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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



SEPTEMBER 2021

SEPTEMBER 01-07

1. 'Kunming Declaration', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which country?

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



- ✓ China has recently submitted a "zero draft" of the 'Kunming Declaration' to the United Nations. The declaration includes the key Chinese Communist Party concept of "ecological civilisation". The document also calls on parties to focus biodiversity protection in decision-making and recognise the importance of conservation in protecting human health. The COP 15 biodiversity talks are due to take place in October 2021.

2. BH-series, which was making news recently, is associated with which sector?

- A) Textile
- B) Automobile ☒
- C) Artificial Intelligence
- D) Financial Inclusion



- ✓ Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has introduced a new registration mark for new vehicles named "Bharat series (BH-series)".
- ✓ A vehicle bearing this registration mark shall not require the assignment of a new registration mark when the owner of the vehicle shifts from one State to another. This new registration has been announced to facilitate seamless transfer of vehicles and to cater to vehicle owners who frequently shift their bases in India.

3. BRICS Nations have recently opposed the Carbon border tax, proposed by which association?

- A) EU ☒
- B) NATO
- C) OPEC
- D) G20



- ✓ BRICS Nations namely Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa, have joined India in opposing the Carbon border tax, proposed by the European Union's (EU). The 27-member EU recently decided to levy a border tax on the import of carbon-intensive goods, which will be enforced from 2026 onwards. India along with other BRICS participants have objected to the proposal in the New Delhi statement of the five-nation group.

4. Which year is to be celebrated as the International Year of Millets under the leadership of India?

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



- ✓ The union minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar launched the National Food and Nutrition Campaign for the farmers. The Campaign is organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The Budget for Agriculture has been increased to ₹1.23 lakh crore, this year. 2023 will be celebrated as the International Year of Millets under the leadership of India.

5. Mudumalai and Anamalai Tiger Reserve, which received the global elite tag for best tiger conservation practices, are located in which districts?

- A) Nilgiri & Coimbatore ☒
- B) Nilgiri & Tiruppur
- C) Tiruppur & Erode
- D) Tenkasi & Theni



- ✓ Anamalai Tiger Reserve located at Pollachi near Coimbatore, one of the largest landscapes in the south of Palghat Gap with 4000 sq km of protected area, and the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve in the Nilgiris, a bio-diversity hotspot of the Western Ghats has now earned a global elite tag in tiger conservation. They are located in Tamil Nadu. It is the Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CATS) status, a conservation tool for best practices and standards to manage tigers.
- ✓ Only 14 reserves made the cut including Parambikulam in Kerala, Bandipur in Karnataka, and Manas, Kaziranga and Orang in Assam, for the accreditation exercise by India's National Tiger Conservation Authority under CATS. Well-known reserves like Corbett, Ranthambore and Bandhavgarh did not get the tag.

6. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Germany?

- A) Manpreet Vohra
- B) Ajay Bisaria
- C) Harish Parvathaneni ☒
- D) Jawed Ashraf



- ✓ Harish Parvathaneni, an Indian Foreign Service officer of the 1990 batch, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Germany. He is presently serving as an additional secretary in the MEA's headquarters in Delhi.

7. Which date is observed as Women's Equality Day?

- A) August 26 ☒
- B) August 27
- C) August 28
- D) August 29



- ✓ United States is commemorating the 101st year of Women's Equality Day. On August 26, the day is largely commemorated in the United States to honour American women gaining the constitutional right to vote. The United States Congress established August 26 as "Women's Equality Day" in 1971, and it was approved in 1973.
- ✓ Women's Equality Day draws attention to women's ongoing struggles towards gaining full equality.

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

- A) One
- B) Two
- C) Three ☒
- D) Four



- ✓ 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.

9. What is India's rank in the global coronavirus innovation rankings for countries?

- A) 20
- B) 32 ☒
- C) 42
- D) 62

32

- ✓ India fell six spots to the 32nd place in the global coronavirus innovation rankings for countries, as per a report prepared by StartupBlink in association with Health Innovation Exchange, UNAIDS. The report features the top-ranked 40 countries and 100 cities in the world based on innovative solutions developed to face the pandemic.

