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SECOND WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



DECEMBER 2021

DECEMBER 08-14

1. What is the theme of the 'International Volunteer Day' in 2021?

- A) Volunteer now for our common future ☒
 B) World needs Volunteers
 C) Volunteering during Pandemic
 D) Welcoming Volunteers



- ✓ Every year, International Volunteer Day is observed on December 5 to encourage the role of volunteers at national and international level for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs). This day recognises the contribution of volunteers across the globe. UNGA signified 2001 as International Year of Volunteers. The theme of this year's 'International Volunteer Day' is 'Volunteer now for our common future'.

2. When is the 'World Soil Day' observed every year?

- A) December 3
 B) December 5 ☒
 C) December 7
 D) December 9



- ✓ World Soil Day is celebrated every year on December 5, to highlight people's attention to the importance of soil and its sustainable management. This year's campaign is based on the theme of "Halt soil salinization, boost soil productivity". It aims to raise awareness about the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being. The international observance was recommended by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002.

3. 'Ciprian Foias Prize' is associated with which field?

- A) Space Science
 B) Mathematics ☒
 C) Virology
 D) Business



- ✓ Eminent Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava, has been jointly selected for the inaugural \$5,000 Ciprian Foias Prize. He was awarded for his contribution in Operator Theory by the American Mathematical Society (AMS). Along with Professor Srivastava, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley, two other awardees are Adam Marcus and Daniel Spielman.

4. Which city played host to the first-ever 'India-Russia '2+2' dialogue'?

- A) Moscow
 B) New Delhi ☒
 C) Ahmedabad
 D) St Petersburg



- ✓ The first '2+2' ministerial dialogue scheduled to take place in Delhi. It will be held at the level of the foreign and defence ministers, will cover "political and defence issues of mutual interest". Until now, India held 2+2 format of meetings with member nations of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) – the US, Japan and Australia.
- ✓ Earlier, the 21st India Russia Annual Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin was held at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on December 6, 2021.

5. Ajaz Patel, who recently clinched 10 wickets in an innings, is a cricketer from which country?

- A) England
 B) New Zealand ☒
 C) Bangladesh
 D) South Africa



- ✓ New Zealand's left-arm spinner Ajaz Patel became only the third bowler in the 144-year-old history of Test cricket to take all 10 wickets in an innings. He achieved this feat on the second day of the second match against India. England's Jim Laker and India's Anil Kumble had achieved this significant feat in Test cricket. The 33-year-old player is playing in his 11th Test.

6. 'HAECHE-II', which was seen in the news recently, is an operation undertaken by which institution?

- A) Central Bureau of Investigation
 B) INTERPOL ☒
 C) Federal Bureau of Investigation
 D) International Monetary Fund



- ✓ Under a recent operation undertaken by the INTERPOL codenamed 'HAECHE-II', enforcement agencies in more than 20 countries have arrested over 1,000 individuals and seized about \$27 million of illicit funds. The programme is a part of a crackdown on cyber-enabled financial crime. India also participated in the global operation.
- ✓ The exercise targeted specific types of online fraud, such as romance scams, investment fraud and money laundering linked to illegal online gambling.

7. Which Indian cricketer recently became the third highest wicket-taker in Tests?

- A) Ravindra Jadeja
 B) R Ashwin ☒
 C) Ishant Sharma
 D) Mohammad Shami



- ✓ R Ashwin recently became the India's third-highest wicket-taker in Test cricket. The 35-year-old clinched his 418th wicket in the first Test against New Zealand, surpassing another Indian off-spinner Harbhajan Singh. Only Anil Kumble (619) and Kapil Dev (434) have more wickets than Ashwin, as of now.

8. Petr Fiala has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Australia
 B) Italy
 C) Greece
 D) Czech Republic ☒



- ✓ Petr Fiala – the leader of the Civic Democratic of Czech Republic, has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of the country. His appointment comes after a 5-party coalition secured a majority of 108 votes in the 200-seat parliament. Petr Fiala previously served as the country's Minister of Education, Youth and Sports from 2012 to 2013 and has been leader of the Civic Democratic Party since 2014.

