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THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



JUNE 2021

JUNE 15-21

1. SATAT Scheme, which was making news recently, is associated with which sector?

- A) Rural Electrification
- B) Affordable Transportation ☒
- C) LPG Subsidy
- D) Investment in MSME



- ✓ Oil sector PSUs in India namely Indian Oil, HPCL, BPCL, GAIL and IGL have come together into a Cooperation Agreement for promotion and development of SATAT Scheme.
- ✓ SATAT stands for Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation, which was launched on 01.10.2018 to set up Compressed Biogas production plants and make CBG available in the market.

2. When is the Global Day of Parents observed by the UN?

- A) June 01 ☒
- B) June 05
- C) June 10
- D) June 15



- ✓ Every year, the United Nations observes 1st June as the Global Day of Parents. A resolution in this regard was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the first-ever Global Day of Parents was observed in the year 2012. This day is observed to celebrate parenthood and its selfless commitment.

3. The COVID-19 vaccine – Sinovac, which has been granted approval by WHO, is developed by which country?

- A) Indonesia
- B) India
- C) China ☒
- D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ Sinovac vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Biotech Ltd has been granted emergency use approval by the World Health Organisation. WHO has recommended the vaccine to be used by people who are 18 years and above. The vaccine needs to be administered in two doses with a gap of two to four weeks.

4. What would be the rate of global unemployment in the year 2022, as per ILO estimates?

- A) 1%
- B) 3%
- C) 5.7% ☒
- D) 10.4%



- ✓ The rate of global unemployment in the year 2022 is estimated to be 5.7% by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). ILO has estimated that nearly 205 million unemployed people would exist around the world, which is higher than the 2019 level of 187 million. Further the ILO has stated that 108 million more number of workers have been categorized as poor or extremely poor.

5. Dr Patrick Amoth, who has been appointed as the Chair of WHO Executive Board, is from which country?

- A) USA
- B) Kenya ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) Brazil



- ✓ India's Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan completed his tenure as Chairman of WHO Executive Board on June 02. During the 149th session of the WHO Executive board, Harsh Vardhan announced that Dr Patrick Amoth, Acting Director-General for Health, Ministry of Health of Kenya has been appointed as the Chair of WHO Executive Board.

6. What is the name of the programme, in which the Government distributes kits of higher yielding varieties of seeds to farmers?

- A) Seed Minikit Programme ☒
- B) HYV Seeds Programme
- C) Seed Distribution Programme
- D) Seeds to Farmers Programme



- ✓ The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the Seed Minikit Programme by distributing kits of higher yielding varieties of seeds to farmers.
- ✓ It aims to introduce new varieties of seeds to the farmers and helps in increasing the seed replacement rate. The mini kits are being provided by the National Seeds Corporation (NCS), NAFED and Gujarat State Seeds Corporation and wholly funded by the Union through the National Food Security Mission.

7. Who has been appointed as the new Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission?

- A) Arun Mishra ☒
- B) AK Sikri
- C) Markandey Katju
- D) Ranjan Gogoi



- ✓ Former Supreme Court Judge Justice Arun Mishra took charge as the new Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission. Justice Mishra is the first non-CJI to be appointed to the NHRC chief post since the amendment of the Protection of Human Rights Act in 2019.
- ✓ Former Chairperson Justice H L Dattu completed his tenure in December last year. Two other members were also appointed in the Commission.

8. Which Indian state topped the NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala ☒
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Assam



- ✓ Kerala retained the top spot in the Niti Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index released in the year 2021.
- ✓ India's overall score across SDGs improved by six points, from 60 in 2019 to 66 in 2021. The annual index evaluates the progress of states and UTs on social, economic and environmental criteria. Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu grabbed the second and third spots respectively while Bihar is placed at the last place in the index.

