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# **FOURTH WEEK**

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**



# **SEPTEMBER 2021**

**SEPTEMBER 22-30**

1. Which state has been adjudged first in the country in installation of off-grid solar pumps under PM KUSUM scheme?

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



- ✓ Haryana has been adjudged first in the country in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahaabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM) with installation of 14,418 pumps against 15,000 sanctioned pumps for the year 2020-21.

2. On which date, National Forest Martyrs Day is observed?

- A) September.14
- B) September.10
- C) September.15
- D) September.11 ☒



- ✓ National Forest Martyrs Day is marked on September 11. The day as the name suggests is observed to pay tributes to those who laid down their lives in order to protect the jungles, forests and wildlife across India.
- ✓ The day officially came into existence in 2013 after the Ministry of Environment and Forest made the declaration. The date of September 11 was chosen as on this date in 1730, the infamous Khejarli massacre took place. During this tragic incident, people started cutting Khejarli trees on the orders of the then king Maharaja Abhay Singh of Rajasthan. These trees were considered sacred by the people that belonged to the Bishnoi community in Rajasthan's Khejarli village.

3. Which organization has launched a report titled 'Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India'?

- A) National Development Council
- B) NITI Aayog ☒
- C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



**NITI Aayog**

- ✓ NITI Aayog has launched a report on 'Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India'. The report comprises a set of recommendations on various aspects of urban planning—such as interventions for planning healthy cities, optimum utilization of urban land, ramping up human-resource capacities, strengthening urban governance, building local leadership, enhancing the role of private sector, and advancing the urban planning education system.

4. Which state has decided to set up a new Police Commission to get to know the demands and needs of cops?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Gujarat
- D) Manipur



- ✓ Tamil Nadu government will set up a new Police Commission to get to know the demands and needs of cops.
- ✓ It will be constituted to recommend ways to strengthen the relationship between police and public, necessary schemes, and new training programs for police personnel. An online complaint filing mechanism would also be created, besides the launch of a mobile-based application for the benefit of the general public to register their grievances with the police. Experts would be hired to deal with offences involving banks, employment and other online crimes.

5. With which company, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare has signed MoU for taking forward Digital Agriculture?

- A) CISCO
- B) Ninjacart
- C) ITC Ltd
- D) All of the above ☒



- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare has signed five MOUs with private companies for taking forward Digital Agriculture. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the MOUs aimed at increasing farmer's income and protecting their produce.
- ✓ The MoUs were signed for pilot projects with CISCO, Ninjacart, Jio Platforms Limited, ITC Limited and NCDEX e-Markets Limited. Based on these pilot projects farmers will be able to take informed decisions on what crop to grow, what variety of seed to use and what best practises to adopt to maximise the yield.

6. Which country has launched an Earth observation satellite that can obtain radioactive data?

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



- ✓ China has launched the 24<sup>th</sup> Gaofen-series Earth-observation satellite in a bid to monitor environmental protection efforts and boost its natural resources surveillance.
- ✓ The satellite was launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in Shanxi province on a Long March 4C carrier rocket. China has mounted seven imagers and sensors on that spacecraft that are capable of obtaining spatial, spectral and radioactive data.

7. Rekha Jain has been appointed as a shareholder director of which bank?

- A) Indian Bank
- B) Punjab National Bank ☒
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) ICICI Bank



- ✓ Punjab National Bank has appointed Rekha Jain as a shareholder director after Asha Bhandarker stepped down as shareholder director after completing her tenure of three years.
- ✓ Previously, she has served as an independent director on the board of Telecommunication Consultants of India Ltd. (TCIL) from 2015 to 2019. Jain has also chaired the audit committee of the TCIL board.

8. Which organization has launched the Planetarium Innovation Challenge?

- A) MyGov India ☒
- B) ISRO
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) Birla Planetarium



**myGov**  
मेरी सरकार

- ✓ The "Planetarium Innovation Challenge" has been launched by MyGov India for tech entrepreneurs and Indian start-ups. This Planetarium challenge was launched with the primary aim of bringing together local Start-ups and tech firms that have potential to build indigenous planetariums system software.

9. Recently, which country has applied to join the Asia-Pacific Free Trade grouping?

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



- ✓ China has applied to join the Asia-Pacific Free Trade Grouping composed of 11 countries to increase its influence in international politics. Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao submitted the application to the Trade Minister of New Zealand as a representative of Comprehensive & Progress Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) or the Asia-Pacific free Trade grouping.
- ✓ CPTPP was a group promoted by former USA President Barack Obama to increase its relations with Asia. CPTPP comprises of Brunei, Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, New Zealand and Vietnam.

10. Where was Swachhata Pakhwada 2021 launched?

- A) Mormugao Port Trust
- B) Cochin Port Trust ☒
- C) Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust
- D) Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal



- ✓ On September 16, 2021, at the Cochin Port Trust Swachhata Pakhwada 2021 was launched and the Swachhata pledge was administered in all departments. On this occasion, shramdaan cleaning activities were started in the Port areas.
- ✓ During the Pakhwada activities that were proposed comprised of cleaning of work places, office premises and crafts & public spaces within the Port area. Swachhata Pakhwada is an environment awareness campaign which was launched under the Swachh Bharat Mission.

