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THIRD WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



OCTOBER 2021

OCTOBER 15-21

1. Indian Born Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan, who passed away recently is associated with which field?

- A) Atomic and Nuclear Science ☒
- B) Cricket
- C) Politics
- D) Agriculture



- ✓ Indian Born Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan, also known as the father of Pakistan's atomic weapons program died recently in Pakistan. He was born in the year 1936 in Bhopal and moved to Pakistan during the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan.

2. When is the 'International Day of the Girl Child' observed across the world?

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



- ✓ The International Day of the Girl Child is observed annually on October 11, to highlight the gender equality impacts. In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child, to recognise the challenges faced by girls.
- ✓ This year, the UN urges the world to bridge the gender digital divide existing in diverse skills and jobs.

3. Which Indian banker has joined as the Chairman of BharatPe?

- A) Arundhati Bhattacharya
- B) Rajnish Kumar ☒
- C) Chanda Kochhar
- D) Urjit Patel



- ✓ Rajnish Kumar, former chairman of State Bank of India (SBI), has joined the board of Fintech firm BharatPe as its Chairman. Rajnish Kumar earlier retired from the country's largest lender after four decades of service in October 2020. He was previously appointed as a non-executive director for banking giant HSBC's Asia unit.

4. Minister for Forest and Environment released the Vision Plan for Indian zoos, for which duration?

- A) 2021-2031 ☒
- B) 2021-2025
- C) 2022-2032
- D) 2022-2026



- ✓ Union Environment Minister released important publications of the Central Zoo Authority, at the National conference for Zoo directors and veterinarians organized by Central Zoo Authority and hosted by Sardar Patel Zoological Park, Gujarat.
- ✓ First is the Vision Plan [2021-2031] for Indian zoos to upgrade them to global standards and strengthening of Central Zoo Authority. It focusses on animal care, research, and visitor experiences. Second is the WASH Manual for Zoos- for creating and maintaining WASH facilities within the premises for staff and visitors. He also gave away 'Prani Mitra' Awards, set up by CZA.

5. Who has been appointed the director-general of the Indian Space Association (ISPA)?

- A) Anil Bhatt ☒
- B) Amit Shah
- C) Ajit Doval
- D) Rajnath Singh



- ✓ The Prime Minister recently launched the Indian Space Association (ISPA). It is an industry association of space and satellite companies. The Founding members include Larson & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, MapmyIndia, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Limited. Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, among others. Lt Gen Anil Bhatt (Retd) has been appointed the director-general of the association.

6. Which public sector bank has launched a campaign named "6S Campaign"?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) Punjab National Bank ☒
- C) Canara Bank
- D) Bank of Baroda



- ✓ Punjab National Bank, the country's second largest Public Sector Bank, has launched a "6S Campaign" including different schemes such as - Swabhiman, Samruddhi, Sampark and Shikhar, Sankalp and Swagat. The objective is to drive awareness campaign for development of financial services in the country. It aims to create awareness on credit growth, social security schemes and drive digital banking push, especially credit outreach for the agricultural sector.

7. India agreed to provide a USD 200 million Line of Credit for development projects in which country?

- A) Nepal
- B) Tajikistan
- C) Kyrgyzstan ☒
- D) Indonesia



- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held talks with the top Kyrgyzstan leadership to boost bilateral ties, including defence cooperation. India also agreed to provide a USD 200 million Line of Credit for development projects in the country. Jaishankar is on his four-day visit to Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Armenia with an aim to further expand bilateral ties with the three Central Asian countries.

8. Mont Blanc, which was seen in the news recently, is the highest peak in which mountain range?

- A) Himalayas
- B) Alps ☒
- C) Andes
- D) Mount Everest



- ✓ Mont Blanc is the highest mountain in the Alps and Western Europe. The summit of the Mont Blanc peak, has shrunk by two metres over the past 20 years. Recently, surveyors including experts and high mountain guides measured the peak and announced its new measurements. It has reached an official height of 4,807.81 metres above sea level. The highest reading was 4,810.9 metres in 2007.

9. When is the International Translation Day celebrated every year?

- A) September 30 ☒
- B) October 1
- C) October 2
- D) October 3



- ✓ Every year, the 30th September is celebrated as the International Translation Day. This day is chosen to remember the Bible translator St. Jerome, who is considered the father of translators.