9. Fengyun-4B, the New-Gen Meteorological Satellite, has been recently launched by which country?

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



- ✓ China recently launched into orbit a new-generation weather satellite named Fengyun-4B (FY- 4B) successfully. The Fengyun-4B satellite was launched aboard a Long March 3B rocket into the geostationary orbit, to join the network of Fengyun satellites. The first of the Fengyun series, a low-Earth orbit satellite testing machine – FY-1A, was launched in 1988.
-

10. Which country is to play host to the UN Sustainable Transport Conference 2021?

- A) India
- B) China ☒
- C) Japan
- D) Australia



- ✓ The UN Sustainable Transport Conference is to be held from 14 to 16 October 2021 in Beijing, China. The Conference aims to encourage sustainable transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change. To acknowledge the longevity, versatility and environmental sustainability of bicycles, the UN General Assembly declared 3 June as World Bicycle Day.
-

1. Who is the winner of the 2021 International Booker Prize?

- A) David Diop ☒
- B) Douglas Stuart
- C) Margaret Atwood
- D) Bernardine Evaristo



- ✓ David Diop has become the first French writer to win the International Booker Prize, as he was selected for the prestigious award in 2021. His second novel, *At Night All Blood is Black*, was translated by the US author and poet Anna Moschovakis.

2. Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) is a Scientific Experiment being undertaken by which country?

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



- ✓ China's Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) has set a new record in the latest experiment. The experiment achieved a plasma temperature of 216 million Fahrenheit for 101 seconds.
- ✓ The scientists working on the "Artificial sun" project also achieved 288 million Fahrenheit for 20 secs. The Tokamak device has been designed to reproduce the nuclear fusion process, natural to the Sun and stars.

3. Which decade has been declared as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration?

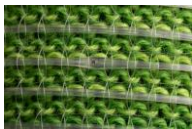
- A) 2001-2010
- B) 2011-2020
- C) 2021-2030 ☒
- D) 2031-2040



- ✓ The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 was launched recently by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO).
- ✓ The organisations also launched a report titled '#Generation Restoration: Ecosystem restoration for People, Nature and Climate', to mark the launch of the decade. The report urges the countries to restore at least 1 billion degraded hectares of land in the next decade.

4. Which global institution launched the 'Programmable Digital Fiber'?

- A) MIT ☒
- B) Google
- C) Microsoft
- D) IBM



- ✓ Researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has developed a first-of-its kind 'Programmable Digital Fiber'.
- ✓ This digital fiber contains memory, temperature sensors, and a neural network program to infer physical activity. It was created by placing hundreds of square silicon microscale digital chips into a preform, which was then used to create a polymer fiber.

5. What is the main objective of the 'Chip-off technique', that has been developed recently?

- A) Data Retrieval ☒
- B) Gold Mining
- C) Cryptocurrency Mining
- D) Biogas production



- ✓ The Scientists at Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Hyderabad have developed an indigenous Chip-off technique.
- ✓ The main objective of the technique is to retrieve encrypted data from locked and severely damaged smartphones. This would benefit investigative agencies to produce credible evidences against criminals.

6. SAGE (Senior-care Aging Growth Engine) is the initiative of which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- B) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment ☒
- C) Ministry of Law and Justice
- D) Ministry of Minority Affairs



- ✓ Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot virtually launched the SAGE (Senior-care Aging Growth Engine) initiative. He also launched the SAGE portal, which can be accessed by the elderly persons for elderly care products and services by select start-ups. The start-ups will be selected on the basis of innovative products and services.

7. AmB, is the nano-fibre-based tablets, developed by IIT-H, for curing which disease?

- A) Kala Azar ☒
- B) Malaria
- C) Dengue
- D) Japanese Encephalitis



- ✓ Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad has developed nano-fibre based oral tablets of Amphotericin B, called as AmB. This was the first-ever attempt to fabricate nanofibrous oral tablets of Amphotericin B for curing Kala Azar. As Kala-Azar treatment is being currently used as a treatment for Mucormycosis, this can be used to treat fungal infections post COVID treatment.