9. Al Raisi, has been elected as the President of which international organization?

- A) United Nations
 B) International Monetary Fund
 C) INTERPOL ☒
 D) UNICEF



- ✓ Al Raisi – the Inspector General of the United Arab Emirates' Interior ministry has been elected as the President of Interpol, following three rounds of voting. He received 68.9 percent of votes cast by member countries. The International Criminal Police Organization, commonly known as the Interpol, facilitates worldwide police cooperation and

crime control. It is headquartered in Lyon, France.

10. Ramkumar Ramanathan, who recently won his maiden Challenger level singles title, is associated with which sports?

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



- ✓ Indian tennis player Ramkumar Ramanathan won his maiden Challenger level singles title, in the final clash of the ATP80 Manama event. The 27-year-old Ramkumar, seeded sixth and ranked 222 in the world, beat his Russian rival 6-1 6-4 in 68 minutes. The Indian player had lost six Challenger finals in his career before.
-

1. Where was the 22nd missile vessel Squadron (Killer Squadron) formally established?

- A) Mumbai ☒
- B) Visakhapatnam
- C) Goa
- D) Cochin



- ✓ The 22nd missile vessel Squadron was formally established at Mumbai in October 199. Indian President Ram Nath Kovind will award the President's standard to the 22nd missile vessel Squadron also known as the Killer Squadron. The President's standard is the same honour as the President's colours award given to a smaller military unit.

2. Which state has approved to implement Atma Nirbhar Krishak Integrated Development Scheme?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Uttar Pradesh ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Maharashtra



- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh government has given its approval to implement Atma Nirbhar Krishak Integrated Development Scheme in the state from 2021-22. Under the scheme 1475 farmer producer organisations will be formed in the next three years in each block of the state. It will also help to achieve the target of utilising the budget of 1000 crores allotted by the centre under Agriculture infrastructure fund.

3. Konyaks, who were in the news recently, are the largest tribes of which Indian state?

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



- ✓ The Indian Armed Force's firing killed 14 civilians in Oting village of Nagaland, which included Konyaks, the largest tribes in the state. They are known to be one of the fiercest warrior tribes in Nagaland. By 1980, they were the last to give up the practice of head-hunting, the practice of severing heads of enemies after attacking rival tribes. With a population of roughly 3 lakhs, Konyaks also inhabit parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Myanmar.

4. What is 'Sandhayak', which was recently launched by the Indian Navy?

- A) Survey vessel ☒
- B) Missile Launch Vehicle
- C) Amphibious warfare ship
- D) Aircraft Carrier



- ✓ The Indian Navy launched 'Sandhayak', the first of the four large survey vessels, in Kolkata. The primary role of these survey ships would be to conduct full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic survey of ports and harbours.
- ✓ The ships would be deployed for collecting oceanographic and geophysical data and determination of navigational routes. The contract for building four survey ships was signed between the Defence Ministry and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) in 2018.

5. Minsk agreements, seen sometimes in the news, are associated with which country?

- A) Israel
- B) Iran
- C) Ukraine ☒
- D) Afghanistan



- ✓ The United States has recently warned Russia not to invade Ukraine and urged both countries to return to the agreements designed to end a separatist war by Russian-speakers in eastern Ukraine. In 2014, Ukraine and the Russian-backed separatists agreed a 12-point ceasefire deal in the capital of Belarus- Minsk.
- ✓ Representatives of Russia, Ukraine, OSCE and the leaders of two pro-Russian separatist regions signed a 13-point agreement in 2015 in Minsk. These are called Minsk agreements.

6. What is the rank of India in Organ Donation, as per Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation (GODT)?

- A) First
- B) Third ☒
- C) Fifth
- D) Seventh



- ✓ 'Indian Organ Donation Day' celebration has been organized by National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) in New Delhi on November 27. The total number of organ transplants done per year in the country increased from 4990 in 2013 to 12746 in 2019.
- ✓ India now ranks third in the world only after USA and China as per the data available on the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation (GODT) website.

