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FOURTH WEEK

CURRENT AFFAIRS



AUGUST 2021

AUGUST 22-31

1. Which State has launched Dalit Bandhu scheme?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Telangana ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Chhattisgarh



- ✓ Telangana has launched the Dalit Bandhu scheme at Salapalli village in Huzurnagar Assembly Constituency. CM K Chandrashekhara Rao has launched this scheme on a pilot basis by handing over certificates to the select beneficiaries sanctioning financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh each to take up their choice of income generation activity.
- ✓ Also, a separate Protection Fund will be created. Dalit Bandhu Samitis would be established at different levels – from village level to State level – and these would be entrusted with the responsibility of managing the dalit protection fund.

2. What amount will be invested in Pradhan Mantri Gatishakti initiative?

- A) Rs 150 Lakh crore
- B) Rs 300 Lakh crore
- C) Rs 200 Lakh crore
- D) Rs 100 Lakh crore ☒



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Rs 100 lakh crore Pradhan Mantri Gatishakti initiative on August 15, 2021. This initiative will create employment opportunities for youth in India. It will also lead to growth and development of infrastructure. It also increases the possibilities of new future economic zones.

3. Which date is observed as World Prediabetes Day?

- A) August 14 ☒
- B) August 18
- C) August 21
- D) August 23



- ✓ To spread awareness about Prediabetes and flatten the curve of diabetes, a first-time global event was held on August 14 as World Prediabetes Day. The World Prediabetes Day will be celebrated annually on 14 August starting from the year 2021.
- ✓ This event has been strategically chosen 90 days ahead of diabetes day as scientifically it takes 90 days to mend the lifestyle to reverse Prediabetes and prevent progression to diabetes. In India, 9 crore people are living with Prediabetes. Almost 75% of these will go on to develop diabetes within the next 5 years.

4. In which state/UT, World's first bio-bank in Ayurveda is going to be set up?

- A) Uttarakhand
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Goa
- D) New Delhi ☒



- ✓ Union Ayush Minister Sarbananda Sonowal recently announced that World's first bio-bank in Ayurveda is going to be set up in the All-India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi. AIIA is a public Ayurveda medicine and research institute in New Delhi that was founded in 2015. It is an autonomous institute under the AYUSH Ministry. The institute offers postgraduate and doctoral studies in a variety of Ayurvedic disciplines.

5. Who has inaugurated the Health QUEST study which will be undertaken by 20 private hospitals across India?

- A) Dr K Sivan ☒
- B) Dr Harsh Vardhan
- C) Mansukh L Mandaviya
- D) Dr Balram Bhargava



- ✓ Dr K Sivan, Secretary, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) formally inaugurated the Health QUEST study (Health Quality Upgradation Enabled by Space Technology of ISRO) which will be undertaken by 20 private hospitals across India.
- ✓ Objective of the study is to strive towards reducing human errors and achieve zero defect and quality service in the emergency and intensive care units of hospitals. The study aims to upgrade the healthcare system standards in the country in line with the ISRO quality standards and best practices.

6. In which Indian city, the world's first museum on wheels was inaugurated?

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



- ✓ An iconic museum on wheels inside the trams of Kolkata was inaugurated by West Bengal transport and housing minister Firhad Hakim, commemorating the 75th anniversary of India's independence.
- ✓ Kolkata is getting the world's first museum on a tram that symbolizes how people's solidarity survived the freedom struggle, partition and the events of 1947. It will be on display at Esplanade (Central Kolkata) till Dec-end and from 1st Jan, it will move to other parts of the city.

7. Thomas Dennerby has been appointed as head coach of Indian women's football team ahead of the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022. Which country is the host of this event?

- A) China
- B) Japan
- C) India ☒
- D) South Korea



- ✓ Thomas Dennerby will take charge of the Indian women's national team as head coach with immediate effect ahead of the AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022. AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022 will be hosted by India from January 20-February 6. Dennerby was earlier in charge of India's U-17 World Cup squad and will go back to that duty once the Asian Cup is over. The 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup will be the 20th edition of the AFC Women's Asian Cup.

8. Recently, with which country's navy, the Indian Navy has carried out joint drills in the South China Sea?

- A) Thailand
- B) Japan
- C) Cambodia
- D) Vietnam ☒



- ✓ The Indian Navy has carried out joint drills with the Vietnamese Navy in the South China Sea as part of maritime cooperation between the two countries. INS Ranvijay and INS Kora undertook bilateral maritime exercises with Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) frigate VPNS Ly Thai To (HQ-012). The bilateral interaction aims to consolidate the strong bond shared by the two navies and would be another step towards strengthening India-Vietnam defence relations.

- ✓ The sea phase included surface warfare exercises, weapon firing drills and helicopter operations. Regular interactions between the two navies over the years have enhanced their interoperability and adaptability.

9. With which country, the Union Cabinet has given approval for India to partner with in the field of Disaster Management?

- A) South Korea
- B) Switzerland
- C) Bangladesh ☒
- D) Nepal



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding signed on March, 2021 between the National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, the Republic of India and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, People's Republic of Bangladesh on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management, Resilience and Mitigation.
- ✓ The MoU seeks to put in place a system, whereby both India and Bangladesh will be benefited from the Disaster Management mechanisms of each other and it will help in strengthening the areas of preparedness, response and capacity building in the field of Disaster Management.

10. By which year, the government is going to provide fortified rice to the poor under various schemes?

- A) 2023
- B) 2022
- C) 2025
- D) 2024 ☒

2024

- ✓ Prime Minister Modi announced to provide fortified rice to poor under various schemes by the year 2024. This decision was taken in order to address the problem of malnutrition in India. Providing nutrition to every poor person India is a priority of the government.
- ✓ This decision was taken in the view that, malnutrition and lack of essential nutrients among poor women and poor children is a major hurdle in their development.