8. After the RBI's monetary policy committee meeting held in June 2021, the Repo rate is fixed at?

- A) 3.75 %
- B) 4.00 % ☒
- C) 4.25 %
- D) 4.50 %

4.00 %

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) six-member monetary policy committee, headed by Governor Shaktikanta Das, kept the benchmark interest rate unchanged. The repo rate will continue at 4.00% and reverse repo rate at 3.35%. With this, the repo rate has remained unchanged for a sixth consecutive time. The decision has been taken amid coronavirus uncertainty and fears over inflation.

9. Which institution organises the World Sustainable Development Summit?

- A) IEA
- B) World Bank
- C) TERI ☒
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ The World Sustainable Development Summit is the annual flagship event of the Energy and Resources Institute. The WSDS 2021 is being held under the umbrella theme of 'Redefining Our Common Future: Safe and Secure Environment for All'.

- ✓ Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Prakash Javadekar addressed the summit on the occasion of the World Environment Day.

10. Which organisation releases the Food Price Index, to track the international prices of a basket of food commodities?

- A) FAO ☒
- B) World Bank
- C) IMF
- D) ILO



- ✓ The UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities including cereals, oilseeds, dairy products, meat and sugar.
- ✓ According to the recent index, food prices in May were 4.8% higher than April. This is registered as the biggest monthly rise since October 2010. The prices were also 39.7% higher than this time last year, May 2020.

1. ICAR – Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) has received a patent for the micronutrient foliar formulation?

- A) Black Pepper ☒
- B) White Pepper
- C) Turmeric
- D) Cardamom



- ✓ The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) has received a patent for black pepper micronutrient foliar formulation.
- ✓ ICAR-IISR has developed crop-specific micronutrient foliar formulations for major spices (black pepper, ginger, turmeric, and cardamom) to overcome micronutrient deficiencies.

2. Trirashmi Buddhist caves complex, where 3 new caves have been discovered, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Maharashtra ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) Odisha



- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), has discovered three new caves in the Trirashmi Buddhist cave complex, which is located near Nashik in Maharashtra. This cave complex is also called the Pandav Leni. This site was first documented by a British military officer nearly two decades ago.

3. To which field, the Padma Shri awardee Lakshmi Nandan Bora, who died recently, belonged to?

- A) Sports ☒
- B) Literature
- C) Music
- D) Dance



- ✓ Lakshmi Nandan Bora, a noted Assamese litterateur and Padma Shri awardee belonging to Assam, passed away recently, due to COVID. He was 89 years old. Lakshmi Nandan Bora has authored more than 60 books in Assamese language.
- ✓ Patal Bhairavi and Kayakalpa are his famous writings. He received the Padma Shri award from the Government of India in 2015.

4. Indus Best Mega Food Park, which was inaugurated recently, is located in which state?

- A) Punjab
- B) Haryana
- C) Chhattisgarh ☒
- D) Odisha



- ✓ The Indus Best Mega Food Park, has been launched in Raipur of Chhattisgarh, by the union minister for Food Processing Industries Narendra Singh Tomar. This mega food park aims to make value addition, increase shelf life and provide better price realisation to farmers. It is expected that this park would provide direct and indirect employment to about 5,000 persons.

5. Which state in India has been witnessing African Swine Fever, which claimed over 4500 pigs?

- A) Goa
- B) Mizoram ☒
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Bihar



- ✓ The state of Mizoram has been severely affected by African Swine Fever (ASF), which has claimed more than 4,700 pigs in over two months, since the first case was reported.
- ✓ As of now, the state government has declared 99 villages and localities as "infected areas", of which 56 are located in Aizawl District, which is the state capital.

6. The Consumer Confidence Index is released by which organisation?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- C) India Ratings
- D) Reserve Bank of India ☒



- ✓ The Consumer Confidence Survey is conducted by the Reserve Bank of India, which provides the respondent's perceptions on general economic conditions. Recently, the RBI has released the Consumer Confidence Index, which has recorded an all-time low due to the second wave of COVID-19 disease. The Current Situation Index (CSI) fell to 48.5 and the Future Expectation Index (FEI) fell to 96.4.