- ✓ A resolution in this regard was passed by the United Nations General Assembly in the year 2017, in order to recognise the role played by language professionals in connecting nations and promoting peace.

10. David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, who were in the news recently, are the winners of which award?

- A) Manbooker Prize
- B) Abel Prize
- C) Nobel Prize ☒
- D) Fields Medal



- ✓ 2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been announced to two joint winners, David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian.
- ✓ The award has been given for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch that gives the ability to sense heat, cold and touch needed for survival. David Julius is a professor with the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Ardem Patapoutian is an immigrant, is a Professor in the Department of Neuroscience at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

1. India has entered into an agreement with Croatia in which field, recently?

- A) Indian traditional medicine ☒
- B) Sports
- C) Digital Education
- D) Defence



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Ayush, Government of India has entered into an agreement with the Government of Croatia for research and development in Indian traditional medicine systems.
- ✓ The MoU agreement was signed by the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) on Indian behalf. Croatia has proposed to include Indian Ayurveda and Yoga along with its tourism packages.

2. A group of 136 countries, including India have set a minimum global tax rate at what per cent, for big companies?

- A) 5%
- B) 10%
- C) 15% ☒
- D) 20%

15%

- ✓ A set of 136 countries including India have set a minimum global tax of 15% for big companies. This sets a floor tax rate for these countries to attract investment and prevents countries from levying tax at a lower rate to multinational companies. By many countries including the USA, this move is seen as a level playing field and this rate is lower than the corporate tax rate of 23.5% in many countries.

3. Which racing driver won the Turkish Grand Prix 2021?

- A) Lewis Hamilton
- B) Valtteri Bottas ☒
- C) Max Verstappen
- D) Sergio Perez



- ✓ Finnish racing driver Valtteri Bottas wins the Turkish Grand Prix 2021. Another Racing Driver Max Verstappen came in the 2nd place and Sergio Perez was in the 3rd place. Ace Racing Driver Lewis Hamilton crossed the line in the 5th place while Charles Leclerc took the fourth place. Bottas, the 32-year-old driver has won ten races from 2017 till 2021.

4. Where is the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) headquartered?

- A) New York
- B) New Delhi ☒
- C) Colombo
- D) Rome



- ✓ The Centre for Development of Telematics is an Indian Government owned telecommunications technology development centre.
- ✓ It is headquartered at New Delhi. C-DOT has been asked to start working on 6G technologies which is said to be 50 times faster than 5G and other futuristic technologies. Union Telecom Secretary recently inaugurated C-DOT's Quantum Communication Lab and launched the indigenously developed Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) solution.

5. What is the rank of India, in the Henley Passport Index 2021?

- A) 90 ☒
- B) 82
- C) 70
- D) 65



- ✓ India's rank has slipped by six places from last year to 90 on the Henley Passport Index, which lists the world's most travel-friendly passports. The index ranks the passports of countries according to the number of destinations their holders can visit without a prior visa.
- ✓ The rankings are based on the analysis of data provided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Japan and Singapore hold the first rank on the passport index, while the second position is shared by South Korea and Germany.

6. What is the theme of the 'International Day of Older Persons' 2021?

- A) Digital Equity for All Ages ☒
- B) Respect and Love for Elders
- C) Empathy and Equity
- D) Fair Treatment to all Elders



- ✓ 'International Day of Older Persons' is celebrated every year on October 1. The aim of the day is to spread awareness about the need for health facilities and social care for elderly. On Dec.14 1990, the United Nations General Assembly declared Oct.1 as the International Day of Older Persons. The theme for 2021 is "Digital Equity for All Ages".

7. The State Election Commission of which state is set to conduct India's first dry run for "Voting through smart phone"?

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



- ✓ The State Election Commission of Telangana is about to conduct a dry run of the voting using their smartphones. This trial has got approval from the state government. The trial would be run in Khammam district on October 20th 2021 and would be the country's first e-voting process using mobile smart mobile phones.