7. Saurav Ghosal is associated with which sport?

- A) Chess
- B) Squash ☒
- C) Cricket
- D) Boxing



- ✓ Indian professional squash player Saurav Ghosal has become the first Indian player to claim the Malaysian open. At the final event, Saurav Ghosal clinched the title by defeating former world No.4 Miguel Rodriguez of Colombia.
- ✓ On many occasions, the two players have played together and at one point were even trained by the same coach David Palmer.

8. Magdalena Andersson is the first female Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Iceland
- B) Sweden ☒
- C) Switzerland
- D) Australia



- ✓ Magdalena Andersson, leader of the centre-left Social Democratic Party, became the country's first female prime minister. But she resigned within hours of taking the job, after her budget was rejected in favour of one proposed by the opposition. Now Magdalena Andersson has been reappointed Prime Minister of the country.

9. When is the 'Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare' observed every year?

- A) November 28
- B) November 30 ☒
- C) December 2
- D) December 4



- ✓ The 'Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare' is observed by the United Nations on 30 November. The day is marked to pay tribute to the victims of chemical warfare.
- ✓ The day also highlights the pledge taken by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to eliminate the threat of chemical weapons.

10. Alipore Zoological Garden, which was making news, is located in which Indian state/UT?

- A) Madhya Pradesh
- B) Bihar
- C) West Bengal ☒
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata has introduced month-long adoption of animals to create public awareness about them. The Zoo also had year-long adoption process in practice. As per the zoo officials, adoption fees have been lowered, and people are being encouraged to adopt lesser-popular birds and animals, besides popular ones such as deer, tigers and chimpanzees.

1. Which Union Ministry is implementing the umbrella scheme named 'Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana' (AVYAY)?

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



- ✓ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing an Umbrella scheme namely Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana (AVYAY). The scheme aims for welfare of Senior Citizens across the country. This has several components, namely Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY), SACRED, IPSrC, SAPSrC among others.

2. What is the name of the portal launched by Ministry of Civil Aviation for seamless air travel during COVID?

- A) Air Suvidha ☒
- B) Bharat Travel
- C) Pradhan Mantri Aviation
- D) Welcome India



- ✓ Ministry of Civil Aviation launched the 'Air Suvidha' portal in August 2020 for seamless air travel during Covid pandemic. Recently, in the wake of the Omicron threat, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare mandated contactless self-declaration at Air Suvidha portal. It aims to provide hassle-free air travel to all international passengers arriving in India.

3. Which space agency launched its 'Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD)'?

- A) ISRO
- B) NASA ☒
- C) Blue Origin
- D) SpaceX



- ✓ On December 7, NASA launched its new Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD). It is the agency's first-ever laser communications system from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. The LCRD will help the NASA to test optical communication in space. At present, most NASA spacecraft use radio frequency communications to send data. LCRD has two optical terminals – one to receive data from a user spacecraft, and the other to transmit data to ground stations.

4. Which Indian bureaucrat was invited to join the board of advisers of International 'IDEA'?

- A) Sunil Arora ☒
- B) P Rawat
- C) A K Joti
- D) Nasim Zaidi



- ✓ Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora has been invited to join the board of advisers at the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.
- ✓ The institute is also known as International IDEA which has a mission to support sustainable democracy. Established in 1995, International IDEA is an intergovernmental organisation based in Stockholm, Sweden. International IDEA currently has 34 member countries.

5. As per the 'World Malaria Report 2021', what is the number of estimated malaria deaths in 2020?

- A) 1.27 lakhs
- B) 2.27 lakhs
- C) 4.27 lakhs
- D) 6.27 lakhs ☒



- ✓ World Malaria Report 2021 has been released by the World Health Organization (WHO). As per the report, global efforts to tackle malaria suffered due to COVID-19 in 2020. There were estimated 627,000 malaria deaths in 2020, which is an increase of 12 per cent over 2019.
- ✓ The report also warns that if expeditious action is not taken, the world is in the danger of seeing an immediate resurgence of the disease, especially in Africa.