1. Which organization is working on technologies in order to develop reusable GSLV Mk-III launch vehicle?

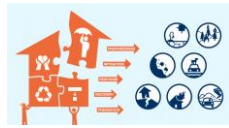
- A) SpaceX
- B) ISRO ☒
- C) Virgin Galactic
- D) ROSCOSMOS



- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is working to develop the technology which is required to reuse GSLV MkIII launch vehicle.
- ✓ This new technology will help ISRO to vertically land its GSLV MkIII launch vehicle. This technology will be similar to what SpaceX is doing. The development of the reusable GSLV MkIII transmitter will help ISRO save money.

2. Recently, with which country the Union Cabinet has approved a MoU for Disaster Risk Reduction?

- A) Germany
- B) Japan
- C) Italy ☒
- D) Belgium



- ✓ The Union Cabinet chaired by the PM Modi was apprised about the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of the Republic of India and the Italian Republic on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management.
- ✓ The MoU seeks to put in place a system, whereby both India and Italy will benefit 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.

3. Which state/UT has launched the Mission named 'One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi'?

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) Haryana
- C) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- D) Jammu & Kashmir ☒



- ✓ In order to promote door to door digital banking and financial services in remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched Mission 'One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi', at Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) in Pampore.

4. In which country Exercise Peaceful Mission - 2021 is being held?

- A) United States
- B) Russia ☒
- C) United Kingdom
- D) Australia



- ✓ The Indian military contingent consisting of an all arms combined force of 200 personnel, including 38 personnel from the Indian Air Force, is taking part in the Exercise PEACEFUL MISSION -2021.
- ✓ This exercise is being held in the Orenburg Region of South West Russia from September 13 to 25, 2021. SCO Peaceful Mission is a Multilateral & Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise. The exercise is conducted biennially under the "military diplomacy" between the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states.

5. Which organization from India has won the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021?

- A) National Institute of Open Schooling ☒
- B) Anna University
- C) Madras University
- D) IISc



- ✓ The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) of India, Noida won the prestigious UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021. This organization is run by the education ministry and has bagged global recognition from UNESCO for its innovative approach towards education. The UNESCO International Literacy Prizes focus on a specific theme.
- ✓ This year, the focus was on inclusive distance and digital literacy learning. Along with NIOS, this year's UNESCO International Literacy Prizes was awarded to other five outstanding literacy programs from Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guatemala, Mexico, and South Africa.

6. Which ministry has launched a Pan-India Special Campaign called "Ek Pahal"?

- A) Ministry of Law and Justice ☒
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D) Ministry of Finance



- ✓ A Pan-India Special Campaign called "Ek Pahal Drive" for Justice Delivery at doorstep was launched by the Ministry of Law and Justice. This campaign was launched in a bid to encourage mass registration under Tele-Law. Department of Justice and NALSA launched this campaign.

7. With which organization, NITI Aayog has partnered to provide free access to education to students in 112 Aspirational Districts in India?

- A) Unacademy
- B) BYJU ☒
- C) TATA Institute of Fundamental Research
- D) IIT Kanpur



- ✓ NITI Aayog has tied up with BYJU'S to provide free education opportunities for students in 112 Aspirational Districts in India. As part of the partnership, Byju's will provide students with high-quality and technology-oriented learning programs free of charge to ensure high-quality education. This project will provide for the establishment of a dedicated working group, which in turn should help establish a system of knowledge, innovation and strategic support.

8. The Indian High Commission located in which country has celebrated the 57<sup>th</sup> Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) day?

- A) Australia
- B) Qatar
- C) Bangladesh ☒
- D) South Korea



- ✓ On September 16, 2021, The Indian High Commission in Dhaka celebrated the 57<sup>th</sup> Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC).
- ✓ The event was hosted by Vikram Doraiswami, High Commissioner of India in Bangladesh. About 100 ITEC alumni and VIPs from all walks of life participated in the event. ITEC is the flagship program of the Indian government. It was established in 1964 to provide development

experience and appropriate technology to developing countries by India.

9. Which organization has decided to train 50,000 youths under a recently launched scheme?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) Ministry of Railways ☒
- C) Prasar Bharati
- D) Ministry of Finance



- ✓ As part of the Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana initiated by the Minister of Railway Ashwini Vaishnaw on September 17, 2021, the railway will train 50,000 young people aged 18 to 35 in the next three years in industry-related skills in various Railway Training Institutes.

10. Which organization has launched a unique scheme called SPIN (Strengthening the Potential of India)?

- A) Khadi and Village Industries Commission ☒
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) National Small Industries Corporation
- D) State Bank of India



- ✓ Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched a unique Scheme called Strengthening the Potential of India (SPIN) and has also set up a pottery cluster under the SFURTI Scheme in Varanasi with the aim to empower over 1100 persons belonging to the marginalized potters. 780 electric potter wheels were also sanctioned to SPIN Scheme participants.