10. 'AREAS' is an initiative associated with which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Power
- B) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy ☒
- C) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- D) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare



- ✓ The Association of Renewable Energy of States (AREAS) is an initiative of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE). It was formed as a Society in the year 2014 by MNRE. The Association of Renewable Energy of States (AREAS) recently celebrated its 7th Foundation Day.

1. 'India SIZE' Survey, which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Textiles ☒
- B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Defence



- ✓ The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi under the aegis of Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India, is undertaking a survey of 'India SIZE'. It is an extensive anthropometric research study to develop a comprehensive body size chart for the Indian population.
- ✓ The data can produce ergonomically designed products which are well suited for the Indian population.

2. Which Indian state has undertaken a Biodiversity conservation project, with the support of the French development agency 'AFD'?

- A) Karnataka
- B) Rajasthan ☒
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Goa



- ✓ Rajasthan has undertaken a biodiversity conservation project in eastern districts of the state, with the support of the French development agency Agence Française de Développement (AFD). The Rajasthan Forestry and Bio development Project planned had already received the approval of the state government.
- ✓ It aims to promote eco-tourism and other sustainable income generation activities in the target villages with assistance to nearly 1200 self-help groups. A biodiversity park is also proposed to be developed in Bharatpur as part of the project.

3. India's first Green Hydrogen Plant is set to come up in which place?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Chennai
- C) Mathura ☒
- D) Digboi



- ✓ The state-owned PSU and oil major IOCL is set to build the country's first green hydrogen plant at Mathura. Due to the proximity of Mathura to Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ), the place has been selected for this purpose. This project is set to introduce Green Hydrogen in the oil and gas sector in the country.

4. Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, who was seen in the news recently, is associated with which sports?

- A) Tennis
- B) Table Tennis ☒
- C) Badminton
- D) Boxing



- ✓ Indian Table Tennis player Sathiyam Gnanasekaran won 4-0 in the summit clash to claim the men's singles title at the ITTF Czech International Open.
- ✓ The 28-year-old, top seeded Indian player has been ranked 39 in the world. Last week, he had paired up with compatriot Manika Batra to win the mixed doubles title at the WTT Contender in Budapest.

5. How many countries are participating in Malabar-21 Naval Exercise?

- A) 2
- B) 4 ☒
- C) 6
- D) 8



- ✓ The naval forces of India, USA, Japan and Australia (QUAD) would be participating in the Malabar 21 naval exercises. These four countries have been a part of the Malabar exercise since 2020. This year's Malabar exercise is held at Pacific Island Guam. This year's exercise aims to enhance the interoperability amongst navies and develop common understanding and SOPs in maritime security.

6. Which country has cut its diplomatic relations with Morocco?

- A) Algeria ☒
- B) India
- C) France
- D) Pakistan



- ✓ Algeria's Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra announced that his country has severed diplomatic relations with Morocco due to hostile actions. This decision has been taken following months of resurgent tensions between the North African rival. The border between Algeria and Morocco has been closed since 1994. Algeria backs the Polisario movement, which seeks independence for Western Sahara, which Morocco considers as a part of its own territory.

7. What is 'Vigraha', with respect to Indian Coast Guard?

- A) Offshore Patrol Vessel ☒
- B) Cruise Missile
- C) Offshore Helicopter
- D) Offshore Drone



- ✓ Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Ship Vigraha, is the seventh in the series of Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs). It is set to be commissioned by the union defence minister Rajnath Singh in Chennai on August 28, 2021.
- ✓ The ship will be based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh and operate on the eastern seaboard under the Operational and Administrative Control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (East). The vessel has been designed and built indigenously by Larsen & Toubro Ship Building Limited.

8. Where is the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change headquartered?

- A) Switzerland ☒
- B) Geneva
- C) New York
- D) Germany



- ✓ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is a body of the United Nations, headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland. The 6th Assessment Report (AR6) on climate change has been released by the IPCC under the title "AR6 Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis". The report gives upto date findings on climate systems and climate change. The assessment states that global temperature would exceed 1.5 degrees in the next 2 decades.

9. La Ganesan sworn in as 17th Governor of which Indian state?

- A) Telangana
- B) Manipur ☒
- C) Assam
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Former Rajya Sabha member La Ganesan was sworn in as the 17th Governor of Manipur in Imphal. Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court, PV Sanjay Kumar, administered the oath of office and secrecy to La Ganesan.