1. How many gold medals did India win at the World Archery Youth Championships?

- A) 1
B) 2
C) 3 ☒
D) 4



- ✓ India has won 3 gold medals in Archery Championships. The Indian contingent won 15 medals at the World Archery Youth Championships.
- ✓ The 2021 World Archery Youth Championships was held in Wroclaw in Poland. Out of the 15 medals, India has won three gold medals in the compound cadet women's and men's and mixed team events. The women's team defeated Turkey 228-216 in the final match to win a gold medal.

2. Which organization has launched a year-long Amrit Mahotsav Quiz programme?

- A) AIR ☒
B) CSIR
C) ISRO
D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ All India Radio has launched a unique innovative programme named Azadi Ka Safar Akashvani Ke Saath on national as well as regional channels. A year-long Amrit Mahotsav Quiz is being organized by the News Services Division of All India Radio as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

3. Which organization has flagged off Freedom Cyclothon 2021?

- A) Border Security Force ☒
B) Ministry of Home Affairs
C) Indian Air Force
D) DRDO



- ✓ To mark the 75th Anniversary of Independence Day, Border Security Force (BSF) Director General SS Deswal flagged off 'Freedom Cyclothon 2021' from the RS Pura area in Jammu and Kashmir that will end at Dandi in Gujarat. The Cyclists will cover four States/Union Territories namely Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- ✓ The mission of the Cyclothon is to spread the message of New India Fit India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat and Clean Village Green Village. The cyclists will cover a distance of 1993 kilometres.

4. Who has been elected as the new president of Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society?

- A) Dr Manmohan Singh
B) Amitabh Kant
C) Ajay Tyagi
D) NK Singh ☒



- ✓ Chairman of 15th Finance Commission, NK Singh, has been elected as the new president of Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society. He succeeded former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh who was the President of IEG since 1992. His name was recommended by Dr Manmohan Singh for the consideration of the IEG's general assembly.
- ✓ Manmohan Singh stepped down from this position for health concerns. It is an autonomous, multidisciplinary centre that is used for advanced research and training. It was founded by VKRV Rao in 1952, but became operational in 1958. It is located at University Enclave of University of Delhi, New Delhi.

5. With which country, India has participated in the bilateral naval exercise 'Exercise Konkan 2021'?

- A) Sri Lanka
B) Australia
C) Russia
D) United Kingdom ☒



- ✓ India has participated in the bilateral naval exercise 'Exercise Konkan 2021' with United Kingdom. This naval exercise was held between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of Britain in Portsmouth, UK.
- ✓ INS Tabar took part in the annual bilateral exercise Konkan between the Indian Navy and Britain's Royal Navy. The Indian Navy and Royal Navy have been conducting the bilateral naval exercise Konkan every year since 2004.

6. Which Indian city was adjudged the second most polluted city out of the 50 'most polluted cities' in the world?

- A) Ghaziabad ☒
B) Kanpur
C) Gurugram
D) Delhi



- ✓ Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad was adjudged the second most polluted city out of the 50 'most polluted cities' in the world in 2020 by a report prepared by British company HouseFresh. Ghaziabad reported an average Air Quality Index (AQI) of 2.5 particulate matter (PM) in 106.6µg/m³, the report said.
- ✓ Preceding Ghaziabad, Chinese city of Hotan in Xinjiang province has been named the most polluted city with a PM_{2.5} of 110.2µg/m³. The report attributed the air pollution in Hotan to sandstorms resulting from its closeness to the Taklimakan Desert, which is the largest shifting sand desert in the world. For Ghaziabad, the cause of pollution has been assigned to traffic volumes.

7. With which organization, MyGov under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology have come together to jointly launch the Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021?

- A) Global Fund for Women
B) National Organization for Women
C) Women for Women International
D) UN Women ☒



- ✓ On the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the 75th year of Independence of India, MyGov under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and UN Women have come together to jointly launch the Amrit Mahotsav Shri Shakti Innovation Challenge 2021. The aim is to empower women to help them achieve their full potential. The winners will be awarded 5,00,000 each.

8. Recently, who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Amway?

- A) P V Sindhu
B) Neeraj Chopra
C) Sushila Chanu
D) Saikhom Mirabai Chanu ☒



- ✓ Amway India has announced that it has appointed Olympian Saikhom Mirabai Chanu as the brand ambassador for Amway and its Nutrilite range of products. Chanu will spearhead the company's campaigns focused on product ranges such as Nutrilite Daily, Omega and All Plant Protein among others.

- ✓ Saikhom Mirabai Chanu, a weightlifter, won the silver medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics in the women's 49kg category.

9. Which organization has launched Urja, an AI enabled virtual assistant?

- A) Hindustan Petroleum
- B) NTPC Limited
- C) Power Grid Corporation of India
- D) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited ☒



- ✓ Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), has launched Urja, a virtual assistant with AI/NLP (Artificial Intelligence/Natural Language Processing) capabilities and trained on more than 600 use cases.
- ✓ In an effort to make BPCL's customer interface complete and digitally integrated, Urja, the chabot is now available on the company's website for any questions. Urja speaks in 13 languages (English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Oriya, Bengali, Punjabi, Urdu and Assamese).