1. On which date, World Patient Safety Day is observed?

- A) September 15  
B) September 17 ☒  
C) September 20  
D) September 23



- ✓ World Patient Safety Day was observed around the world on September 17 to raise global patient safety awareness and encourage individuals to demonstrate their commitment to safer healthcare. WHO and its international partners celebrate this day. Theme for World Patient Safety Day 2021 is "Safe maternity and newborn care."

2. On which date, International Equal Pay Day was celebrated?

- A) September 20  
B) September 18 ☒  
C) September 16  
D) September 14



- ✓ On September 18, 2021 the International Equal Pay Day was celebrated. In all regions, women's pay is lower than men's, and the global gender pay gap is estimated to be 23%. The Equal Pay International Coalition is led by the International Labour Organization, UN Women and partners. The goal of the alliance is to achieve equal pay for men and women everywhere.

3. Recently, who broke the national record in women's 1500 m race?

- A) B Aishwarya  
B) Parul Chaudhary  
C) Harmilan Kaur Bains ☒  
D) Sushila Chanu



- ✓ At the 60th National Open Athletics Championships at the Nehru Stadium in Warangal, B Aishwarya of the railway won the women's long jump gold medal with a personal best of 6.52 meters.  
✓ Railways' Parul Chaudhary won the gold medal in women's 3000m steeplechase with a personal best time of 9:51.01. In the women's 1500m, Harmilan Kaur Bains won gold in a time of 4:05.39s breaking 19-year-old national record of Sunita Rani's made in the year 2002.

4. Which state has declared 'Katley' as the state fish?

- A) West Bengal  
B) Sikkim ☒  
C) Odisha  
D) Assam



- ✓ The Sikkim government has declared "Cooper Mahseer" which is locally named "Katley" as a state fish to emphasize the importance of the fish and emphasize its protection measures. "*Neolissochilus Hexagonolepis*" is the biological name of this fish.

5. On which date, World Bamboo Day is observed?

- A) 15 September  
B) 18 September ☒  
C) 20 September  
D) 22 September



- ✓ Annually, on 18 September the World Bamboo Day is observed globally. The purpose of this day is to raise the world's awareness of the protection and promotion of the bamboo industry and bamboo plantations. This special day was celebrated by the World Bamboo

Organisation (WBO), which aims to protect natural resources and the entire environment.

- ✓ The message for World Bamboo Day 2021 is "#PlantBamboo: It is time to Plant Bamboo." WBO also launched new hashtag #PlantBamboo.

6. On which date, The International Red Panda Day was celebrated?

- A) 15 September  
B) 18 September ☒  
C) 20 September  
D) 22 September



- ✓ Every year on the third Saturday of September the International Red Panda Day (IRPD) is celebrated to increase public awareness and support for the protection of red pandas. In 2021, the IRPD was observed on September 18, 2021. This day was initiated by Red Panda Network in 2010. On September 18, 2010, the first International Red Panda Day was celebrated.

7. How many trainers have been presented with Kaushalacharya Awards 2021 for their exemplary contribution to the skill ecosystem?

- A) 31  
B) 41 ☒  
C) 51  
D) 61



- ✓ Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister, has virtually presented the Kaushalacharya Award 2021 to 41 qualified trainers in recognition of their exemplary contributions to the skill ecosystem. These 41 trainers are from various initiatives and training programs of Skill India Directorate General of Training, Apprenticeship, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Jan Shikshan Sansthan and Entrepreneurship.

8. Recently, Sirarakhong Chilli and Tamenglong Orange belonging to which state have received GI tag?

- A) Assam  
B) Nagaland  
C) Manipur ☒  
D) Meghalaya



- ✓ Sirarakhong Chilli and Tamenglong Orange which are famous and found in the state of Manipur have received the Geographical Index (GI) tag. Manipur's CM N Biren Singh made this announcement.

9. What is the official motto of the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 that was revealed recently?

- A) Together for a Shared Future ☒  
B) Together We Stand for Peace  
C) United by Emotion  
D) Great Athletes. Great Performances



- ✓ Recently, "Together for a Shared Future" was revealed as the official motto of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics and Paralympics by the organizing team. The Winter Olympics will be held in Beijing, China from February 4 to 20, 2022.

10. Which organization used to publish the 'Ease of Doing Business' reports which have been recently discontinued?

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



- ✓ 'Ease of Doing Business' reports which are published by the World Bank Group will be discontinued.
  - ✓ It added that it will study a new method to assess the business and investment environment in various countries. After ethical matters irregularities were raised involving former bank employees and board members, the World Bank will study a new method to assess the business and investment environments of countries.
-

1. Which institution releases the 'Crime India' report every year?

- A) National Crime Records Bureau ☒
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Narcotics Control Bureau
- D) Central Board of Investigation



- ✓ The annual 'Crime India' report is released by National Crime Records Bureau. The report for the year 2020 was released recently. As per the report, India recorded 1.20 lakh cases of "deaths due to negligence relating to road accidents" in 2020. Communal riots marked an increase of 96% in 2020 over the previous year.
- ✓ Offences against the State, had a drop of 27% over 2019 but Uttar Pradesh was the only major state to record an increase in this category.