10. Shipping Ministry announced a new 'Skill Institute on Marine Studies' in which state?

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



- ✓ Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal announced the setting up of a Skill Institute on Marine Studies at Guwahati in Assam under Indian Maritime University, Chennai. An MoU was earlier signed between Inland Water Authority of India & Hooghly Cochin Shipyard Ltd. for setting up a new 'Ship Repair Facility' at Pandu in Guwahati.
- ✓ The technical support is to be provided by IIT Madras and is expected to be completed by August 2023. The facility, known as Slipway, is to be developed on a land of 3.67 acres provided by Government of Assam

1. 'My Pad My Right' project, an initiative of NABARD, was launched recently in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Tripura ☒
- C) Gujarat
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the 'My Pad My Right' (MPMR) project in Tripura. The project is an initiative of NABARD and NAB Foundation, to provide better livelihood and menstrual hygiene to women in rural areas through grants-in-aid, wage support and equipment. Under the initiative, one sanitary pad making machine, raw materials for two months, wages for 50 days, packaging material with accessories and a five-day training in three phases are provided. The project aims to help rural women improve menstrual hygiene.

2. 'Mera Watan Mera Chaman', is a programme hosted by which Union Ministry?

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



- ✓ Ministry of Minority Affairs has organised 'Mera Watan Mera Chaman' Mushaira in New Delhi as part of Amrit Mahotsav of 75th Year of India's Independence. During the programme renowned poets from the country recited their poetry and couplets.
- ✓ In all those programmes, renowned as well as emerging poets will give patriotic message of "Ek Bharat- Shrestha Bharat".

3. As of August 2021, what is the total number of bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna?

- A) 32 Crore
- B) 43 Crore ☒
- C) 56 Crore
- D) 67 Crore



- ✓ Bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY) have increased to 43 crores, as of August 2021. As per the Finance Ministry Data, the total deposits under the accounts amount to over ₹1.46 lakh crore. The government's flagship 'Financial inclusion' scheme has also completed seven years of implementation. PMJDY was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on August 15, 2014 and was launched on August 28.

4. 'SACRED' is the name of the proposed employment exchange, targeting which segment of people?

- A) Transgender People
- B) Senior Citizens ☒
- C) Differently Abled
- D) Religious Minorities



- ✓ The proposed portal named 'SACRED' is an acronym for 'Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity'. The Union Ministry of Social justice and empowerment is drawing plans to implement the portal.
- ✓ Through this exchange, the Senior citizens looking for jobs will soon have a platform to reach out to potential employers. The inter-ministerial committee formed to set up the exchange has approved Rs 10 crores, for implementing the exchange.

5. Which country has hosted the Middle East Regional Conference, recently?

- A) UAE
- B) Iran
- C) Iraq ☒
- D) Bahrain



- ✓ Iraq has recently hosted a middle east regional conference, which is aimed to ease the tension in the region. Iraq, Saudi Arabia have been invited in the meeting, which is co-organized by France. During the meeting, regional water crisis, war in Yemen and economic conditions of Lebanon are discussed. This meeting has assumed significance since Iraq has been playing a neutral mediating role in the region.

6. S P Sethuraman, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

- A) Cricket
- B) Hockey
- C) Chess ☒
- D) Tennis



- ✓ Indian Grandmaster S.P. Sethuraman won the Barcelona Open chess tournament title here while compatriot Karthikeyan Murali finished third. Sethuraman collected 7.5 points from nine rounds and was declared as the winner, on the basis of a better tie-break score. Daniil Yuffa of Russia also finished with the same points as the Indian player. Sethuraman, the top seed, remained unbeaten through the nine rounds, winning six matches and drawing three.

7. Where is the Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) headquartered?

- A) Jharkhand
- B) Madhya Pradesh ☒
- C) Gujarat
- D) Odisha



- ✓ The government-owned Miniratna PSU Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) has announced to launch a skill development project amounting Rs. 3.5 crore. It is a subsidiary of the Coal India Limited (CIL) and the company is headquartered at Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The aim of the programme is to impart training to 500 youth living in and around the company's areas of operation. Under this programme, youth would be trained in the field of Plastic engineering trade, at a cost of Rs 70,000 per trainee.