10. Which day is observed as Hiroshima Day?

- A) August 6 ☒
- B) August 7
- C) August 10
- D) August 15



- ✓ 6 August is observed as Hiroshima Day to acknowledge the massive devastation and human suffering brought by the dropping of nuclear bomb on Hiroshima in 1945. This year is the 76th anniversary of the atomic bombing. It was the first city to be attacked by a nuclear bomb. The US created two atomic bombs named 'The Little Boy' dropped in the city of Hiroshima and 'The Fat Man' in the city of Nagasaki on August 6 and 9 respectively.

1. In which state, India's highest herbal park has been inaugurated?

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



- ✓ India's highest altitude herbal park situated at a height of 11,000 feet was inaugurated at Mana village close to the Indo-China border in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district. The research wing of Uttarakhand's Forest department has developed the park over three acres of land given by Mana Van panchayat, under the central government's Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act (CAMPA), scheme.
- ✓ It has been developed in three years under central government's Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) scheme. The herbal park has around 40 species found in high altitude alpine areas in the Indian Himalayan region.

2. Recently, former chief minister Kalyan Singh has passed away. He was the chief minister of which state?

- A) Haryana
 B) Rajasthan
 C) Uttar Pradesh ☒
 D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ Former Uttar Pradesh chief minister and former Rajasthan Governor Kalyan Singh passed away in Lucknow at the age of 89 on August 21, 2021. Kalyan Singh became the chief minister of the state for the first time in 1991. He was at the helm of the affairs in the state when the Babri masjid was demolished in 1992. He was CM from 24 June 1991 – 6 December 1992 and from 21 September 1997 – 12 November 1999.

3. In which city, National Thermal Power Corporation has commissioned the largest floating solar PV project of 25 MW?

- A) Kayamkulam
 B) Omkareshwar
 C) Ramagundam
 D) Visakhapatnam ☒



- ✓ The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Ltd, has commissioned the largest floating solar PV project of 25MW on the reservoir of its Simhadri thermal station in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This is also the first solar project to be set up under the Flexibilisation Scheme, notified by the Government of India in 2018.
- ✓ The floating solar installation which has a unique anchoring design is spread over 75 acres in an RW reservoir. This floating solar project has the potential to generate electricity from more than 1 lakh solar PV modules.

4. Which date in August is observed as The International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief?

- A) 23 August
 B) 22 August ☒
 C) 20 August
 D) 24 August



- ✓ The International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief was observed by the UN on August 22, 2021. Commemoration of the day recognises the importance of providing victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief and members of

their families with appropriate support and assistance in accordance with applicable law. It was first made official in 2019.

5. Which state's seven indigenous food products have been launched by Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries and Jal Shakti Prahlad Singh Patel?

- A) Assam
 B) Manipur ☒
 C) Odisha
 D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries and Jal Shakti Prahlad Singh Patel has launched seven indigenous food products of Manipur in Imphal, as part of the Make in India initiative.
- ✓ The indigenous food products are Black Rice Laddoo, Black Rice Fruit & Nut Cookies, Hot and Spicy Bhujia, Kabok (puffed rice) Mixture, Manipuri Casava Burfi, Bamboo Shoot Muraba and Fig Laddoo. These products were developed under the Incubation Lab project of Manipur Food Industries Corporation Limited (MFICL) in collaboration with TQS Global, Ghaziabad with a budget provision of ₹10 lakh.

6. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar announced the rollout of a mobile tech platform at the UN Security Council. What is the name of this platform?

- A) UNITE Peace
 B) UNITE Aware ☒
 C) UNITE X
 D) UNITE World



- ✓ External Affairs Minister (EAM), S Jaishankar, announced the rollout of "UNITE Aware" tech to help protect UN peacekeepers. He made this announcement at the UN headquarters in New York while he was chairing UN Security Council open debate on "Technology and Peacekeeping".
- ✓ UNITE AWARE is a mobile tech platform developed by India to provide terrain-related information to the UN peacekeepers so as to ensure their safety. India has spent 1.64 million USD for this project.

7. Which organization has developed an advanced Chaff technology to safeguard fighter aircrafts against hostile radar threats?

- A) ISRO
 B) HAL
 C) DRDO ☒
 D) BHEL



- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed an advanced Chaff technology to safeguard the fighter aircraft of the Air Force against hostile radar threats.
- ✓ Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur, developed the advanced Chaff material and chaff cartridge-118/I in collaboration with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune, meeting the qualitative requirements of the IAF. Chaff is a critical defence technology used to protect fighter aircraft from hostile radar threats.

8. Recently, which organization has signed an agreement among themselves for cooperation in remote sensing satellite data sharing?

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



- ✓ Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) signed an agreement for cooperation in remote sensing satellite data sharing. The pact inked enables building a virtual constellation of specified remote sensing satellites of BRICS space agencies and their respective ground stations will receive the data. The agreement was signed under India's BRICS Chairship.

9. With which organization, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is collaborating for pavement engineering and intelligent transportation systems?

- A) IIT Madras ☒
- B) IIT Gandhinagar
- C) IIT Bombay
- D) IIT Delhi



- ✓ IIT Madras is collaborating with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), Government of India, on pavement engineering and intelligent transportation systems.
- ✓ This includes research on novel pavement materials & technologies, hydrogen cell transportation, automatic vehicle classification, novel toll systems, incident management systems, traveller information systems, FastTAG data analytics and traffic simulations besides transportation safety. IIT Madras will train 8 to 10 students including MoRTH's nominated officers in the field of Highway Engineering.

10. Which date is observed as World Humanitarian Day?

- A) August 19 ☒
- B) August 21
- C) August 23
- D) August 25



- ✓ The United Nations marks August 19 as World Humanitarian Day to honour the sacrifices of all those who choose to serve humanity against all odds.
- ✓ Theme for 2021 WHD: #TheHumanRace: a global challenge for climate action in solidarity with people who need it the most. It was commemorated for the first time on 19 August 2009, after it was formally recognised by the United Nations General Assembly in 2009.