2. Which state has inaugurated South Asia's largest Product development centre 'Digital Hub', to support start-ups?

- A) Kerala ☒
- B) Karnataka
- C) Uttarakhand
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated Digital Hub with a capacity to support 200 start-ups via video conferencing recently. The product development centre, one of the largest in South Asia, at the Technology Innovation Zone (TIZ) in Kalamassery, Kochi. The Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) leads the implementation of the project.

3. Which two countries are set to participate in the Defence Exercise 'Samudra Shakti'?

- A) India and Indonesia ☒
- B) India and Nepal
- C) India and China
- D) India and Bhutan



- ✓ Indian & Indonesian Navy are participating in the two-day bilateral maritime exercise 'Samudra Shakti' in Jakarta scheduled from September 20-22. The exercise aims to strengthen the bilateral relationship, enhance mutual understanding and interoperability in maritime operations between the two navies. The Indian Navy ships Shivalik and Kadmat, and Anti-Submarine Warfare-Long Range Maritime Reconnaissance Aircraft P8I are participating in the exercise.

4. Recently, who has become India's 70<sup>th</sup> Grandmaster in Chess?

- A) Tania Sachdev
- B) Surya Shekhar Ganguly
- C) Padmini Rout
- D) Raja Rithvik ☒



- ✓ Raja Rithvik from the state of Telangana has become India's 70<sup>th</sup> Grand Master after crossing the ELO 2,500 mark at the Vezerkepzo GM Chess Championship which was held in Budapest, Hungary. After defeating the FIDE master Fennek Vaclav from Czechoslovakia, he scored 4 points.

5. Who has been sworn-in as the 16<sup>th</sup> chief minister of Punjab?

- A) Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa
- B) Aruna Chaudhary
- C) Charanjit Singh Channi ☒
- D) Ashok Gehlot



- ✓ Charanjit Singh Channi was sworn-in as the 16th chief minister of Punjab and he became the first individual from the Dalit community

in Punjab to hold this post. He was sworn in by Banwarilal Purohit, the governor of Punjab.

6. With which country, India is participating in the military training exercise 'Surya Kiran'?

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



- ✓ India and Nepal on 20<sup>th</sup> September has begun a 15-day military exercise in Pithoragarh located in the state of Uttarakhand with a focus on counter-terror drills and disaster relief operations. The 15th India-Nepal military training exercise is named 'Surya Kiran' and it is being held to boost inter-operability between the two militaries.

7. Which state has launched 'Music Bus' to train students in audio production, film production, and graphic designing?

- A) Karnataka
- B) Kerala
- C) Delhi ☒
- D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Delhi government has launched a "music bus", which will train students in audio production, film production and graphic design. This is the first "mobile music classroom and recording studio" in India.
- ✓ It was launched at the School of Specialized Excellence in Performing and Visual Arts with the aim to help the children of Delhi State School to pursue their passion for music.

8. In FSSAI's 3<sup>rd</sup> State Food Safety Index, which state has topped among the larger states?

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



- ✓ Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister for Health and Family Welfare, released Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)'s third state food safety index (SFSI) to measure the performance of states in five food safety parameters. In this year, Gujarat was the highest ranked state among the larger states, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Among the smaller states, Goa appeared first, followed by Meghalaya and Manipur. In UT, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and New Delhi topped the list. 19 Mobile Food Testing Vans (Food Safety on Wheels) were also flagged off by the minister to supplement the national food safety ecosystem, bringing the total number of these mobile inspection vehicles to 109.

9. What is India's rank in the 2021 edition of Global Innovation Index launched by World Intellectual Property Organization?

- A) 40
- B) 46 ☒
- C) 35
- D) 31



- ✓ On September 20, 2021, the 2021 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) was published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The 2021 edition of GI shows the latest global innovation rankings of 132 economies based on 81 different indicators. Switzerland, Sweden, the United States and the United Kingdom



continue to lead the innovation rankings and have entered the top five in the past three years.

- ✓ South Korea will be among the top five in GII for the first time in 2021, while 4 other Asian economies are in the top 15: Singapore (8), China (12), Japan (13) and Hong Kong (14<sup>th</sup>). India ranks 46<sup>th</sup> in this list.

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10. Which ministry is celebrating 'Vanijya Saptah' from 20 to 26 September?

- A) Ministry of Commerce ☒
- B) Ministry of Finance
- C) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



- ✓ During 20–26 September 2021, the Ministry of Commerce is organizing special programmes and events named 'Vanijya Saptah', as part of the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" celebration.
- ✓ National Single Window System and Industrial Park Rating System platforms will be launched by The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) during this event period.