7. Which is the Indian Navy's oldest Hydrographic Survey vessel, that has been decommissioned recently?

- A) INS Kolkata
- B) INS Sandhayak ☒
- C) INS Sindhurakshak
- D) INS Suveer



- ✓ INS Sandhayak, the Indian Navy's oldest Hydrographic Survey Vessel, was decommissioned from the Navy at Visakhapatnam on July 4, 2021. The vessel is 40 years old and has conducted more than 200 major hydrographic surveys. It has also been a part of important operations like 'Operation Pawan' in Sri Lanka (1987), Operation 'Rainbow for Humanitarian Assistance' (2004) etc.

8. Lynetteholm, a proposed artificial island, is to be constructed in which country?

- A) Austria
- B) Russia
- C) Ukraine
- D) Denmark ☒



- ✓ The Government of Denmark has approved for construction of an artificial giant island named Lynetteholm.
- ✓ This island would be 1 sq mile (2.6 sq km) in area and would include a dam system around its perimeter to protect its harbour from rising sea levels and storms. This island would be connected to the mainland by way of tunnel roads and metro lines.

9. YounTab scheme for students is launched in which state / UT?

- A) Delhi
- B) Puducherry
- C) Karnataka
- D) Ladakh ☒



- ✓ The Union Territory of Ladakh has launched a scheme named "YounTab", under which the Ladakh Lt Governor RK Mathur distributed tablets to the students studying in 9 to 12, in the UT. This was the first phase of the scheme's implementation. The scheme aims to provide free tabs to nearly 12,300 students of 6th to 12th class who are studying in government schools of the UT.

10. The Government of India has announced the procurement of "Corbevax" vaccine, manufactured by which company?

- A) Biological E ☒
- B) SII
- C) Ranbaxy
- D) Bharat Bio Tech



- ✓ The Government of India has announced that it would procure 30 crore doses of the COVID vaccine "Corbevax" which is manufactured by the company Biological E. The firm is headquartered in Hyderabad. This indigenously made vaccine is a "Recombinant Protein Sub Unit Vaccine " (i.e.) made from the spike protein of COVID virus and is different from Covaxin or Covishield vaccines.
-

1. The Merapi volcano, which is one of the most active volcanoes, is located in which country?

- A) Indonesia ☒
- B) Australia
- C) Canada
- D) Kenya



- ✓ Mount Merapi, is an active stratovolcano which is located in Indonesia, between the province of Central Java and the Special Region of Yogyakarta – Indonesia. This is considered to be the most volatile volcanoes and has been erupting regularly since 1548. Presently, the volcano has started to erupt again.

2. Which is the host country for this year's world Environment Day celebrations on June 5?

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



- ✓ Every year, 5th of June is observed as the World Environment Day by the United Nations. This day first came into being in the year 1972. The theme for this year is "Reimagine – Recreate – Restore" and the Global Host for 2021 World Environment Day is Pakistan.

3. E-100 pilot project, which was launched recently, is associated with?

- A) E-governance
- B) E-Receipt
- C) Ethanol Production ☒
- D) Electricity Production



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the E-100 pilot project in Pune to mark the World Environment Day. This project aims to set up a network for production and distribution of ethanol across the country.
- ✓ The Prime Minister released the 'Report of the Expert Committee on Road Map for ethanol blending in India 2020–2025'. He also said India is resolved to meet target of 20% ethanol blending by 2025.

4. Raimona reserve forest, which was recently declared as a national park, is situated in which state?

- A) Assam ☒
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Kerala



- ✓ The Raimona reserve forest in Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) of Assam, has been upgraded as the sixth national park of the state. The other five national parks in Assam are Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri, Orang and Dibru-Saikhowa. This Park is famous for its rich flora and fauna especially the Golden langur, clouded leopards, Indian gaur and Hornbill.

5. Which intergovernmental group has announced the minimum global tax on multinational companies?

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



- ✓ The Group of seven (G7) advanced economies has recently made an announcement on taxing multinational companies.