1. From which State, a rare orchid species has been found for the first time in India?

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



- ✓ A rare orchid species -- *Cephalanthera erecta* var. *oblanceolata* -- has been found for the first time in India in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district at an altitude of 1870 metres. A research paper on the new addition to Indian flora has been published in *Nelumbo*, the six-monthly journal of BSI and volumes listing the orchid species of India will soon be updated.

2. With which organization, Universal Service Obligation Fund has partnered for high-speed internet access to North Eastern States?

- A) BSNL ☒
- B) MTNL
- C) Airtel
- D) Vi



- ✓ For making available high quality and high-speed internet access to the States of North Eastern Region of the country, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has signed an Agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited for hiring of 10 Gbps International Bandwidth for Internet Connectivity to Agartala from Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited BSCCL Bangladesh through Cox Bazar and Kuakata.
- ✓ Under the Agreement, USOF will provide financial support to BSNL for a period of three years for hiring the International Bandwidth. The availability of high-speed internet access will help the citizens in accessing various e-services such as e-governance, e-education, e-health, e-commerce, e-banking, etc.

3. Which country has commenced anti-submarine drills in the South China Sea?

- A) Japan ☒
- B) China
- C) Singapore
- D) Indonesia



- ✓ Japan's Maritime Self-defense Force has commenced anti-submarine drills in the South China Sea, as per the recent statement from the Japanese Defence Ministry. The exercise deployed three vessels including a helicopter aircraft carrier and a submarine.
- ✓ The entire South China Sea is claimed by China, which has established military outposts on artificial islands. The United States has been accusing China of militarising the South China Sea.

4. Recently, which state has launched COVID Affected Livelihood Support Scheme to provide assistance to those who had been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?

- A) Manipur ☒
- B) Puducherry
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Odisha



- ✓ Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh has launched COVID-19 Affected Livelihood Support Scheme to provide assistance to those who had been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in the State.
- ✓ The distribution of a total amount of Rs 1.56 crore to 6,276 beneficiaries of the scheme at the rate of Rs 2500 per beneficiary marked the launch function.

5. What is the name of the portal that has been launched by the government to help in facilitating new MGNREGA assets using remote sensing and geographic information system-based data?

- A) Bhoomi Rashi
- B) Madad
- C) Yuktdhara ☒
- D) eSanad



- ✓ The government has launched a new geospatial planning portal, 'Yuktdhara', which will help in facilitating new MGNREGA assets using remote sensing and geographic information system-based data. The portal will serve as a repository of geotags created under various national rural development programmes.
- ✓ This platform will serve as a repository of assets (geotags) created under various national rural development programmes.

6. India has pitched indigenously built fighter aircraft, anti-tank missiles at 'ARMY-2021.' In which country ARMY-2021 is being held?

- A) India
- B) Russia ☒
- C) Israel
- D) United States of America



- ✓ India has pitched its indigenously built fighter aircraft LCA Tejas, Anti-Tank Guided Missiles, Arjun Main Battle Tank (MK1A) at the International Military-Technical Forum "ARMY-2021" which is being held in the Moscow region.
- ✓ DRDO is participating in the International Military-Technical Forum "ARMY-2021" at Kubinka, Moscow from Aug.22-28. DRDO is the part of India's pavilion where advanced defence technologies and systems will be displayed along with Indian Defence Industries namely Goa Shipyard Limited, Ordnance Factories and Bharat Earth Movers Limited etc.

7. Recently, which organization has launched 34 satellites?

- A) ISRO
- B) Space X
- C) NASA
- D) OneWeb ☒



- ✓ Bharti Group-backed OneWeb, a low earth orbit (LEO) satellite communications company has confirmed the launch of 34 satellites by Arianespace from the Baikonur Cosmodrome. The launch follows the successful completion of OneWeb's 'Five to 50' mission. This launch brings OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation to 288 satellites.

8. Which bank has launched a digital and instant Blocked Account for students aspiring to study in Germany?

- A) Citibank
- B) ICICI Bank Germany ☒
- C) Deutsche Bank
- D) State Bank of India



- ✓ ICICI Bank Germany has announced the launch of a digital and instant Blocked Account for students aspiring to study in Germany. A Blocked Account is a special type of account wherein students are required to keep a certain amount of money in order to get a Balance Confirmation Certificate (BCC). This account is mandatory for getting a student Visa in Germany.

- ✓ This account offers students a complimentary Current Account that the students can use in Germany. It also comes with a VISA debit card which can be used anywhere in the world.

9. Which state has emerged as a leading state in trading at National Agriculture Market (eNAM)?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Rajasthan ☒
- C) West Bengal
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Rajasthan has emerged as a leading state in trading at National Agriculture Market (eNAM). Rajasthan was the first state to allow conversion of all single trading licenses into unified license to promote e-Trade of farm products. Till now, total 37346 traders are working as unified licensee traders.

10. Recently, who has become the first Indian to receive Congressional Gold Medal?

- A) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- B) Mahatma Gandhi ☒
- C) Bhagat Singh
- D) B R Ambedkar



- ✓ New York Congresswoman Caroline Maloney re-introduced legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi. He has been awarded for his contributions made through his methods of non-violence. He would become the first Indian to receive the Congressional Gold Medal, which is the highest civilian award in the US.