1. Which organization has issued India's first-ever Euro Green Bond?

- A) NTPC  
B) Power Finance Corporation ☒  
C) AIIMS  
D) TANGEDCO



- ✓ Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC), the leading NBFC in power sector, has successfully issued its maiden Euro 300 million 7-year Euro Bond. The pricing of 1.841% achieved is the lowest yield locked in by an Indian Issuer in the Euro markets.
- ✓ It is the first ever euro denominated green bond issuance from India. Moreover, it is the first ever Euro issuance by an Indian NBFC and the first Euro bond issuance from India since 2017.

2. Which bank has won the 'World's Best Bank 2021' title given by Euromoney in its Global Awards for Excellence 2021?

- A) SBI Bank  
B) DBS Bank ☒  
C) ICICI Bank  
D) Axis Bank



- ✓ UK-based financial publication Euromoney in its Global Awards for Excellence 2021, has honoured DBS with the 'World's Best Bank 2021' title. This is the second time DBS bank has won this title in three years. DBS Bank was also named as 'World's Best Digital Bank 2021', thus making it the 1<sup>st</sup> bank in the world to hold both the titles at the same time.

3. In which state, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has successfully commissioned India's largest Floating Solar PV plant?

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



- ✓ India's largest floating solar photovoltaic system (PV) plant has been successfully commissioned by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) at NTPC Simhadri in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ This 25 MW project covers an area of 100 acres. The project will not only generate clean electricity, but will also reduce water evaporation by shielding the covered area.

4. Which organization has launched "Guidance Note for Environmentally Sensitive, Climate Adaptive and Socially Inclusive Urban Riverfront Planning and Development?"

- A) National Mission for Clean Ganga ☒  
B) Jal Shakti Ministry  
C) Namami Gange  
D) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways



- ✓ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has launched "Guidance Note for Environmentally Sensitive, Climate Adaptive and Socially Inclusive Urban Riverfront Planning and Development." This was launched by NMCG at 'Connect Karo' which was organised by World Resources Institute (WRI), India.

5. In which year, was the APEDA Act was passed in the Parliament?

- A) 1970  
B) 1980  
C) 1985 ☒  
D) 1995



- ✓ The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act (APEDA Act) was passed in the Parliament in the year 1985 which led to the establishment of APEDA. As per a recent estimate by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, the export of APEDA products has registered a 21.8% growth during April to August 2021.

6. "Aadhaar based e-KYC", "self KYC" and "OTP based conversion" are a part of which reforms initiated by the Government of India?

- A) LPG Reforms  
B) Power Sector Reforms  
C) MSME Reforms  
D) Telecom Reforms ☒



- ✓ With an aim to provide world class internet / tele-connectivity for the marginalised and to simplify the KYC processes, the Department of Telecommunications – Ministry of Communications, Government of India has initiated reforms in the telecom sector.
- ✓ These include "Aadhaar based e-KYC", "Self-KYC" for getting SIM cards delivered at doorstep and "OTP based conversion of mobile connection" from prepaid to postpaid.

7. "VR Chaudhari", who is seen in the news recently, is associated with which organisation?

- A) ISRO  
B) Indian Air Force ☒  
C) ONGC  
D) Indian Oil



- ✓ The present Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force Shri. VR Chaudhari, has been appointed by the Government of India as the next Chief Marshal of the Air Force. He would succeed Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhaduria, who would retire from the service on 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- ✓ VR Chaudhari was commissioned into the IAF in December 1982 has a flying experience of more than 3,800 hours on a wide spectrum of aircrafts.

8. Which organisation is set to conduct 'Sailing regattas and Sail parade' to commemorate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav?

- A) Indian Army  
B) Indian Navy ☒  
C) Shipping Corporation of India  
D) Dredging Corporation of India



- ✓ As part of commemorative activities of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Indian Navy under the aegis of Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA) has planned to conduct Sailing regattas and a sail parade by Sailing boats and dingies in all three Command Headquarters locations for popularising Sailing sports among local population.
- ✓ The first event is scheduled to be conducted by Indian Naval Watermanship Training Center, Kochi in Ernakulam channel on 23 Sep 21. A total of 75 Naval personnel will participate and showcase their yachting skills during the event.

9. Which Ministry in association with UGC has organised a Webinar on "Ensuring Inclusive Governance: Making Every Person Matter"?

- A) Ministry of Finance
- B) Ministry of Social Justice
- C) Ministry of Women Development
- D) Ministry of Education ☒



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Education along with the UGC has organised a Webinar titled "Ensuring Inclusive Governance: Making Every Person Matter". This has been a part of the Ministry's vision of quality education to all. Arjun Munda – Union Minister of Tribal Affairs was the Chief Guest for the function.
- ✓ This webinar created an opportunity to bring academicians, educationists and administrators on a single platform and was supported by the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow.

10. What does VIPER denote in VIPER, which is seen in the news regarding space exploration?

- A) Intelligence
- B) Investigating ☒
- C) Interesting
- D) Information



- ✓ The US Space agency NASA has announced the deployment of VIPER (Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover), which is a mobile robot to the Moon. This would be sent as a part of the Artemis programme in the year 2023, and is aimed to search ice and other resources on and below the lunar surface.
- ✓ The Moon's South Pole is one of the coldest areas in our solar system. No prior missions to the Moon's surface have explored it yet.