8. The Exercise Malabar is associated with which Armed force of India?

- A) Indian Army
- B) Indian Navy ☒
- C) Indian Coast Guard
- D) National Security Guard



- ✓ The Exercise Malabar is a Naval / Maritime Exercise of Navies of India, Japan, Australia and USA. The second phase of Malabar exercise would be conducted from October 12-15, 2021 in the Bay of Bengal. INS Ranvijay, INS Satpura, P81 Maritime Patrol Aircraft and a Submarine would be representing India in the exercise.

9. Sunil Chhetri, who was in the news recently, is associated with which sports?

- A) Cricket
- B) Football ☒
- C) Volleyball
- D) Kabaddi



- ✓ Indian professional footballer and the Captain of Indian National Football team - Sunil Chhetri has recently scored his 77th international goal, in a match against Nepal at the SAFF Championships in Male. With this, he has equalled the goal table of Pele, former legendary Brazilian Footballer. This record was made by him in his 123rd match for India.

10. What is the proposed financial outlay for the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan?

- A) Rs. 100 crores
- B) Rs. 1 lakh crore
- C) Rs. 10 lakh crores
- D) Rs. 100 lakh crores ☒



- ✓ The PM on the 75th Independence Day speech had announced for "PM Gati Shakti Master Plan" at a total financial outlay of Rs.100 lakh crore, aiming for holistic infrastructure development. The scheme is proposed to offer modal connectivity to more than 1000 industrial clusters and would include projects under existing schemes like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, Udaan etc.
-

1. When is the 'National Voluntary Blood Donation Day' observed?

- A) October 1 ☒
 B) October 2
 C) October 3
 D) October 4



- ✓ National Voluntary Blood Donation Day is celebrated on 1st October of every year across the country. It aims to raise awareness about blood donation and promote voluntary Blood donation in the country.
- ✓ The theme for this year's Blood donation event is "Give Blood and keep the world beating". Our country needs around 1.45 crore units of blood every year. Collection of blood is done through 3500 licensed blood banks across the country.

2. Who is the head of the expert panel set up by the International Financial Services Centres Authority, on sustainable finance?

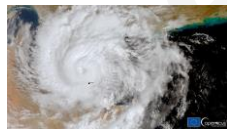
- A) Urjit Patel
 B) C K Mishra ☒
 C) Abhijeet Banerjee
 D) Jean Drèze



- ✓ The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has set up an expert panel headed by former Environment and Forest Secretary C K Mishra to suggest a framework to develop a world-class sustainable finance hub at IFSC. IFSCA was established in April last year under the IFSC Authority Act, 2019. It is headquartered at GIFT City, Gandhinagar.
- ✓ IFSCA is an authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in India.

3. What is the name of the cyclone that hit Oman and is an offspring of the cyclone Gulab?

- A) Shaheen ☒
 B) Fakit
 C) Gulmuhar
 D) Tez



- ✓ The Tropical Cyclone Shaheen has hit the coast of Oman. This cyclone is an offspring of the cyclone Gulab which had a devastating impact on the east coast of India in late September 2021. The remnant of cyclone Gulab along with the low-pressure region over Gujarat had gained strength to form the new cyclone Shaheen.

4. Which Ministry has launched the "Good Samaritan" initiative?

- A) Ministry of Finance
 B) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways ☒
 C) Ministry of Rural Development
 D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



- ✓ The Government of India's Union Ministry of Road transport and highways has launched a scheme named "Good Samaritan". Under the scheme, anyone who saves the life of a road accident victim would be incentivized with Rs.5000/- and a certificate, if the victims are rushed to hospital within the "Golden hour". Also, individuals could be awarded a maximum of five times in a year under the scheme.

5. "Keeping cybercriminals out: #JustOneClick" is a cyber security campaign launched by which organization?

- A) NASSCOM
 B) RBI
 C) Data Security Council of India
 D) Interpol ☒



- ✓ The Interpol has launched a cyber security campaign - "Keeping cybercriminals out: #JustOneClick" from Oct.4 to 22, which will be organized mainly in social media.
- ✓ The aim of this campaign is to create awareness about cyber threats and help people to protect their computer systems, networks and personal information from cyber criminals.

6. Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov, who received Nobel Peace Prize, are associated with which profession?