8. As per the recent Forbes India report, which city has world's most CCTV cameras in public places?

- A) London
- B) New Delhi ☒
- C) Melbourne
- D) Chennai



- ✓ As per a recent Forbes India report on the most surveilled cities of the world, Delhi is on the top with 1,826.6 CCTV cameras per square mile. Delhi is followed by London with 1,138 CCTV cameras. Chennai secured third place with 609.9 CCTV cameras. As per the report, Mumbai came in 18th with 157.4 CCTV cameras per square mile. Only three Indian cities feature in the top 20 cities in the report.

9. Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana (RGKNY) is the initiative of which Indian state?

- A) Telangana
- B) Chhattisgarh ☒
- C) Assam
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana (RGKNY) is a flagship scheme of the state of Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ Under the RGKNY, the state government provides input assistance to farmers for crop production. If the crops sown during the ongoing kharif season get destroyed due to drought-like conditions, a financial assistance of Rs 9,000 per acre would be provided.

10. Buddhadeb Guha, who recently passed away, was associated with which profession?

- A) Sports person
- B) Writer ☒
- C) Politician
- D) Business-person



- ✓ Noted Bengali writer Buddhadeb Guha, who authored several popular books including Madhukari, recently passed away. The writer passed away at the age of 85. He had won several awards including the Ananda Purashkar and Sharat Puraskar.
- ✓ He is also the creator of two popular fictional characters in Bengali literature named 'Rivu and Rijuda'.

1. When is the "National Small Industry Day" celebrated every year?

- A) August 30 ☒
- B) September 1
- C) September 3
- D) September 5



- ✓ National Small Industry Day is an annual celebration to recognise the value of small industries in our society. Every year on August 30, the country celebrates National Small Industry Day. On August 30, 2000, a comprehensive policy package for the SSI sector was launched in India, to provide support to small firms in India. The UN General Assembly has declared June 27 as the MSME Day to enhance public awareness of the contribution of MSMEs in the global economy

2. Shanti Lal Jain has been appointed as the MD & CEO of which public sector bank?

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



- ✓ Shanti Lal Jain has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank. He was earlier serving as the Executive Director of the Bank of Baroda. His tenure of three years would start from September 1.

3. When is the 'International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances' observed?

- A) August 30 ☒
- B) September 1
- C) September 3
- D) September 5



- ✓ 'International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances' is marked every year on August 30, across the world.
- ✓ The day is observed to honour and pay tribute to people who have faced enforced disappearances. On December 21, 2010, the United Nations General Assembly officially proclaimed August 30 as the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. The Assembly also welcomed the adoption of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

4. Who is the head of the committee constituted by the Centre, to develop technological platform for streamlining revenue litigation?

- A) Ashish Shiradhonkar ☒
- B) Adhir Ranjan Choudhary
- C) DY Chandrachud
- D) Tushar Mehta



- ✓ The Centre has constituted a committee to develop a technological platform streamlining the appeal filing process, which will be headed by Ashish Shiradhonkar. The platform aims to cover all processes related to direct and indirect taxation matters. Ashish Shiradhonkar, is also heading the e-courts project in National Informatics Centre. The committee is set to complete its work in three months and will have members from revenue department, CBDT and CBIT.

5. When is the International Day against Nuclear Tests observed every year?

- A) August 29 ☒
- B) August 30
- C) August 31
- D) September 01



- ✓ The 'International Day against Nuclear Tests' is observed on August 29 every year, across the world. The day aims to bring awareness regarding the harmful effects of testing nuclear weapons and calls for an end to such tests.
- ✓ The International Day against Nuclear Tests was established on December 2, 2009, by the United Nations General Assembly in its 64th session. The first nuclear test called Trinity was conducted by the United States Army in a desert site in New Mexico, on July 16 1945.