1. In which city, the Centre for Research and Innovation in Artificial Intelligence has been inaugurated?

- A) Chennai
- B) Hyderabad ☒
- C) Thiruvananthapuram
- D) Bengaluru



- ✓ Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has virtually inaugurated the Centre for Research and Innovation in Artificial Intelligence set up at the Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad. He also inaugurated the first Academic Building of the Department of Materials Science & Metallurgical Engineering, High-Performance Computing Centre and High-Resolution Electron Microscopy Facility.
- ✓ Centre for Research and Innovation in Artificial Intelligence is being set up in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency-JICA. The University has an agreement with Honeywell Technology Solutions for setting up the lab.

2. Which country is hosting the 2021 edition of the World Athletics U20 Championships?

- A) Ghana
- B) Kenya ☒
- C) South Africa
- D) Jamaica



- ✓ The 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships, also known as the World Junior Championships, are an international athletics competition for athletes qualifying as juniors taking place from 17 to 22 August 2021 at the Nyayo Sports Complex in Nairobi, Kenya.

3. Which date is observed as World Mosquito Day?

- A) August.18
- B) August.20 ☒
- C) August.22
- D) August.24



- ✓ World Mosquito Day is observed on 20 August annually to raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented. This day is observed to highlight the efforts of health officials, non-governmental organizations and other organizations in the fight against the disease caused by malaria. On World Mosquito Day every year, awareness is created around diseases caused by mosquitoes.
- ✓ This year the theme of World Mosquito Day 2021 is "Reaching the zero-malaria target". The day also commemorates the discovery by British physician Sir Ronald Ross in 1897 that female mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans. In 1902 Ross won the Nobel Prize in Medicine and became the first Briton to receive it.

4. With the inauguration of the first solar electric vehicle charging station at the Karnal lake resort, which highway has become the first e-vehicle friendly highway in India?

- A) Delhi-Chandigarh Highway ☒
- B) Delhi-Mumbai Highway
- C) Delhi-Jaipur Highway
- D) Delhi-Meerut Highway



- ✓ The Union Heavy Industries Minister Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey inaugurated the country's very first Solar Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station at the Karnal Lake Resort. With the inauguration of the first solar electric vehicle charging station at the Karnal lake resort, the Delhi-Chandigarh Highway has become the first e-vehicle friendly highway in India. The EV charging station at the Karnal lake resort is

strategically located at the midpoint of the Delhi-Chandigarh highway and is equipped to cater to all types of E-cars plying currently in the country.

✓ The network of Solar-based Electric Vehicle Charging stations (SEVCs) is set up by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) under the FAME-1 [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) & Electric Vehicles in India] scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

5. What is India's rank in terms of crypto adoption worldwide?

- A) First
- B) Second ☒
- C) Third
- D) Fourth



- ✓ India ranks second in terms of crypto adoption worldwide behind Vietnam, according to the 2021 Global Crypto Adoption Index by blockchain data platform Chainalysis. A report by US-based research platform Finder released this month corroborated that the top five countries in terms of crypto adoption were all from Asia.
- ✓ The company surveyed 47,000 users worldwide and 30% of those surveyed in India said they owned cryptocurrencies. Bitcoin is the most popular coin in India, followed by Ripple, Ethereum and Bitcoin Cash, according to the report.

6. Which date is observed as International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition?

- A) August.20
- B) August.21
- C) August.22
- D) August.23 ☒



- ✓ United Nations observes 23 August every year as "International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition". This day is intended to remember and honour the tragedy of the slave trade in the memory of all peoples who were dehumanised by the cruel practice or systemic racism. It is a day to honour the memory of the men and women who, in Saint-Domingue in 1791, revolted and paved the way for the end of slavery and dehumanization.

7. Which date is observed as Chennai Day?

- A) August.22 ☒
- B) August.24
- C) August.25
- D) August.27



- ✓ Chennai celebrated its 382nd birthday on August 22. It was on August 22, 1639, that the village of Madrasapatnam was purchased by the East India Company from the Vijayanagar Empire. The concept of celebrating Madras Day was conceptualized in 2004.

8. Which day is observed as World Senior Citizen Day in 2021?

- A) August.21 ☒
- B) August.22
- C) August.24
- D) August.26



- ✓ The World Senior Citizen Day is celebrated to raise awareness about issues affecting older people and support, honour and show appreciation to seniors and to recognize their achievements.
- ✓ The day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 14, 1990.

9. O. Chandrasekharan, who passed away recently, represented India in the Olympics in which sport?

- A) Hockey
- B) Wrestling
- C) Long Jump
- D) Football ☒



- ✓ Former Indian Footballer O. Chandrasekharan passed away in Kochi on August 24, 2021 at the age of 86.
- ✓ Chandrasekharan was part of the Indian team that participated in the 1960 Rome and the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. He was also a member of the Indian team that won the gold in 1962 Asian Games in Jakarta and the silver medal in Asian Cup in Tel Aviv the same year. He captained the Maharashtra team that won the 1963 Santosh Trophy.

10. Which organization has released the report 'Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021' which states that the pandemic is threatening Asia and the Pacific's progress?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank ☒
- C) International Monetary Fund
- D) United Nations Development Programme



Asian Development Bank

- ✓ The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed an estimated 75 million to 80 million more people in developing Asia into extreme poverty as of last year compared with what would have happened without COVID-19, according to a new report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- ✓ The 'Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021' says the pandemic is threatening Asia and the Pacific's progress toward critical targets under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Progress has also stalled in areas such as hunger, health and education where earlier achievements across the region had been significant.