1. Ruskin Bond, Vinod Kumar Shukla and six others were selected for which award/ fellowship recently?

- A) Sahitya Akademi Fellowship ☒
- B) Jnanpith Award
- C) Vyas Samman
- D) Dr BC Roy Award



- ✓ English author Ruskin Bond, Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla and six others were selected for the Sahitya Akademi Fellowship. The National Academy of Letters said that the general council of Sahitya Akademi announced its highest honour, the Fellowship.
- ✓ The others who received the Fellowship are Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay (Bengali), M Leelavathy (Malayalam), Dr. Bhalchandra Nemade (Marathi), Dr Tejwant Singh Gill (Punjabi), Swami Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit), Indira Parthasarthy (Tamil).

2. Pankaj Advani, who was in the news recently, is associated with which sports?

- A) Weight-lifting
- B) Snooker ☒
- C) Tennis
- D) Table-tennis



- ✓ India's Pankaj Advani successfully lifted the Asian Snooker Championship, held in Doha, Qatar, outplaying Amir Sarkhosh of Iran 6-3. He won the title in 2019 but he was the runner-up in 2017. In 2019, Pankaj also became the only player in the world who won the titles in all forms of billiards, snooker, 6Reds, and 10Reds competitions.

3. The Ministry of Labour recently launched India's first national database on unorganised workers on which portal?

- A) e-Shram portal ☒
- B) Samadhan portal
- C) AtmaNirbhar Bharat portal
- D) None of the above



- ✓ The e-Shram portal is India's first national database on unorganised workers. The portal came into being after the Supreme Court directed the Government to complete the registration process of unorganized workers. Over 1 crore registered on e-shram portal. 68% of those registrations were done through Common Service Centres (CSC).

4. Researchers from which organization have designed a device that can generate electricity from raindrops?

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



- ✓ Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology in Delhi have developed a device that can generate electricity from water droplets, raindrops, water currents and even ocean waves. The device is developed using electrostatic induction and triboelectric effect. It is called "liquid-solid interface triboelectric nanogenerator". The device is composed of a nanocomposite polymer and a contact electrode.

5. Who is the Chairperson of the recently set up 12-member committee for change in CBSE / NCERT curriculum?

- A) Amit Shah
- B) Kasturirangan ☒
- C) Bimal Jalan
- D) Injeti Srinivas



- ✓ The Government of India has constituted a 12-member National Steering Committee, under the chairmanship of K Kasturirangan, for formulating guidelines for changes in the CBSE / NCERT curriculum.
- ✓ The Committee has a term of three years. The document, called as the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), was last prepared in 2005. Kasturirangan is the former Chief of ISRO and has also headed the committee that drafted the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

6. Which state has passed the Religious Structures (Protection) Bill, 2021 recently?

- A) Odisha
- B) Karnataka ☒
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Kerala



- ✓ The state assembly of Karnataka has recently passed Karnataka Religious Structures (Protection) Bill, 2021. The bill was introduced by the state Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, with an aim to protect the religious constructions on public places.
- ✓ As per the bill, a religious structure is defined as a "temple, church, mosque, gurudwara, Budh Vihar, Majar etc, constructed on a public place without authority of law"

7. The Odisha Forest department proposed to fit 'Radio Collars' on which animals, to eliminate animal - human conflict?

- A) Tigers
- B) Elephants ☒
- C) Deer
- D) Gharial



- ✓ The forest department of Odisha has proposed to fit radio collars on 7 Elephants of the state, to track their movement and prevent them from entering the human settlements.
- ✓ It aims to eliminate animal - human conflict. Three elephants of Chandaka Wildlife Sanctuary and four elephants of the Similipal Tiger Reserve have been selected for this purpose. The device is fitted with a GPS device and the location can be tracked real time.

8. "Transforming Food Systems for Rural Prosperity" report has been released by which organization?

- A) UNESCO
- B) FAO
- C) IFAD ☒
- D) NABARD



- ✓ "Transforming Food Systems for Rural Prosperity" report has been released by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which is an international financial institution and an UN specialised agency. The organization is headquartered at Rome, Italy. The report has laid emphasis on government investment in farming as well as in small and medium enterprises which support farm activities.

9. Which institution awards the 'Blue Flag certification'?

- A) UNESCO
- B) UNICEF
- C) Foundation of Environment Education ☒
- D) UNFCCC



- ✓ The Foundation for Environment Education - Denmark is an environment organisation with presently 77 member countries. This organisation awards the Blue Flag certification, which is an eco-label for sustainable beaches across the globe.

- ✓ Recently, the foundation has awarded Blue Flag certification to 2 more beaches in India – Kovalam in Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry. With this, the number of Blue Flag certified beaches in India has gone up to 10.

10. Where is the headquarters of Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) located?

- A) Dubai
- B) Davos
- C) Paris ☒
- D) Geneva



- ✓ Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental economic organisation which aims to stimulate economic progress and world trade. It is headquartered at Paris, France and has 36 member countries.
- ✓ Recently, the President of the United States has nominated veteran Indian-American diplomat Manisha Singh as America's next envoy to OECD. The diplomat had previously served in several significant positions which includes her present role as the Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs.