- ✓ This would be the "Minimum global tax rate" and its lower floor limit has been fixed at 15%. G7 is an intergovernmental organization comprising Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

6. Database named "I-Familia" has been launched by which organization?

- A) IMF
- B) World Bank
- C) INTERPOL ☒
- D) CBI



- ✓ The international law enforcement agency Interpol has launched a global database named "I-Familia". This database is aimed to identify missing persons, using the DNA of family members. I-Familia has three components namely a dedicated global database on DNA profiles, DNA matching software called Bonaparte and interpretation guidelines developed by Interpol.

7. Where is the headquarters of BIMSTEC located?

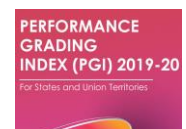
- A) Dhaka ☒
- B) New Delhi
- C) Beijing
- D) Colombo



- ✓ The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is an intergovernmental organization comprising seven nations of South Asia and Southeast Asia.
- ✓ It is headquartered in Dhaka, Bangladesh. This organization was first established in the year 1997. The 24th BIMSTEC day was celebrated on June 6th 2021.

8. Based on how many parameters, the Performance Grading Index or PGI 2019–20 is released?

- A) 5
- B) 10
- C) 25
- D) 70 ☒



- ✓ The Performance Grading Index or PGI 2019–20, which is an index to grade Indian states and Union Territories on Education, has been approved to be launched by the Union Ministry of Education.
- ✓ This index is based on a set of 70 parameters. Under this index, Punjab, Chandigarh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Kerala occupy the top 5 positions for the year 2019–20.

9. As per the State of India's Environment Report 2021, what is India's rank on achievement of 17 Sustainable Development Goals?

- A) 67
- B) 89
- C) 117 ☒
- D) 123



- ✓ The State of India's Environment Report 2021 is an annual publication of the Down To Earth magazine. As per the report, India has been ranked at 117th position in implementing and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030. Last year India was ranked at 115 and now it has slipped by 2 positions due to major challenges faced in ending hunger, gender equality etc.

10. Scorpius constellation, Summer Solstice and Strawberry Moon are the various space events, expected to occur in which month?

- A) June ☒
- B) July
- C) August
- D) September



- ✓ On June 10th, a Solar Eclipse is to be witnessed while on June 20–21, Summer solstice, the astronomical end of spring, and the beginning of summer will occur.
- ✓ This will be the day with the longest period of daylight. On the summer evenings, a curved grouping of stars is noticed across the southern sky, with red beacon. This is the constellation Scorpius, which can be observed in June. The full Moon of June is also called as 'Strawberry Moon'.

1. Alexander Pushkin is a famous poet of which language?

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



- ✓ Alexander Pushkin is a Russian poet, who is considered the father of modern Russian language. His birthday is selected as the UN Russian Language Day. It is observed annually on June 6.
- ✓ The event was initially established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2010. The UN language days aim to celebrate multilingualism and promotion of equal use of all six of the UN's official working languages.

2. What is the theme of the World Oceans Day 2021?

- A) The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods ☒
B) Save Our Oceans
C) Stop Plastic Pollution
D) Sustainably-sourced Fish



- ✓ World Oceans Day is observed on June 8, every year. On the occasion of the day, the United Nations (UN) has called for sustainable efforts and stopping plastic pollution in order to save the oceans. This is the second year of virtual celebration of the UN World Oceans Day due to the coronavirus pandemic. The theme of this year's World Oceans Day is 'The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods'.

3. 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2021' is a report released by which organisation?

- A) ILO
B) UN
C) World Bank ☒
D) IMF



- ✓ The International Labour Organisation (ILO) released the assessment titled 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2021'. As per the report, global crisis-induced 'jobs gap' will reach 75 million in 2021 before falling to 23 million in 2022. It also predicts that employment growth will be insufficient to make up for the losses suffered until at least 2023.

4. 'Raising and Accelerating Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Performance (RAMP) Program' is an initiative of which organisation?