6. Which woman sports-person won India's first gold medal in Shooting in Olympics/Paralympics?

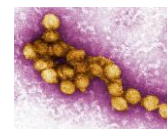
- A) Avani Lekhara ☒
- B) Elavenil Valarivan
- C) Apurvi Chandel
- D) Anjum Moudgil



- ✓ Indian paralympic shooter Avani Lekhara won country's first gold medal in shooting at the Tokyo Paralympics in the women's 10m air rifle. The 19-year-old became the first Indian woman to win a Paralympic or an Olympic gold medal in the country's history.
- ✓ India's discus thrower Yogesh Kathuniya clinched silver medal. Devendra Jhajharia and Sundar Singh won the silver and bronze medals in javelin throw event

7. Which country has warned of increase in West Nile Virus infections?

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



- ✓ Russia warned of a possible increase in West Nile Virus (WNV) infections, as mild temperatures and heavy precipitation create favourable conditions for the mosquitos that carry it. WNV is an infectious disease spread by infected mosquitoes.
- ✓ It spreads from birds to humans with the bite of an infected Culex mosquito. It can lead to a fatal neurological disease in humans. It is related to the Zika, dengue and yellow fever viruses.

8. Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- A) Assam ☒
- B) Sikkim
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Himachal Pradesh



- ✓ Deepor Beel is one of the permanent and largest freshwater lakes in Assam, located in Guwahati. It is the State's only Ramsar site and an Important Bird Area.
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the eco-sensitive zone of the Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary on the south-western edge of Guwahati. The wetland expands up to 30 sq. km in summer and reduces to about 10 sq. km in the winter.

9. Which institution releases the Quarterly House Price Index?

- A) National Housing Bank
- B) Reserve Bank of India ☒
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) National Statistics Office



- ✓ The Reserve Bank releases a quarterly house price index (HPI) based on transaction-level data received from housing registration authorities in ten major cities. The cities are Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kochi, Kolkata, Lucknow, and Mumbai.
- ✓ According to RBI data, the growth in all-India House Price Index (HPI) slowed to 2 per cent in the first quarter this fiscal against 2.8 per cent in the last year. The HPI growth ranged from an expansion of 8.8 per cent (Ahmedabad) to a contraction of [-] 5.1 percent (Chennai).

10. Supertech twin tower case, which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which state?

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



- ✓ The Supreme Court ordered the demolition of the twin towers that had come up in violation of building bye-laws in Supertech's Emerald Court housing project in Noida. The Court also ordered that the towers be razed within three months for violation of building norms in agreement with district officials.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has called for an inquiry and strict action against guilty officers in Noida in the illegal twin tower case. The Chief Minister also directed officers to register a criminal case against guilty persons.

1. Mariyappan Thangavelu and Sharad, who won medals in the Tokyo Paralympics, are associated with which sports?

- A) Weight Lifting
- B) Shooting
- C) High Jump ☒
- D) Javelin Throw



- ✓ Mariyappan Thangavelu and Sharad Kumar won the silver and bronze medals, respectively, in the high jump event in the Tokyo Paralympics. Mariyappan Thangavelu had also won a gold medal at the Rio Paralympics. India had won a total of 12 medals from the 1968 edition until 2016.

2. Which country has passed the world's first law to force tech companies to offer alternative payment systems?

- A) France
- B) Italy
- C) South Korea ☒
- D) India



- ✓ South Korean lawmakers passed the world's first law to force tech giants such as Google and Apple to offer alternative payment systems on their app stores. The country is set to amend the 'Telecommunications Business Act', the nation's primary telecommunications law.

3. Dale Steyn, who announced retirement from international cricket, is from which country?

- A) Australia
- B) South Africa ☒
- C) New Zealand
- D) West Indies



- ✓ Legendary South African fast bowler Dale Steyn announced his retirement from cricket, after a career spanning nearly 16 years. Steyn had retired from the Test Cricket last year as South Africa's highest wicket-taker with 439 wickets. Steyn played 93 Tests, 125 ODIs and 47 T20 internationals for South Africa since making his debut for the Proteas on December 17, 2004.

4. What is the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court of India?

- A) 18
- B) 25
- C) 34 ☒
- D) 45



- ✓ Nine new judges, including three women, were administered oath of office as judges of the Supreme Court. This appointment has taken its strength to 33, including the Chief Justice of India, out of the sanctioned strength of 34. This is the first time in the history of the Supreme Court that nine judges took oath of office, all at the same time. Justice Nagarathna, one among the nine judges, is in line to become the first woman Chief Justice of India in September 2027.