6. Which institution released 'The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021' report?

- A) Food and Agriculture Organization ☒
- B) NABARD
- C) NITI Aayog
- D) World Bank



- ✓ The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) released 'The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2021' report. As per the report, food costs could increase for up to 845 million people if a disruption to critical transport links occurs. It also highlighted the need to make agri-food systems resilient to address food security.

7. Which country showcased the Y-8Q anti-submarine warfare aircraft?

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



- ✓ China recently showcased Y-8Q anti-submarine warfare aircraft. The People Liberation Army (PLA) Navy's Y-8Q aircraft is also known as KQ-200. This was launched amidst the deepening engagement between Taiwan and the US. Taiwan claimed that at least 5 Chinese warplanes had entered its Air Defense Identification Zone (AIDZ).

8. Which institution developed the 'Bio-jet fuel', which has been approved for use on military aircraft of IAF?

- A) Indian Institute of Petroleum ☒
- B) Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation
- C) Indian Institute of Remote Sensing
- D) Bharat Electronics Limited



- ✓ The Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research developed the 'Bio-jet fuel'. It has been formally approved for use on military aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF), Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC). It is a regulatory body under DRDO.

9. 'Hunar Haat' is organized by which ministry, has received silver medal at the India International Trade Fair, 2021?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Minority Affairs ☒
- C) Ministry of Defence
- D) Ministry of Skill Development



- ✓ The 'Hunar Haat' is a platform provided by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs to showcase the expertise of artisans/craftsmen of India and explore the opportunities of employment under "Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTAAD)". Recently, the 33rd Hunar Haat was organized at Delhi, which received silver medal at the India International Trade Fair, 2021.

10. Where is the India International Science Festival to be held from December 10th, 2021?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Lucknow
- C) Varanasi
- D) Goa ☒



- ✓ India International Science Festival IISF 2021 is being organized jointly by Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and NGO Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) and would be held from 10th December 2021, for 4 days in Goa. This year's festival would contain Science Film Festival, Science Literature Festival, Engineering Students Festival, Village Festival etc.
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1. Which is the first airline in India to have launched an ESG report?

- A) Air India
B) Spice Jet
C) IndiGo ☒
D) Vistara



- ✓ IndiGo was the first airline in India to have launched an ESG report. IndiGo announced that it has signed an agreement with CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), Dehradun to join hands in deploying sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in India and across the world.
- ✓ Under this partnership, IndiGo and CSIR-IIP will enter into arrangements for projects for SAF based on techno-commercial feasibility. They will also focus on Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) value creation.

2. Which is the world's most valuable edtech company, as of 2021?

- A) Duolingo
B) Byju's ☒
C) Tribal-learning
D) Coursera



- ✓ Bangalore-based Byju's is an Indian multinational educational technology (ed-tech) company. It is the world's most valuable ed-tech company with the m-cap of \$18 billion. Byju's has acquired Austria-headquartered GeoGebra and the value of the transaction is about \$100 million. GeoGebra is an interactive mathematics learning tool. This is also the ninth major acquisition of Byju's.

3. The SAARC Charter was adopted in which city on December 8, 1985?

- A) New Delhi
B) Dhaka ☒
C) Kathmandu
D) Colombo



- ✓ The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Charter Day is observed every year on 8th December. On this day in 1985, SAARC Charter was adopted in Dhaka, during the first summit of the group. This year also marks the 37th Anniversary of the regional group. SAARC has organised 18 summits since 1985.

4. The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Rural) till which year, from 2021?

- A) 2023
B) 2024 ☒
C) 2025
D) 2030



- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Rural) for another three years till March 2024. The extension of the scheme will help in the construction of the remaining 155.75 lakh houses. It will help achieve the target of 2.95 crore 'pucca' houses.

5. Kuno National Park is located in which state?

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



- ✓ In one of the world's largest intercontinental animal translocation, Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park is set to receive and inhabit 13 African cheetahs by early 2022. Cheetah – the fastest animal on earth was described as extinct in India in 1952 since the last surviving cheetah in India was hunted down in Chhattisgarh.