- A) International Labor Organization
B) United Nations
C) World Bank ☒
D) International Monetary Fund



- ✓ The World Bank has approved a USD 500 million program to help boost India's MSME sector. RAMP stands for Raising and Accelerating Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Performance.
- ✓ The programme targets to improve the performance of five lakh 50 thousand MSMEs, by providing better access to finance and working capital for MSMEs. The World Bank had earlier launched Rs 750 million MSME Emergency Response Program in July last year.

5. The 107-year-old Billimora-Vaghai heritage train, runs in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ The 107-year-old narrow gauge heritage train service between Billimora in Navsari and Vaghai in Dangs of South Gujarat made its first trial run recently. The service was scrapped by the Western Railway in December 2020, which was then reconsidered.
- ✓ The rail service was started by the Gaekwad dynasty of princely state of Baroda in 1913.

6. 'Safe food today for a healthy tomorrow' is the theme of which day observed on June 7?

- A) World Food Safety Day ☒
B) World Oceans Day
C) World Tuna Day
D) World Environment Day



- ✓ In 2018, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed that every year June 7 would be observed as World Food Safety Day. According to the UN, unsafe food causes an estimated 420,000 deaths every year. The theme of World Food Safety Day this year is: Safe food today for a healthy tomorrow.

7. Aravali forest area, where the Supreme Court directed to remove all encroachments, is located along which Indian state?

- A) Haryana ☒
B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Odisha
D) Maharashtra



- ✓ The Supreme Court of India has directed the State Government of Haryana and the Faridabad Municipal Corporation to remove all encroachments in Aravali forest near a village in Faridabad. These encroachments also consist of around 10,000 residential constructions.

8. Which of the following schemes is a food security scheme, launched by the Union Government as a part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Package?

- A) PM - FBY
B) PM - GKAY ☒
C) PM - GSY
D) PM - JJBY



- ✓ The Government of India launched the food security scheme named Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) as a part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat package, which aims to provide free food grains to poor and migrants.
- ✓ Recently, the Prime Minister has announced that the scheme would be extended till Diwali 2021 (i.e) till November 2021.

9. MH-60 Romeo helicopters are procured by Indian Navy from which country?

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



- ✓ The Indian Navy would receive MH-60 Romeo helicopters from the United States of America. India had earlier in 2020, signed a Rs.16,000 crore deal with the USA. A batch of Indian pilots have reached the US to be trained to operate the chopper.

10. The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has how many members?

- A) 192
- B) 100
- C) 54 ☒
- D) 20



- ✓ The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the main organs of the UN and has 54 members. These members are elected every year for a term of 3 years. India has been recently elected to the ECOSOC for a term from 2022 to 2024 by way of voting by secret ballot.
-

1. Abdulla Shahid, who has been elected as the next president of the United Nations General Assembly, belongs to which country?

- A) Maldives ☒
 B) Iran
 C) Pakistan
 D) Saudi Arabia



- ✓ Abdulla Shahid, who is currently the Foreign Minister of Maldives, has been elected as the next president of the United Nations General Assembly. This is the first time the Maldives is to occupy the office of the President of the UNGA. The 76th UNGA session (2021-22) was the turn of the Asia-Pacific group.

2. A. cooperensis has been identified recently, as the biggest dinosaur of which country/ region?

- A) Russia
 B) Australia ☒
 C) Africa
 D) Antarctica



- ✓ The Australotitan cooperensis has been recently identified as the biggest dinosaur of Australia. This was announced after its bones were first uncovered. This is a part of the titanosaur family that lived about 100 million years ago. It is estimated to have a height of 5-6.5 metres and a length of 25-30 metres. Based on the limb size comparisons, this new titanosaur is estimated to be in the top five largest in the world.

3. 'Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan' is an initiative of which institution?