- A) Politics
 B) Journalism ☒
 C) Defence
 D) Social Service



- ✓ Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov have been chosen for the Nobel Peace Prize 2021, for their efforts to safeguard and promote freedom of expression in the Philippines and Russia.
- ✓ Maria Ressa is a Filipino-American journalist, author, and the co-founder of a media company Rappler. Dmitry Muratov is a Russian journalist and a television presenter.

7. Subject Expert Committee on Covid-19 granted emergency use approval to which vaccine for children (2-18 years)?

- A) Covishield
 B) Covaxin ☒
 C) Sputnik
 D) Pfizer



- ✓ Subject Expert Committee on Covid-19 granted emergency use approval to Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for children in the 2-18 years age group.
- ✓ Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech had completed Phase-2 and Phase-3 trials of Covaxin on children below 18 years of age and submitted the trial data to the Drugs and Comptroller General of India (DCGI). The 1st group examined was between 12 -18 years, the 2nd group was between 6- 12 years and the third age group was between 2-6 years.

8. CRISP-M tool, which was seen in the news recently, embeds climate information in implementing which scheme?

- A) MGNREGS ☒
 B) PM Awas Yojana
 C) SAUBHAGYA
 D) PM Ujjwala Yojana



- ✓ Union Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Shri Giriraj Singh jointly launched Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool.
- ✓ It is used for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System based watershed planning under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme. It was launched along with Lord Tariq Ahmad, Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth in the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office through a virtual event.

9. Union Home Ministry has enhanced the powers of which Central Armed Police Force, recently?

- A) ITBP
 B) BSF ☒
 C) CRPF
 D) CISF



- ✓ The Union Home Ministry has recently enhanced the powers of the Border Security Force (BSF) to arrest, search and seize within 50 km from the international boundary in Assam, West Bengal and Punjab. BSF is a Central armed police force under the Union.
- ✓ This power will also be applicable to the newly created Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. Earlier, the BSF's limit was fixed up to 80 km from the international boundary in Gujarat and 15 km in Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal and Assam.

10. Who is the first Indian to be elected as the Chairman of World Steel Association?

- A) Sajjan Jindal ☒
- B) Aditya Mittal
- C) Anirban Dasgupta
- D) Gautam Adani



- ✓ JSW Steel Chairman and Managing Director Sajjan Jindal has been elected as the Chairman of the World Steel Association (WSA) for the 2021-22 period. Jindal also becomes the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the WSA.
- ✓ He precedes Yu Yong as the Chairman of WSA, whose members represent approximately 85 percent of the world's steel production. Established in 1967, it is headquartered in Brussels.

1. "Extended Producer Responsibility" which is in news recently, is associated with?

- A) Plastic waste management ☒
- B) Automobile Manufacturing
- C) Meat Production
- D) Agricultural Export



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Environment has released a draft notification on regulation of extended producer responsibility under the plastic waste management rules 2016. This covers three categories of plastics namely rigid plastic packaging; flexible plastic packaging of single layer / multilayer plastics. As per the draft, quantity of waste that will have to be managed by producers and importers has been specified.

2. Which institution has released the 'State of The World's Hand Hygiene' report?

- A) WHO and UNICEF ☒
- B) NITI Aayog
- C) Bell and Melinda Gates Foundation
- D) Indian Medical Association



- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF jointly released the 2021 State of The World's Hand Hygiene report. As per the report, all households in the world's 46 least developed countries could have handwashing facilities by 2030 if the world invested less than \$1 per person per year, in hand hygiene. An annual cost to governments on promoting handwashing with soap at home comes to 2.5% of the average government health expenditure in these countries.

3. What is the name of skill development programme for the unemployed youths of India, conducted by Indian Railway?

- A) Better India Better World
- B) Skill India
- C) Rail Dristi
- D) Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana ☒



- ✓ The Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana is a technical skill development programme organized and conducted by the Indian Railways, to unemployed youths of age 18-35 years.
- ✓ The scheme aims to enhance their employability and entrepreneurship. Recently, the Indian Railways' Banaras Locomotive Works had successfully conducted the training for its first batch of trainees, and distributed self-employment toolkits cum certificated to the trainees.

4. "The Naval Interaction-2021" is a joint naval exercise between which two countries?

