operation CO-WIN



- ✓ The Indian armed forces have launched operation "CO-JEET" to support anti-COVID-19 efforts of the country. It aims to strengthen medical infrastructure and oxygen supply chains and to ensure mental wellbeing of people. The personnel of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy have been engaged to help restore oxygen supply chains, set up COVID beds and provide help to the administration.

10. Padma river, the main distributary of the Ganges, flows in which country?

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



- ✓ Padma river is main distributary of the Ganges, which forms the western boundary between India and Bangladesh before it enters Bangladesh. Recently, a ferryboat with over 30 passengers overturned after hitting a sand-laden cargo vessel in the Padma River. At least 26 people dead in the accident occurred at the old Kanthalbari ferry terminal of Bangladesh.
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