1. Brig S V Saraswati, who received the National Florence Nightingale Award 2020, is associated with which profession?

- A) Politician
- B) Nurse ☒
- C) Police
- D) Scientist



- ✓ Deputy Director General of Military Nursing Service (MNS) –Brig S V Saraswati has been presented with the National Florence Nightingale Award 2020. National Florence Nightingale Award is the highest national distinction given to nurses for selfless devotion and professionalism.
- ✓ For her significant service in nursing to the soldiers and their families, she had been awarded General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Commendation (2005), United Nations Medal (MONOC) (2007) and Chief of the Army Staff Commendation (2015).

2. Which country ranked first in the annual "Freedom on the Net" report 2021?

- A) Norway
- B) Iceland ☒
- C) Germany
- D) Finland



- ✓ The annual "Freedom on the Net" report was released by the US think-tank Freedom House. As per the report of this year's edition, Iceland topped the ranking, followed by Estonia and Costa Rica, the world's first country to declare internet access a human right.
- ✓ Internet shutdowns in Myanmar and Belarus show that online rights declined globally for the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

3. Which institution released a report titled 'Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India'?

- A) Bloomberg India
- B) NITI Aayog ☒
- C) World Bank
- D) UNICEF



- ✓ NITI Aayog has recently launched a report on measures to ramp up urban planning capacity in India. The report was titled 'Reforms in Urban Planning Capacity in India'. The report has been developed by NITI Aayog, in consultation with concerned ministries and experts in the domain of urban and regional planning.
- ✓ It presents a result of the deliberations and consultations conducted over a period of 9 months. The report makes several recommendations to solve the bottlenecks in the value chain of urban planning capacity in India.

4. When is the World Rhino Day celebrated across the world?

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



- ✓ The rhinoceros is critically endangered and is on the verge of extinction. To highlight the significance of the efforts to be made to save them, World Rhino Day is celebrated on September 22, from 2010.
- ✓ The IUCN lists the one-horned rhino, also known as the Indian rhinoceros, as a vulnerable species.

5. 'Purple Revolution', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which product?

- A) Aromatic Crops ☒
- B) Horticulture Crops
- C) Dairy Products
- D) Poultry Products



- ✓ Union Minister of State (IC) Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh has recently proposed Integrated Aroma Dairy Entrepreneurship for Jammu & Kashmir to promote the income of farmers.
- ✓ The Animal Husbandry and Dairy resources of the UT can be integrated with Aroma Mission, which has already been launched in J&K by CSIR under the aegis of Union Ministry of Science & Technology. The Aroma Mission, also called as "Lavender or Purple Revolution". The CSIR-IIIM are laudable introduced the crop native to Europe, in the districts of Doda, Kishtwar and Rajouri in J&K.

6. Which act provides for a legal mandate to ensure rights related to elections, to persons with disabilities?

- A) The Representation of the people Act, 1951
- B) Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 ☒
- C) The Conduct of Election Rules, 1961
- D) The Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2003



- ✓ The Rights of persons with disabilities Act 2016 provides for a legal mandate to ensure all polling stations to be made accessible for persons with disabilities. All material related to the electoral process are easily understandable and usable by them.
- ✓ The Election Commission of India (ECI) recently organised a virtual national conference on 'Accessible Elections 2021'. About 77.4 lakh persons with disabilities (PwDs) are registered voters in our country.

7. With which country NATO has begun conducting Rapid Trident-2021 military exercise?

- A) Ukraine ☒
- B) Sudan
- C) Norway
- D) Tanzania



- ✓ Ukraine began joint military exercises with the United States and other NATO forces on September 20, 2021. This military exercise is being conducted at that time during which neighbouring countries Russia and Belarus were conducting large-scale exercises, which aroused the vigilance of the West. The Rapid Trident 2021 exercise will continue until October 1.

8. Justin Trudeau, has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country, for the third time?

- A) Australia
- B) New Zealand
- C) Germany
- D) Canada ☒



- ✓ Justin Trudeau – the Liberal party leader of Canada has been elected as the Prime Minister of the country for the third time. He has been in power since 2015 and has won 3 elections in a term of 6 years.

9. With which country, India formally launched negotiation on Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)?

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



- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is India's 3rd largest trading partner in terms of value in 2019 and 2020 and the trade value is presently valued close to USD 59 billion. It is also India's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest export destination after the USA.
- ✓ Recently, India and UAE have formally launched negotiation on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which is expected to increase the bilateral trade between the two countries to USD 100 billion in 5 years.

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10. "National single-window system for investors and businesses" has been launched to achieve which of the following objectives?

- A) Single window for approval and clearance ☒
- B) Claim of Tax Rebate
- C) GST Data Entry
- D) Grievance Redressal



- ✓ The Government of India has recently launched the "National single-window system for investors and businesses". This portal is designed to act as a single point of contact for obtaining all approval and clearance for business enterprises and investors.
- ✓ This would enhance Ease of Doing Business, transparency, and accountability. Presently, approvals across 18 central departments and nine states have been onboarded to the portal and another 14 departments would be onboarded by December 2021.