- A) India and USA
- B) India and China
- C) China and Russia ☒
- D) Japan and Australia



- ✓ The Naval forces of China and Russia have commenced the "The Naval Interaction-2021" joint Naval exercise, which aims to enhance the two country's capability and hone their skills to jointly deal with maritime security threats. The exercise is taking place at Russia's Peter the Great Gulf in the Sea of Japan.

5. What is the theme of 'World Sight Day 2021'?

- A) Love Your Eyes ☒
- B) Donate Eyes; Donate Life
- C) Eye Health matters
- D) Sight First



- ✓ World Sight Day is observed annually on the second Thursday of October. This year, the Day is observed on October 14.
- ✓ It is a global event which aims to create awareness on blindness and vision impairment. It was originally initiated by the Sight First Campaign of Lions Club International Foundation in 2000. The theme for World Sight Day 2021 is 'Love Your Eyes'.

6. Where was the eighth ministerial meeting of the India-USA Economic and Financial Partnership Dialogue held recently?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Washington DC ☒
- C) Pune
- D) New York



- ✓ The eighth ministerial meeting of the India-U.S.A. Economic and Financial Partnership Dialogue held at Washington DC. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman and the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States Dr. Janet Yellen.
- ✓ During the meeting, discussions were held on recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, financial regulatory and technical collaboration, multilateral engagement, climate finance and anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism.

7. The Challenge, the world's first movie in space, is being made by which country?

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



- ✓ "The Challenge" is the world's first movie to be shot in space. Russian actress and a director along with a cosmonaut returned to Earth after spending 12 days in the International Space Station (ISS) shooting scenes for the movie. The trio departed ISS in their Soyuz MS-18 spacecraft, according to NASA. They blasted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan earlier this month.

8. A K Goel, MD & CEO of UCO Bank has been recently elected as the Chairman of which body?

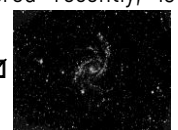
- A) Press Trust of India
- B) IBPS
- C) Indian Bank's Association ☒
- D) RBI Services Board



- ✓ The present Managing Director and CEO of UCO Bank Shri. A K Goel has been elected as the chairman of Indian Bank's Association for the year 2021-22. The election was held at the body's Managing Committee meeting held on 2021 Oct.14th. He succeeds Rajkiran Rai G, who is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Union Bank of India.

9. 'Hamilton's Object' which was discovered recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Physics
- B) Space Science ☒
- C) Virology
- D) Economics



- ✓ From the images captured by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, a team of astronomers led by Timothy Hamilton have discovered an unusual gravitational lensing configuration. It is named as 'Hamilton's Object'.

10. *Amoria thorae*, which was seen in the news recently, is a new species of?

- A) Marine Snail ☒
- B) Turtle
- C) Spider
- D) Crab



- ✓ *Amoria* is a genus of marine gastropods (snails and slugs). These predatory creatures are found in onshore and offshore waters around the entire coast of Australia. Some species extend into waters of southern Indonesia. Named *Amoria thorae*, the species is very rare.
-

1. Which public sector unit has recently been accorded "Maharatna" status?

- A) Power Finance Corporation ☒
- B) Airports Authority of India
- C) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- D) BEM Limited



- ✓ The Central Government has accorded "Maharatna" status to Power Finance Corporation (PFC). PFC is the 11th state-owned entity to get the status, joining the elite group of ONGC, Indian Oil Corporation, SAIL among others.
- ✓ "Maharatna" status is granted to a company which has recorded more than ₹5,000 crore of net profit for three consecutive years.

2. What is the theme of the 'World Arthritis Day 2021'?

- A) Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work ☒
- B) Leaving No one behind
- C) Misdiagnosis in Arthritis
- D) 25 years of Arthritis Day



- ✓ World Arthritis Day is observed every year on October 12 to spread awareness about the existence and impact of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases. The day was first observed in 1996 and this year the theme of the day is "Don't Delay, Connect Today: Time2Work".

3. Union Home Ministry began tripartite talks with Gorkha representatives and which state government?

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



- ✓ The Union Home Ministry began tripartite talks with Gorkha representatives from the Darjeeling Hills, Terai and Dooars region and the Government of West Bengal. The talks were held with the objective of resolving the demand of statehood in the North Bengal region.
- ✓ The talks were chaired by Home Minister Amit Shah. The second round of talks with the officials of the Government of West Bengal is scheduled in November 2021.