6. Which word has been chosen as the "2021 word of the year" by Merriam-Webster?

- A) Vaccine ☒
B) Quarantine
C) Infection
D) Isolation



- ✓ Merriam-Webster is an American company which publishes reference, especially dictionaries and is one of the oldest dictionary publishers in the USA. Merriam-Webster has chosen the word "vaccine" as the 2021 word of the year, since it was the word that was extremely high in its data every single day in 2021.

7. 'Trade Emerge' is an online platform of which Bank?

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



- ✓ Leading Indian Private Bank – ICICI Bank has launched an online platform named Trade Emerge, which offers banking and other digital services to exporters and importers across India. The platform makes cross border trade hassle-free and convenient and acts as a single point of contact for various Export – Import services.

8. Which Indian state held its famous Cherry Blossom Festival recently?

- A) Arunachal Pradesh
B) Himachal Pradesh
C) Meghalaya ☒
D) West Bengal



- ✓ Shillong's famous Cherry Blossom Festival was held between November 25 and 27, this year. The festival was cancelled due to COVID outbreak last year. Meghalaya's Chief Minister Cornad Sangma announced about the festival in Twitter. Several cherry blossoms are seen across Meghalaya's capital city, Shillong. The festival includes various competitions, programmes and other art events.

9. Which institution released a report titled 'Designing the future of dispute Resolution'?

- A) NALSA
B) NITI Aayog ☒
C) NHRC
D) Law and Justice Ministry



NITI Aayog

- ✓ The NITI Aayog released a report titled "Designing the future of dispute Resolution: the ODR Policy Plan for India". It proposed measures at three levels to address the challenges in adopting ODR.
- ✓ The report recommends increasing digital infrastructure, building capacity, regulatory framework, including permission for online notarisation, etc.

10. Beyond APICA Project, which was sometimes seen in the news recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Ice Exploration ☒
- B) Space Exploration
- C) Artificial Intelligence
- D) Cryptocurrency



- ✓ The Beyond European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica (EPICA) is the Oldest Ice project funded by the European Commission. It is being carried out by the Institute of Polar Sciences of the Cnr (National Research Council of Italy) and The British Antarctic Survey (BAS). The project aims to collect the oldest continuous ice core in Antarctica, providing a record of the climate spanning 1.5 million years.
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1. Which Indian state has recently reported bird flu cases and culled over 12000 ducks?

- A) Tamil Nadu
B) Assam
C) Kerala ☒
D) Bihar



- ✓ Kerala recently reported bird flu cases in the Alappuzha district and a total of 12,000 ducks were culled in Thakazhi gram panchayat, which has been declared as a containment zone.
- ✓ More samples from different areas have also been sent to ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal for testing and the identification of bird flu cases.

2. Which South American country recently approved a law allowing same-sex marriage?

- A) Argentina
B) Chile ☒
C) Peru
D) Bolivia



- ✓ The Chilean President Sebastián Piñera recently signed a law permitting same-sex couples to marry and adopt. The ceremony was attended by activists for LGBT and broader human rights. As per the country, the law 'puts all love relationships between two people on an equal footing'.

3. Who was Google's most searched-for personality in India in 2021?

- A) Neeraj Chopra ☒
B) Elon Musk
C) P V Sindhu
D) Mirabai Chanu



- ✓ Google released its 'Year in Search 2021' list, which displays what was searched the most on its search engine around the world. Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra became the most searched-for personality in India in 2021. Among the most searched-for subjects on Google in India in 2021, ICC T20 World Cup and Indian Premier League, CoWin, Euro Cup, and Tokyo Olympics occupied the first five spots.

4. The NIPER [Amendment] Bill recently passed in the Parliament seeks to accord 'institute of national importance' status to ___?

- A) Institutes of pharmaceutical education and research ☒
B) Institutes of petroleum research
C) Institutes of physical education
D) Institutes of philosophical research



- ✓ Parliament recently passed the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill.
- ✓ It aims to accord the status of 'institute of national importance' to six more institutes of pharmaceutical education and research situated in Ahmedabad, Hajipur, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Guwahati and Raebareilly. It also aims to set up an advisory council for them.

