

1. What is the theme of the "International Universal Health Coverage Day" 2021?

- A) Sustainable Health Coverage
- B) Leave No One's Health Behind: Invest in Health Systems for All ☒
- C) Universal access to healthcare
- D) Equitable and healthy society

- ✓ Every year December 12<sup>th</sup> is observed as the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day by the World Health Organisation. UHC ensures that all people get access to quality health services without any financial hardships.
- ✓ Universal health coverage has been inducted as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations. This year's (2021) is "Leave No One's Health Behind: Invest in Health Systems for All".

2. Island Territory of New Caledonia recently voted to stay part of which country?

- A) France ☒
- B) USA
- C) Japan
- D) Russia



- ✓ Voters in the French island territory of New Caledonia chose to stay part of France, in a referendum, hailed by French President Emmanuel Macron. Sonia Backes, President of the Southern Province region, announced the results, which showed 96 percent of those who took part chose to stay in France. The vote was monitored by the UN and regional powers.

3. 'Commercial Space Astronaut Wings program' is associated with which country?

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



- ✓ Commercial Space Astronaut Wings Program is implemented by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The program comes under the Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984 and was designed to recognize pilots and flight crew. Recently, FAA announced that it will no longer issue Commercial Space Astronaut Wings, the pins given to individuals reaching space but instead recognise on its website.

4. As per the updated DICGC Act, account holders can access their insured deposit amount within ..... days?

- A) 30
- B) 45
- C) 90 ☒
- D) 180



- ✓ Indian Government passed an amendment to the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act to ensure that account holders can access their insured deposit amount within 90 days.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a bank deposit insurance programme and said that Rs 1,300 crore had been paid to over 1 lakh depositors whose banks faced financial crises. 3 lakh such depositors were set to receive funds stuck in such accounts.

5. Buxa tiger reserve, recently seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- A) West Bengal ☒
- B) Andhra Pradesh
- C) Bihar
- D) Meghalaya



- ✓ A Royal Bengal Tiger has been spotted in Buxa tiger reserve in West Bengal, after at least 23 years, as per the West Bengal government. A picture of a tiger was captured on a trap camera in the forest of East Damanpur of Buxa tiger reserve. It was in 1998 that images of a Royal Bengal Tiger were captured at the reserve earlier. The reserve had lost its identity as a tiger reserve from the National Wild Life Board.

6. Noney Valley, where the world's tallest railway bridge pier is being constructed, is located in which state/UT?

- A) Sikkim
- B) Uttarakhand
- C) Manipur ☒
- D) Ladakh



- ✓ Railways is constructing the world's tallest railway bridge pier at Noney Valley in the state of Manipur with a height of 141 metres. It is a part of the 111 Kilometre long Jiribam–Imphal railway line, which aims to connect the capital of Manipur with the broad-gauge network of the country.
- ✓ The bridge at Noney Valley will surpass the Mala – Rijeka viaduct's existing record of 139 meters, located in Montenegro, Europe.

7. 'Hornbill Festival' is a cultural festival celebrated in which state/UT?

- A) Assam
- B) Nagaland ☒
- C) West Bengal
- D) Bihar



- ✓ Nagaland's iconic Hornbill Festival, called as the "festival of festivals", will be held in its traditional format, starting on December 1. This year is the 22nd edition of the festival. Last year, it was held virtually last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The 10-day cultural and tourism annually begins at the start of December and coincides with Nagaland's statehood day.

8. Archaeological ruins of Liangzhu City, a World Heritage site, is located in which country?

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



- ✓ Archaeological ruins of Liangzhu City are a World Heritage site. Archeologists have resolved the mystery of the Liangzhu culture in the Yangtze River Delta. It was among the world's most advanced Neolithic cultures. In recent research, a layer of clay points to a possible connection between the demise of the civilisation and floods of the Yangtze River or floods from the East China Sea.

9. Who is the author of the book "Naoroji: Pioneer of Indian Nationalism"?

- A) Dinyar Patel ☒
- B) Milan Vaishnav
- C) Ornit Shani
- D) Jairam Ramesh



- ✓ Writer Dinyar Patel won the prestigious Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2021 for his book Naoroji: Pioneer of Indian Nationalism. The Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize was instituted in 2018. It honours non-fiction literature from writers of all nationalities.
- ✓ The book is a biography of Naoroji, the 19th-century leader who founded the Indian National Congress. He was the first British MP of Indian origin.

10. Which Union Ministry is associated with the 'Dam Safety Bill, 2019' passed recently?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Jal Shakti ☒
- C) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



- ✓ The Rajya Sabha passed the Dam Safety Bill, 2019 recently. The union minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat clarified that the Bill was not intended to encroach upon the states' rights on their waters, dam ownership or maintenance, or even resources like power. The bill seeks to ensure the safety of dams across the country and prevent dam-related disasters, which cause great loss to life and property.