4. Which animal species is also called as 'Dhole'?

- A) Asiatic Wild Dog ☒
- B) Hyena
- C) Aardwolf
- D) African Elephant



- ✓ The 'Dhole' (Cuon alpinus) is an animal native to Central, South, East, and Southeast Asia. Other names for the species include Asiatic wild dog, Indian wild dog, whistling dog, red dog, and mountain wolf. It is a Schedule II species under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- ✓ A recent study has identified 114 priority tehsils where habitats can be consolidated to enhance population connectivity for the dhole or Asiatic Wild Dog. The animals are found across India.

5. Which institution has formed a Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins on Novel Pathogens (SAGO)?

- A) UNICEF
- B) World Health Organisation ☒
- C) FAO
- D) John Hopkins



- ✓ The Director-General of the World Health Organisation has set up the WHO Scientific Advisory Group for the Origins on Novel Pathogens (SAGO). The SAGO will advise the Secretariat on technical and scientific considerations on emerging and re-emerging pathogens.
- ✓ An Indian epidemiologist, Dr Raman Gangakhedkar, will be part of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Scientific Advisory Group for determining the origin of covid-19 pandemic.

6. Malabar series of exercises began as a bilateral naval exercise between India and which country, in 1992?

- A) USA ☒
- B) France
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ The Malabar series of exercises, which began as an annual bilateral naval exercise between India and the US in 1992. The Indian Navy is set to participate in the Second Phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise Malabar along with the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force, Royal Australian Navy and the United States Navy. It is being conducted in the Bay of Bengal from 12 - 15 Oct 2021. First Phase of the exercise was conducted in the Philippines Sea in August.

7. Which institution releases the 'Fiscal Monitor' Report?

- A) World Bank
- B) Reserve Bank of India
- C) International Monetary Fund ☒
- D) World Trade Organization



- ✓ As per the International Monetary Fund's 'Fiscal Monitor' Report, the global debt has jumped to a new high of USD 226 trillion. Advanced economies and China contributed more than 90 per cent to the accumulation of world-wide debt in 2020.
- ✓ India's debt increased from 68.9 per cent of its GDP in 2016 to 89.6 per cent in 2020. It is projected to jump to 90.6 per cent in 2021.

8. As per Government's recent notification released in 2021, what is the gestational limit for termination of pregnancy?

- A) 12 weeks
- B) 18 weeks
- C) 20 weeks
- D) 24 weeks ☒



- ✓ As per the government's new rules, the gestational limit for termination of a pregnancy in India has been increased to 24 weeks. Earlier the limit was 20 weeks.
- ✓ Under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Rules, 2021, the women including survivors of sexual assault, rape or incest, minors, those whose marital status changes during pregnancy (widowhood and divorce) and those with physical disabilities are included for the new limit.

9. Sela tunnel, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually conducted the final breakthrough blast of the Sela tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh, recently. The construction of the tunnel is expected to be over by June 2022.

Sela tunnel is expected be the world's largest bi-lane tunnel at an altitude of more than 13,000 feet.

- ✓ The construction is being undertaken by Border Roads Organisation (BRO). The tunnel goes through Sela Pass and will cut down the distance to the China border through Arunachal Pradesh by 10 km.

10. Henrietta Lacks, who received WHO Director-General's Award, was from which country?

- A) USA ☒
- B) Australia
- C) India
- D) Germany



- ✓ The Chief of the World Health Organisation honored the late Henrietta Lacks with the Director-General award. She an American woman whose cancer cells were taken without her knowledge during the 1950s. The cells provided the foundation for vast scientific inventions, including research about the coronavirus.
 - ✓ The 'HeLa' cell line, derived from the 1st two letters of Henrietta Lacks, helped in the development of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines.
-

1. What is the name of the consortium launched by the Department of Biotechnology, to monitor Bacterial and Viral infections?

- A) Bharat Health
- B) One Health ☒
- C) Covid Warrior
- D) Health Heroes



- ✓ The Department of Biotechnology has recently launched 'One Health' consortium, to monitor important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic and pathogens in the country. The project aims to study the use of existing diagnostic tests and the development of additional procedures for monitoring and understanding the spread of emerging diseases. One Health Consortium consists of 27 organisations led by DBT-National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad.