5. INS Airavat has reached which country in August 2021, as a part of Mission SAGAR?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Afghanistan
- C) Vietnam ☒
- D) Malaysia



- ✓ Indian Naval vessel – INS Airavat has recently reached Ho Chi Minh City Port in Vietnam, as a part of Mission SAGAR. The vessel has shipped 100 Metric Tons of Liquid Medical Oxygen and 300 Oxygen Concentrators of 10 LPM capacity, to fight against the COVID 19 pandemic. SAGAR stands for Security and Growth for All in the Region, under which India has been helping its neighbors at times of stress.

6. Which Indian neighbour has recently declared a Food emergency?

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



- ✓ The island nation of Sri Lanka has declared food emergency and an economic emergency, under an ordinance. The declaration of this, empowers authorities to impose restrictions on stocking and pricing of food articles. The country was affected with a foreign exchange crisis, due to which it had undertaken a steep devaluation of its currency, resulting in inflation.

7. "e-Source" is an online platform being developed by which institution?

- A) BITS
- B) IIM-A
- C) IIT-M ☒
- D) ISRO



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) is developing an online platform named e-Source. This platform aims to tackle e-waste by linking various participants in formal and informal sector. It would act as a market place between buyers and generators of e waste, in electrical and electronic equipment segment. This is expected to pave a great way for recycle and reuse of electronic wastes, thus achieve the objectives of circular economy.

8. Indian Navy has undertaken a joint exercise with which country, in Gulf of Aden near Yemen?

- A) Russia
- B) Germany ☒
- C) France
- D) Italy



- ✓ Navies of India and Germany carried out a joint exercise, in Gulf of Aden near Yemen. The exercise included helicopter landings and search and seizure operations. The Indian Navy's frigate 'INS Triakand' exercised with German frigate 'Bayern' in the Gulf of Aden. INS Triakand is currently deployed in the Gulf of Aden region for anti-piracy patrol.

9. Dr Firdausi Qadri and Muhammad Amjad Saqib, who were seen in the news recently, are the recipients of which award?

- A) Booker Prize
- B) Ramon Magsaysay Award ☒
- C) Pulitzer Award
- D) Abel Prize



- ✓ Dr Firdausi Qadri, a vaccine scientist from Bangladesh and Muhammad Amjad Saqib, the microfinance pioneer from Pakistan are among the five recipients of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award. Established in 1957, the award is Asia's highest honour and regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize.

- ✓ The other winners are Filipino fisher and community environmentalist Roberto Ballon, American Steven Muncy for humanitarian work and refugee assistance and Indonesian torchbearer for investigative journalism, Watchdoc. The award is given every year to individuals or organisations in Asia who provide significant service to the society.

10. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha?

- A) M Venkaiah Naidu
- B) Dr Ramacharyulu ☒
- C) Utpal Kumar Singh
- D) Desh Deepak Verma



- ✓ Rajya Sabha chairman M Venkaiah Naidu appointed Dr. Parasaram Pattabhi Kesava Ramacharyulu as the new Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha. Ramacharyulu has been working as Secretary in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat since 2018. He succeeds Desh Dipak Verma, who demitted office after serving for four years in the post. As per the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Ramacharyulu is the first ever Upper House employee to have reached the Secretary General's post.

1. The multi-nation military exercise named 'ZAPAD 2021' is held in which country?

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



- ✓ Indian Army is participating in Exercise ZAPAD 2021, a multinational exercise at Nizhny, Russia from 3 to 16 September. The two-week military exercise named 'ZAPAD 2021' aimed at boosting anti-terror cooperation. More than a dozen countries from Eurasia and South Asia will also participate in the same exercise. China and Pakistan are also expected to take part in the exercise as observers. A contingent of 200 personnel of the Indian Army will participate in an exercise.

2. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes?

- A) J B Mohapatra ☒
- B) Rajesh Damor
- C) Pramod Y Devikar
- D) Deepa Rasal



- ✓ Senior bureaucrat J B Mohapatra has been appointed the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). Mohapatra, is a 1985-batch Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) officer, is currently the member in the board that frames the policy for the Income Tax department. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of J B Mohapatra, as the Chairman of CBDT.