5. NITI Aayog announced that it is set to establish will be establishing 1,000 Atal Tinkering Laboratories in which state/UT?

- A) Jammu and Kashmir ☒
B) Goa
C) Sikkim
D) Arunachal



- ✓ NITI Aayog announced that it is set to establish will be establishing 1,000 Atal Tinkering Laboratories in Jammu and Kashmir. Out of them, as many as 187 will be established by the end of this financial year.
- ✓ The ATL is an initiative of NITI Aayog to boost the cognitive development in children by creating avenues for experimenting and understanding of scientific ideas.

6. Which State Police launched the 'Call your Cop' mobile App, to connect distressed citizens with Police?

- A) Nagaland ☒
B) West Bengal
C) Kerala
D) Odisha



- ✓ The Nagaland Police recently launched 'Call your Cop' mobile App, which will enable all citizens of the state and those in distress to get in touch with the police, in a single click. The features in the Application include directory, alerts, tourist tips, SOS, nearest police station and search.

7. Hanukkah, is a celebration held every year by which group of population?

- A) Jews ☒
B) Christians
C) Muslims
D) Sikhs



- ✓ Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a Jewish festival celebrating the Jewish victory over a tyrant king. The eight-day Jewish celebration of Hanukkah is being held across the UAE between Sunday, November 28 and December 5, for a second year in a row after the Abraham Accords.

8. Project Kaveri, which was seen in the news sometime, is associated with which field?

- A) River Management
B) Development of Indigenous Engines ☒
C) Preservation of Language
D) Climate Change



- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) sanctioned the indigenous Kaveri engine project in 1989. The project ran for 30 years with an expenditure of ₹2035.56 crore saw the development of nine full prototype engines and four core engines.
- ✓ Recently, it was announced that the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas is at present integrated with an imported engine, and it is proposed to develop indigenous engines for powering aircraft such as LCA variants and Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) in future.

9. Alexia Putellas, who won the women's Ballon d'Or award 2021, belongs to which country?

- A) France
B) Spain ☒
C) UK
D) Argentina



- ✓ Spanish Footballer Alexia Putellas has been awarded the Ballon d'Or Feminin for 2021 during the 2021 Ballon d'Or France Football award. FC Barcelona's midfielder Alexia Putell is just the third female player to win the prize after Ada Hegerberg and Megan Rapinoe.
- ✓ Lionel Messi has bagged the Ballon d'Or award for a record-extending seventh time. 19-year-old Pedri of Barcelona won the Kopa Trophy

for the best player aged under-21.

10. What is the GDP at Constant Prices in the second quarter-Q2 of 2021-22, as per the NSO's estimates of GDP?

- A) 5.6
- B) 6.4
- C) 8.4 ☒
- D) 9.8



- ✓ The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the second quarter (July-September) of 2021-22 (Q2 2021-22).
- ✓ GDP at Constant Prices in Q2 2021-22 is estimated at ₹35.73 lakh crore, as against ₹32.97 lakh crore in Q2 2020-21, with a growth of 8.4 percent as compared to 7.4 percent contraction in Q2 2020-21.

1. Catherine Russell, who has been seen in the news recently, is the new head of which global institution?

- A) World Bank
- B) World Economic Forum
- C) UNICEF ☒
- D) IMF



- ✓ Catherine Russell, an assistant to US President Joe Biden, has been appointed as the next head of the UN children's agency UNICEF. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced that Russell will succeed Henrietta Fore, who resigned in July.

2. Marmosa (mouse opossums) are endemic to which region?

- A) America ☒
- B) Antarctica
- C) Europe
- D) Asia



- ✓ Mouse opossums are relatively small members of the Neotropical marsupial family Didelphidae. They are endemic to Americas, especially to South America. Recently a newly-identified species, named the Adler's mouse opossum (*Marmosa adleri*), is among the smallest subgenus *Micoureus*. It was named after the researcher Greg Adler.