1. India has recently come out with easing the rules for storage of which hazardous chemical?

- A) Sodium Chloride
- B) Nitric Acid
- C) Sulphuric Acid
- D) Ammonium nitrate and Calcium carbide ☒



- ✓ The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India has revised and eased the rules pertaining to storage and handling of ammonium nitrate and calcium carbide, for improved safety. This revision comes at the backdrop of the deadly Beirut (capital of Lebanon) explosion which occurred due to storage of 3,000 tons of ammonium nitrate at the port for 6 years.

2. Which Bank has committed a sum of Rs.30,000 crore lending in India, towards sustainable financing till FY 2026?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) Axis Bank ☒
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) Union Bank of India



- ✓ India's leading private sector Bank – Axis Bank, has committed a sum of Rs.30,000 crore for lending to sustainable financing till the financial year 2025-26, which is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✓ This commitment is intended to assist India to reach the SDG targets by 2030. The Bank intends to make wholesale lending to Sustainable Development projects which would have positive social and environmental impact.

3. When is the 'World Alzheimer's Day' observed every year?

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



- ✓ Every year, 21<sup>st</sup> September is observed as World Alzheimer's Day. This day aims to raise awareness about the Alzheimer's disease, its causes, symptoms and the ways to handle it. Alzheimer's disease is a brain condition which retards memory and cognitive abilities of the affected person. It is the most frequent cause of dementia in older individuals, which may cause brain cells to weaken and die.

4. NDEAR and NETF, which were seen in the news recently, are initiatives associated with which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Power
- B) Ministry of Education ☒
- C) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- D) Ministry of Science and Technology



- ✓ Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan held a meeting on 'Universalisation of quality education through digital education'.
- ✓ The discussion focussed on using satellite technology and internet to develop an integrated digital ecosystem. The meeting also called for strengthening the existing Swayam Prabha Initiative and coordinate initiatives like National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) and National Educational Technology Forum (NETF). They were announced in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

5. Where is the headquarters of the G-24 intergovernmental association located?

- A) Washington D.C ☒
- B) Geneva
- C) Paris
- D) Rome



- ✓ The Intergovernmental Group of 24 on International Monetary Affairs and Development, or the Group of 24 was established in 1971 at Lima, Peru. It is headquartered at Washington D.C.
- ✓ It is a chapter of G-77, to coordinate developing countries on monetary and development finance issues. India, along with other Group of 24 (G24) member countries, has objected to the withdrawal of measures like the Equalisation levy (EL). India is worried that the proposed global digital tax deal covering only top 100 companies may not lead to sufficient revenue for developing countries.

6. 'Doing Business' report was the flagship publication of which institution?

- A) IMF
- B) World Bank ☒
- C) WTO
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ 'Doing Business' report was the flagship publication of the World Bank. After data irregularities were reported internally, on Doing Business reports of 2018 & 2020, World Bank management paused the next Doing Business report.
- ✓ International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has also been cited by the World Bank in the probe.

7. What is the expected Growth rate of India for FY21, as per the recent estimate of ADB?

- A) 14%
- B) 12%
- C) 10% ☒
- D) 8%



- ✓ The Asian Development Bank slashed India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast to 10% for FY21, down from 11% projected in April. The reason for the rate cut is the disruptions due to the second Covid wave. Growth projection for FY22 is raised to 7.5% from 7% forecast earlier.
- ✓ The Second wave disruptions have adversely impacted services, domestic consumption, and the urban informal sector. The economy is projected to rebound in the last three quarters of FY2021.

8. SECMOL, India's highest altitude educational organisation, is located in which state/UT?

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



- ✓ The Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL) has become the first-of-its-kind institute in the Union Territory of Ladakh to have an internet connection using Light Fidelity (LiFi) technology. SECMOL is India's highest altitude educational organisation. Li-Fi systems provide ultra-fast data connections.

9. Which organization has developed an indigenous charger for electric vehicles named AC001?

- A) DRDO
- B) ISRO
- C) ARAI ☒
- D) CSIR



- ✓ The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) has designed and developed indigenously, a charger for electric vehicles, named AC001. This is taken up for large scale manufacturing by Bharat Electronics. Presently most of the charging components for electric vehicles are imported. The indigenous development & manufacturing of these components would boost electric mobility in India.

10. Which tech initiative of India has bagged CIPS Excellence in Procurement Awards 2021, under the "Best Use of Digital Technology" category?

- A) SDG Dashboard
- B) GeM ☒
- C) Champions Portal
- D) GST Portal



- ✓ The Government of India's Government e Marketplace (GeM) initiative has been adjudged as the winner of CIPS Excellence in Procurement Awards 2021, under the "Best Use of Digital Technology" category. The award ceremony was held in London, UK. GeM is a dedicated online marketplace for procurement of goods and services by Govt. Government Organisations, Departments and PSUs.