1. Which state has announced a Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme?

- A) Puducherry
B) Sikkim
C) Assam ☒
D) Telangana



- ✓ The Assam government has signed a memorandum of understanding with 37 microfinance lenders for implementation of the Assam Microfinance Incentive and Relief Scheme (AMFIRS), 2021.
- ✓ The scheme is aimed at providing financial relief to the microfinance borrowers in Assam to help them continue maintaining good credit discipline in COVID-19 times.

2. Which organization has made a natural gas discovery in a block in Gujarat?

- A) Reliance Petroleum
B) Vedanta ☒
C) Indian Oil Corporation
D) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation



- ✓ Vedanta has made a natural gas discovery in a block in Gujarat that it had won in the open acreage licensing policy (OALP) round. It had notified the DGH and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of a gas and condensate discovery [named 'Jaya'] in its exploratory well Jaya1. It was drilled in OALP Block in Bharuch District of Gujarat.

3. In which city, India's first smog tower has been inaugurated?

- A) Kolkata
B) Delhi ☒
C) Mumbai
D) Bengaluru



- ✓ Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has inaugurated India's first smog tower in Delhi's Connaught Place. If the pilot project is successful, more smog towers will be installed in the national capital. The tower constitutes a pilot study to assess the reduction of particulate air pollution in urban areas through 'air cleaning.' The 2-year-long pilot study will be carried out by IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay. The two institutions are technical advisors for the project.

4. Who has been appointed as the new governor of Manipur?

- A) Tamilisai Soundararajan
B) La Ganesan ☒
C) Hariharan Raja Sharma
D) L Murugan



- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind on 22nd August appointed senior BJP leader from Tamil Nadu La Ganesan as the new governor of Manipur. The post of the governor had fallen vacant after the retirement of Najma Heptulla earlier this month. Heptulla had demitted office on August 10 and on the same day the temporary charge was given to Sikkim Governor Ganga Prasad.

5. Which country has become the first country in the world to manufacture fossil-free steel?

- A) Germany
B) India
C) Russia
D) Sweden ☒



- ✓ Sweden has become the first country in the world to manufacture fossil-free steel which is also known as green steel. Green steel has been developed by HYBRIT Technology and the first delivery was done to Volvo AB as a trial run. This initiative was in process since the year 2016 and the full-scale production will begin from 2026. According to reports, replacing coking coal with hydrogen is expected to reduce emissions from steelmaking by at least 90%.

6. Who has won silver in women's long jump at World Athletics under-20 championships?

- A) Deepika Kumari
B) Priyanka Goswami
C) Seema Punia
D) Shaili Singh ☒



- ✓ Shaili Singh won the women's long jump silver with a 6.59m leap (wind advantage +2.2) at the World Athletics under-20 championships in Nairobi on August 22, 2021. She missed the gold by just one centimetre to Sweden's Maja Askag (6.60m). Askag also won gold in triple jump. India finished with three medals (two silver and a bronze) in the five-day meet for its best-ever tally at a World championship. Host Kenya topped the table with 16 medals, including eight gold.

7. Which organization has designed a motorised wheelchair that can be used on roads as well as on uneven terrain?

- A) NITI Aayog
B) IIT Madras ☒
C) DRDO
D) IIT Bombay



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has designed a motorised wheelchair that can be used on roads as well as on uneven terrain. 'Neobolt' is a battery-operated vehicle capable of travelling at a speed of 25km/h and move up to 25 km per charge. The vehicle has been commercialised through a start-up named NeoMotion.

8. Which organization has released a report which states that children in India are at extreme high risk of impacts of climate crisis?

- A) UNICEF ☒
B) World Bank
C) World Health Organisation
D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ According to a new report by UNICEF, Children in India are at extreme high risk of impacts of climate crisis. As per report, India is among four South Asian countries where children are most at risk. Climate change threatens their health, education, and protection. Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and India are the four South Asian countries where children are at extremely high risk. Pakistan was ranked at 14th position, Bangladesh at 15th, Afghanistan at 25th while India at 26th.
- ✓ Nepal is ranked at 51st, Sri Lanka 61st, while Bhutan is ranked 111th. Indians will face 'acute water shortages' in upcoming years. At the same time, flash flooding will increase significantly in India's urban areas once the global temperature increases to 2° Celsius. Further, 21 of world's 30 cities with the most polluted air were in India in 2020.
- ✓ These findings were published in UNICEF's report titled: "The Climate Crisis Is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index" (CCRI). CCRI is the first focussed report on children by UNICEF.

9. which state has approved two credit-linked schemes for the agro-based sectors?

- A) Sikkim
- B) Manipur
- C) Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- D) Nagaland



- ✓ The Arunachal Pradesh cabinet has approved two credit-linked schemes, which will facilitate Rs 300 crore investments in the agro-based sectors.
- ✓ The state government has earmarked Rs 60 crore of subsidies each for Atma Nirbhar Krishi Yojana for agriculture and Atma Nirbhar Bagwani Yojana for horticulture during the fiscal year 2021-22. The credit-linked programmes will have three components – bank loans, subsidy and beneficiaries' contribution. The schemes will be available for cultivators, self-help groups and farmer producer organisations.

10. Which state/UT has launched a special mission called "Mission Vatsalya" in order to help women who lost their husbands to COVID?

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



- ✓ Maharashtra government launched a special mission called "Mission Vatsalya" in order to help women who lost their husbands to COVID-19. Mission Vatsalya will provide several services and some 18 benefits under one roof to those women. It been designed for widows, with special focus on widows coming from rural areas, poor backgrounds and deprived sections.
- ✓ Under this mission, schemes like Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana and Gharkul Yojana will benefit those for women. This mission is being implemented by women and child development (WCD) Department. Officers from WCD department, child development project officers, Anganwadi workers and local unit officers are visiting homes these women to provide them services.