3. Which Indian state has witnessed cases of Covidengue, a combination of both COVID-19 and Dengue?

- A) Kerala
- B) Telangana ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Gujarat



- ✓ Telangana is currently witnessing cases of Covidengue, which occurs when a COVID-19 patient is infected with the Dengue virus. Over 8 cases of Covidengue cases have been recorded in Telangana.
- ✓ The symptoms of this syndemic disease include "distress, shortness of breathing, chills, body pains and joint pains. COVID-19 and Dengue have similar kinds of symptoms.

4. What is the status of "Bryde's whale", seen in the news recently?

- A) Extinct
- B) Endangered ☒
- C) Least Concern
- D) Near Threatened



- ✓ Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whales have been classified as "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act. They are the only known resident baleen whales in the Gulf of Mexico, with less than 100 individuals left in the population. The carcass of an endangered Bryde's whale was washed ashore near the border of Puri and Ganjam districts of Odisha.

5. Jhilli Dalabehera, who won a gold medal in Commonwealth championship, is associated with which sports?

- A) Archery
- B) Shooting
- C) Weight-Lifting ☒
- D) Boxing



- ✓ Indian weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera has won the gold medal in the women's 49kg category at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Earlier, Sanket Mahadev

Sargar clinched the gold medal in the men's 55kg snatch category and also created a new snatch national record.

- ✓ India is competing in both Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships and World Weightlifting Championships.

6. Professor Rafiqul Islam who passed away recently, was a scholar and cultural activist of which country?

- A) India
- B) Bangladesh ☒
- C) Pakistan
- D) Afghanistan



- ✓ National Professor Rafiqul Islam, is a scholar, and cultural activist from Bangladesh. He recently passed away at the age of 87. The linguist actively participated in the Language Movement in 1952 and he was made the national professor by the government in 2018.
- ✓ He received the Independence Award, Ekushey Padak, and the Bangla Academy Literary Award. He was also awarded the International Mother Language Award.

7. Who is the first President of Barbados, which became the world's newest republic?

- A) Dame Sandra Mason ☒
- B) Magdalena Andersson
- C) Katrín Jakobsdóttir
- D) Sanna Marin



- ✓ After 396 years of becoming a British Colony, the Caribbean Island country Barbados has recently become the world's newest republic. The country removed Queen Elizabeth II as the head of the state. Dame Sandra Mason was sworn in as the President by the chief justice of the country. Barbadian singer Rihanna was declared a national hero.

8. What is the total GST Collection during the month of November 2021?

- A) ₹0.75 lakh crore
- B) ₹0.95 lakh crore
- C) ₹1 lakh crore
- D) ₹1.3 lakh crore ☒



- ✓ According to data released by the Union finance ministry, the GST Revenue was at ₹1,31,526 crore for the second month in a row. It is 25% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year and 27% over the 2019 value. The highest ever GST collection of ₹1,41,384 crores was reported in April. This is the fifth consecutive month in which collections have crossed the ₹1 lakh crore benchmark.

9. Which country has delivered advanced Heron drones to Indian Armed Forces?

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



- ✓ Israel has delivered advanced Heron drones to Indian Armed Forces, which are far more advanced than the Herons in the existing inventory with better anti-jamming capability.
- ✓ The acquisition of these drones has been done under the emergency financial powers granted by Indian government to the defence forces under which they can buy equipment and systems worth ₹500 crores

to upgrade their military capabilities.

10. How many elephants have been killed in last 10 years, as per the recent data from Environment Ministry?

- A) 160
- B) 360
- C) 660
- D) 1160 ☒



- ✓ After a Tamilnadu-based RTI activist filed an RTI query over the deaths of wild elephants before the Ministry of Environment and Forests' 'Project elephant' division, it was revealed that as many as 1160 wild elephants have been killed in the last 10 years.
- ✓ The elephants were killed due to various reasons such as being hit by trains, electrocution and poaching, across the country in the last decade till December 2020.