- A) AIIMS
 B) NITI Aayog ☒
 C) ICMR
 D) IMA



- ✓ NITI Aayog launched the Surakshit Hum Surakshit Tum Abhiyaan, in association with Piramal Foundation. The campaign is part of a special initiative- Aspirational Districts Collaborative. It aims to provide home-care support to asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic Covid-19 patients in 112 aspirational districts.

4. Which Indian footballer has surpassed Lionel Messi in international goals?

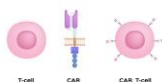
- A) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
 B) Sunil Chhetri ☒
 C) Mohammad Yasir
 D) Amrinder Singh



- ✓ Indian football star Sunil Chhetri has surpassed Lionel Messi in international goals taking his total to 74 goals for India. He has recently scored both goals in India's 2-0 win over Bangladesh at Doha. Chhetri moved past Messi's 72 goals, in a qualifying match for the 2022 FIFA World Cup and 2023 AFC Asian Cup. Portugal player Cristiano Ronaldo tops the international list with 103 goals.

5. India's first CAR-T cell therapy, which was done recently, is used in treatment of which ailment?

- A) Tuberculosis
 B) Cancer ☒
 C) COVID
 D) AIDS



- ✓ The Centre has approved Rs 19.15 crore for conducting a first-in-human phase-1/2 clinical trial of the CAR-T cells. India's first CAR-T cell therapy was done at the Bone Marrow Transplant unit at ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai. The Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy is a type of gene therapy, used in cancer treatment, especially in patients suffering from acute lymphocytic leukemia.

6. What is the IUCN Red List Category of the North Atlantic right whale, which was making news recently?

- A) Vulnerable
 B) Endangered
 C) Critically Endangered ☒
 D) Extinct in the Wild



- ✓ As per a recent study, the younger generation of North Atlantic right whales are about three feet shorter than whales were 20 years ago. Entanglements with fishing gear, collisions with ships and climate change moving their food supply north are said to be the reasons for this phenomenon. The whales are being classified as 'Critically endangered' by IUCN.

7. Jangi Thopan Powari hydroelectricity project (JTP HEP) is the proposed project over which river?

- A) Ganges
 B) Sutlej ☒
 C) Indus
 D) Yamuna



- ✓ Residents of Himachal Pradesh have been protesting against the proposed 804 MW Jangi Thopan Powari hydroelectricity project (JTP HEP). This is a proposed project over the Sutlej River. The run-of-the-river (ROR) project involves construction of a concrete gravity dam across river Sutlej and underground powerhouse on the right bank.

8. Mount Eko Dumbing, which was making news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Uttarakhand
 B) Sikkim
 C) Arunachal Pradesh ☒
 D) Himachal Pradesh

- ✓ Recently, a team of wildlife enthusiasts have sighted two species of monal birds on Mount Eko Dumbing at 4,173 metres above mean sea level. It is located in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. Himalayan monal (Lophophorus impejanus) is widely distributed from Afghanistan to northeast India, the Sclater's (Lophophorus sclateri) monal is found in China and Myanmar.

9. The minimum support prices (MSP) of paddy, sesame, tur and urad were hiked recently. These are crops.

- A) Rabi
 B) Kharif ☒
 C) Zaid
 D) None of the above



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved an increase in minimum support prices (MSP) for various kharif crops or the summer-sown crops for marketing season 2021-22. MSP of paddy was hiked by ₹72 to ₹1,940 per quintal for 2021-22 crop year from ₹1,868 per quintal last year.
- ✓ The highest absolute increase in MSP over the previous year is recommended for sesame (₹452 per quintal) followed by tur and urad

(₹300 per quintal each).

10. As per the QS World Rankings 2022, which Indian institution is ranked as the world's top research university?

- A) IIT Chennai
- B) IIT Mumbai
- C) IIT Bengaluru
- D) IISc, Bengaluru ☒



- ✓ The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World Rankings 2022, which is an annual publication of university rankings has been recently published.
- ✓ As per the release, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru has secured the position of the "world's top research university". This institution has achieved a score of 100/100 under the metric Citations Per Faculty (CPF) assessment.