1. Which organization has launched a mobile app called ANANDA?

- A) State Bank of India
B) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation
C) India Post
D) Life Insurance Corporation of India ☒



- ✓ Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched a mobile app called "Ananda mobile app" for its agents and intermediaries in order to onboard the prospective customers. ANANDA stands for Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application. ANANDA is the paperless solution for new business processes.
- ✓ This digital application will help in onboarding process to get insurance policy by a paperless module with the help of agent or intermediary. The app comprises of all distinctive features of the digital app. App could be developed as a result of high-level usage of ANANDA module. It was built on paperless KYC process by using Aadhaar based e-authentication. It provides an easy access to the field force in reaching out the prospective customers by means of latest technology.

2. Which ministry has launched the SUJALAM campaign?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
B) Ministry of Jal Shakti ☒
C) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
D) Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ Ministry of Jal Shakti started the SUJALAM campaign on August 25, 2021. SUJALAM Campaign is a 100 days campaign launched as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. This campaign seeks to create more Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus villages by undertaking waste water management across villages in India.
- ✓ During the campaign, ten lakh Soak-pits will be created. Efforts under the campaign would be directed towards achieving the Open Defecation Free (ODF) plus status for villages in an accelerated manner.

3. Under EASE 3.0, which bank has won the award for the best improvement from the baseline performance?

- A) Canara Bank
B) Punjab National Bank
C) Indian Bank ☒
D) Union Bank of India



- ✓ Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman today unveiled the fourth edition of the Public Sector Bank (PSB) Reforms Agenda 'EASE 4.0' for 2021-22 - tech-enabled, simplified, and collaborative banking.
- ✓ She unveiled the annual report for the PSB Reforms Agenda EASE 3.0 for 2020-21 and participated in the awards ceremony to felicitate best performing banks on EASE 3.0 Banking Reforms Index.
- ✓ State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and Union Bank of India have won the awards for best performing banks for PSB Reforms EASE 3.0 based on the EASE index. Indian Bank won the award for the best improvement from the baseline performance. SBI, BoB, Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Canara Bank won the top awards in different themes of the PSB Reforms Agenda EASE 3.0.

4. According to Cushman & Wakefield's 2021 World Manufacturing Danger Index, what is India's rank in the most sought-after manufacturing destination across the world?

- A) First
B) Second ☒
C) Third
D) Fourth



India has emerged as the second most sought after manufacturing destination across the world. According to Cushman & Wakefield's 2021 World Manufacturing Danger Index, India has surpassed the United States as the world's second most desired manufacturing destination.

✓ This year, India and the United States traded second and third place, respectively, putting India one rank higher than last year's rankings, when India was ranked third.

5. With which organization, Department of Biotechnology has collaborated to study the impact of severe COVID-19 conditions on TB patients?

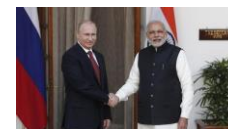
- A) BRICS ☒
B) G20
C) G7
D) BIMSTEC



- ✓ Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, in collaboration with BRICS countries is implementing SARS-CoV-2 NGS-BRICS consortium and multi centric programme to study the impact of severe COVID-19 conditions on TB patients. The SARS-CoV-2 NGS-BRICS consortium will advance COVID-19 health-relevant knowledge and contribute to improvements in health outcomes.

6. With which country, India has agreed to form a permanent bilateral channel for consultations on Afghanistan?

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



- ✓ India and Russia have agreed to form a permanent bilateral channel for consultations on Afghanistan. India, Russia and Iran were previously the main backers of an anti-Taliban alliance when the Islamist group was last in power in Kabul between 1996-2001.

7. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of Advisory Board for Banking and Financial Frauds?

- A) Padmaja Chunduru
B) SS Mallikarjuna Rao
C) T M Bhasin ☒
D) Hasamukh Adhia



- ✓ T M Bhasin has been re-appointed as the Chairman of Advisory Board for Banking and Financial Frauds by Central Vigilance Commission. His tenure will be of 2 years. The board was constituted to examine bank frauds of over Rs 50 crore and recommend action.

8. With which organization, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has partnered to enable users to book vaccination appointments?

- A) WhatsApp ☒
B) Twitter
C) Telegram
D) Google



- ✓ WhatsApp has partnered with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) to enable users to book vaccination appointments through its platform. Users can now book vaccination slots by sending 'Book Slot' to MyGov Corona Helpdesk bot on WhatsApp. The messaging service recently added a feature to enable users to download their vaccination certificate from WhatsApp.

9. In association with the Planning Department of which state has the Vice President of India launched Vaccinate India Programme?

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



- ✓ Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu, launched "Vaccinate India Programme" on August 24, 2021. This programme was organised by Give India Foundation and Sustainable Goals Coordination Centre in Bengaluru. It was launched under CSR in association with Planning Department of the Karnataka government. India started its COVID-19 vaccines programme on January 16, 2021.

10. World Water Week is organized from which date in August?

- A) 19–23 August
- B) 23–27 August ☒
- C) 20–26 August
- D) 27–31 August



- ✓ The World Water Week is an annual event organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) since the year 1991 with the aim to address the global water issues and related concerns of international development.
- ✓ The World Water Week 2021 has been organised from 23–27 August. This year's event has been organized entirely in digital format. The theme for World Water Week 2021 is 'Building Resilience Faster'.

1. Which country took charge as the Chair of Stop TB Partnership Board in 2021?

- A) UK
- B) Australia
- C) India ☒
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya took over charge as the Chairperson of Stop TB Partnership Board. The Minister will hold the responsibility with immediate effect until 2024. He will lead the efforts of the Stop TB Partnership Secretariat, partners, and the TB community at large, towards reaching the UN TB targets by 2022, a milestone moment in the effort to end TB by 2030.