2. Tawang Garden Namgyal Lhatse (Tawang Monastery), which was seen in the news recently, is located in which country?

- A) India ☒
- B) Nepal
- C) Thailand
- D) South Korea



- ✓ The Tawang Garden Namgyal Lhatse (Tawang Monastery), which is the second largest monastery of Tibetan Buddhism, is located in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh. India strongly rejected China's objection to a recent visit to Arunachal Pradesh by Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu. China has been objecting to visits of Indian leaders to Arunachal Pradesh, citing it as a part of South Tibet.
- ✓ Tawang provides a strategic entry into India's northeastern region and is a critical point in the corridor between Tibet and Brahmaputra Valley.

3. President's Tatrakshak Medal is awarded to which armed force?

- A) Coast Guard ☒
- B) Border Security Force
- C) Indian Navy
- D) Central Reserve Police Force



- ✓ The President of India Ram Nath Kovind has awarded President's Tatrakshak Medal (PTM) and Tatrakshak Medal (TM) to Indian Coast Guard personnel. The awards are being given to the personnel of Indian Coast Guard on Republic Day and Independence Day every year, since 26 Jan 1990. The awards are given for their act of exemplary gallantry and meritorious service on the occasion of the Republic Day 2021.

4. "Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution" is awarded by which state?

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



- ✓ 'Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award' is the Government of Assam's highest civilian award for National Integration and National Contribution. Gopinath Bordoloi was a freedom fighter, Assam's first Chief Minister after independence.
- ✓ The award carries a prize of Rs.5 lakh, a citation. This year's award was presented by the Vice President M. Venkaiah.

5. Abiy Ahmed, has been sworn in as the Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Israel
- B) Iran
- C) Ethiopia ☒
- D) Venezuela



- ✓ Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has been sworn in for a new five-year term. The government has been facing a lot of challenges, including a long conflict in the northern region of Tigray. Abiy's Prosperity Party was declared the winner of parliamentary elections earlier this year. The prime minister was also the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize winner for restoring ties with neighbouring country Eritrea.

6. Which city is set to play host to the 40th edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF)?

- A) Mumbai
- B) New Delhi ☒
- C) Varanasi
- D) Ahmedabad



- ✓ India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) is set to conduct the 40th edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from November 14 to 27.
- ✓ The fair is to be conducted with the theme of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" with a focus on economy, export potential, infrastructure supply chain, demand and vibrant demography. The event is organised as a part of "AzadiKaAmritMahotsav".

7. When is World Habitat Day observed every year?

- A) First Monday of October ☒
- B) First Sunday of October
- C) Last Sunday of September
- D) Last Saturday of September



- ✓ Every year, First Monday of October is observed by the United Nations as "World Habitat Day", to stress on the basic right of all to adequate shelter and to highlight the state of our habitats. This year, it was observed on October 4. The theme for this year's World Habitat Day is "Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world".

8. The 'Ajeya Warrior' Defence exercise is held between India and which country?

- A) UK ☒
- B) France
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ India and the UK kickstarted a two-week military exercise 'Ajeya Warrior' at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand. It aims to strengthen bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries. As per the Indian Army, this edition of the 'Ajeya Warrior' exercise is part of an initiative to develop interoperability and sharing of expertise, it said.

9. Karuppur kalamkari paintings & wood carvings of Kallakurichi, which have received GI tags, belongs to which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Haryana



- ✓ Karuppur Kalamkari paintings and wood carvings of Kallakurichi, both belonging to the state of Tamil Nadu have received geographical indication or GI tag, from the Government of India. GI tag is awarded to products of specific geographical origin and it adds significance to the product. It is regulated under the Geographical Indications registration is administered by the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act of 1999.

10. When is the 'World Day Against the Death Penalty' observed every year?

- A) October 8
- B) October 10 ☒
- C) October 12
- D) October 14



- ✓ October 10 marks the World Day Against the Death Penalty. This year, the theme is focused on safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls around the world. According to Amnesty International's 2020 death penalty report, more than two-thirds of the world has now abolished the death penalty in law or practice.
- ✓ As many as 108 countries have completely abolished the death penalty for all crimes. As per the report, at least 483 people were known to have been executed in 2020.