3. Which state has launched 'Innovation Mission', a public-private partnership, to boost start-up sector?

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



- ✓ Chief Minister Amarinder Singh launched 'Innovation Mission Punjab' (IMPunjab), a public-private partnership, to boost start-up sector. The Mission aims to bring in global investors and experts to promote start-ups. The mission will be accelerated by the private sector with strong government backing.

4. What is the GST Revenue collected in the month of August, as per the recent data from Finance Ministry?

- A) Rs 88000 Cr
- B) Rs 98000 Cr
- C) Rs 1,12,000 Cr ☒
- D) Rs 1,34,000 Cr



- ✓ As per the recent data from the Finance Ministry, GST revenue touched Rs 1,12,020 crore. The revenue remained above Rs 1 trillion-mark for the second straight month in August.
- ✓ This is 30 percent higher than the collection in the year-ago period, but lower than Rs 1.16 trillion collected in July 2021. During August, the revenues from domestic transactions were 27 percent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

5. "Ubreathe Life", the world's first 'Plant based' smart air-purifier, has been developed by start-up of which institution?

- A) IIT-Madras
- B) IIT-Ropar ☒
- C) IISc
- D) NIV



- ✓ A start-up company of IIT Ropar has claimed that it has developed the world's first 'Plant based' smart air-purifier. Named the "Ubreathe Life", has been developed by Urban Air Laboratory. The living-plant-based air purifier amplifies the air purification process in indoor spaces. The technology used in this product is 'Urban Munnar Effect'. Phytoremediation is a process by which plants effectively remove pollutants from the air.

6. Which is the first Indian state to vaccinate its entire adult population (first dose)?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Himachal Pradesh ☒
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Assam



- ✓ Himachal Pradesh has become the first State in the country where everyone above 18 years has been administered with at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine.
- ✓ As of August 31, India has also crossed the mark of 50 crore first doses and 15 crore second doses, with total vaccinations crossing 65 crores. India also set a record by providing more than 1 Crore vaccinations on a single day, for two days in the month of August.

7. According to UNEP, which variant of petrol has been eradicated from the globe?

- A) Leaded Petrol ☒
- B) Waxed Petrol
- C) High Octane Petrol
- D) High Cetane Petrol



- ✓ The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has recently declared that the use of leaded petrol has been eradicated from the globe. This is seen as a major milestone in safeguarding human lives and environment, since this is expected to prevent 1.2 million premature deaths globally. Lead is added to low quality petrol to increase its octane number and hence enhance engine performance.

8. Which Indian state has launched a drone-based afforestation project, named 'Hara Bhara'?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Punjab
- C) Manipur
- D) Telangana ☒



- ✓ The Telangana government has recently launched a drone-based afforestation project, named 'Hara Bhara'. The state has partnered with Marut Drones, a Hyderabad-based drone technology start-up, to launch the project.
- ✓ Under the initiative, the state government will plant 50 lakh trees across 12,000 hectares of land in forests in all the 33 districts of Telangana. Named the 'Seedcopter', it involves the preparation of the seed balls by the local women and welfare communities, which are dispersed via drones in the targeted areas.

9. Which Indian state/UT recently hosted the 'Nomadic Festival'?

- A) Ladakh ☒
- B) Sikkim
- C) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur recently inaugurated a 2-Day Ladakh Nomadic Festival at Korzok Phu, Changthang region of

eastern Ladakh. The festival is organised by Ladakh Cultural Academy in collaboration with Ladakh Tourism Department.

- ✓ It aims to highlight the distinctive culture of Changthang region. The Changthangi is a breed of cashmere goat native to Ladakh, reared by the nomads of the region for fine-grade Pashmina wool.

10. 'Eat Right Station' certification is an initiative of which institution?

- A) FAO
- B) FSSAI ☒
- C) NABARD
- D) FCI



- ✓ 'Eat Right Station' certification is awarded by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), to Railway Stations. FSSAI empanelled third-party audit agency concludes the certification, with ratings from 1 to 5. The 5-star rating indicates excellent efforts by stations to ensure safe and hygienic food is available to passengers. Chandigarh Railway Station was awarded a 5- star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers. The certification is part of the 'Eat Right India' movement of FSSAI.