2. Who is the author/editor of the book titled 'Accelerating India: 7 Years of Modi Government'?

- A) K J Alphons ☒
- B) Kummanam Rajasekharan
- C) A P Abdullakutty
- D) A N Radhakrishnan



- ✓ Former Union Minister, K J Alphons has released a book titled 'Accelerating India: 7 Years of Modi Government'. He has recently presented his book to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ 28 eminent authors have contributed 25 essays in the book on 25 sectors of Indian governance. This is a documentation of achievements of the Modi Government.

3. Women Entrepreneurship Platform is the initiative of which institution?

- A) NITI Aayog ☒
- B) UN Women
- C) Women and Child Development Ministry
- D) NASSCOM



- ✓ The NITI Aayog and the US-based tech giant Cisco launched the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform.
- ✓ The next phase has been titled 'WEP Nxt', and it will leverage Cisco's technology and experience, to enable more women-owned businesses across the country. The platform was formally launched on 8 March 2018 by NITI Aayog.

4. "Shared Destiny-2021" Defence Exercise is scheduled to be held in which country?

- A) China ☒
- B) Thailand
- C) Pakistan
- D) Mongolia



- ✓ The militaries of China, Pakistan, Mongolia and Thailand are said to take part in a multinational peacekeeping exercise named "Shared Destiny-2021" Defence Exercise. The Exercise is set to be organised by the People's Liberation Army in China's central Henan province next month.
- ✓ The four countries will take part in the first multinational peacekeeping live exercise "Shared Destiny-2021". The Defence exercise is to be held in China from September 6-15.

5. 'Payments Infrastructure Development Fund' scheme is the initiative of which institution?

- A) NPCI
- B) RBI ☒
- C) NASSCOM
- D) DSCI



- ✓ 'Payments Infrastructure Development Fund' scheme is the initiative of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It was launched with a corpus of Rs 345 crore, with an aim to create 30 lakh new touch points every year for digital payments in tier-3 to tier-6 centres.
- ✓ Reserve Bank has recently extended the scheme for encouraging deployment of Point of Sale (PoS) infrastructure to street vendors covered under the PM SVANidhi programme in tier 1 and 2 centres.

6. Recently, with which country India has conducted naval exercise in the South China Sea?

- A) Philippines ☒
- B) Malaysia
- C) Thailand
- D) Indonesia



- ✓ Two ships of the Indian Navy, namely INS Ranvijay and INS Kora, on deployment to the Western Pacific, carried out a Maritime Partnership Exercise with BRP Antonio Luna of the Philippine Navy in the West Philippine Sea.
- ✓ Both navies remain committed to further strengthening bilateral collaboration in the maritime domain towards a collective aim of ensuring a stable, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

7. Which state has allocated Rs 300 crore for the restoration of Water bodies and parks in the state?

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



- ✓ Water bodies and parks in urban local bodies in Tamil Nadu will be restored and amenities upgraded at an estimated cost of Rs 300 crore. Also, the government would implement the urban wage employment programme to improve the livelihood of the urban poor at a cost of Rs 100 crore.
- ✓ The scheme aims at providing employment to the urban poor by engaging them in the creation and maintenance of public assets like parks, play fields, storm water drains, roads, buildings and rejuvenation of water bodies. Municipal Administration Minister K.N. Nehru has announced an allocation of ₹300 crore for the Namakku Naame scheme. Under the scheme, water bodies will be restored in all Municipal Corporations, including the Greater Chennai Corporation, and new parks will be set up.

8. Which city has been named as the world's safest city from among 60 global cities, in Safe Cities Index 2021?

- A) Tokyo
- B) Sydney
- C) Hong Kong
- D) Copenhagen ☒



- ✓ Denmark's capital city, Copenhagen, has been named as the world's safest city from among 60 global cities, in Safe Cities Index 2021, released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). Copenhagen scored 82.4 out of 100. Yangon is at the bottom of the index with a score of

39.5. New Delhi is placed at 48th position with a score of 56.1, while Mumbai is at 50th place with a score of 54.4.

- ✓ The Index was first released in the year 2015. In 2021, cities are ranked based on 76 indicators of security across five broad pillars, which are digital, health, infrastructure, personal and environmental.

9. With which organization, NITI Aayog jointly launched the 'Forum for Decarbonizing Transport' in India?

- A) Environmental Defense Fund
- B) World Economic Forum
- C) World Resources Institute ☒
- D) Centre for Global Development



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE

- ✓ NITI Aayog and World Resources Institute (WRI), India, jointly launched the 'Forum for Decarbonizing Transport' in India as part of the NDC-Transport Initiative for Asia (NDC-TIA) project. NITI Aayog is the implementing partner for India. The project aims at bringing down the peak level of GHG emissions (transport sector) in Asia.
- ✓ The NDC Transport Initiative for Asia (TIA 2020-2023) is a joint programme of seven organizations that will engage China, India, and Vietnam in promoting a comprehensive approach to decarbonizing transport in their respective countries.

10. What is the name of the force comprising of 32 female staff that has been constituted to combat Naxalism in the Sukma district?

- A) Durga Fighter ☒
- B) Badra Fighter
- C) Nari Fighter
- D) Devi Fighter



- ✓ A 'Durga Fighter' force comprising 32 female staff has been constituted to combat Naxalism in the Naxal-affected Sukma district. The idea behind an all-women force is to promote gender equality. They will be trained for commando duty for a month. Asha Sen will be the captain of Durga Fighter.