

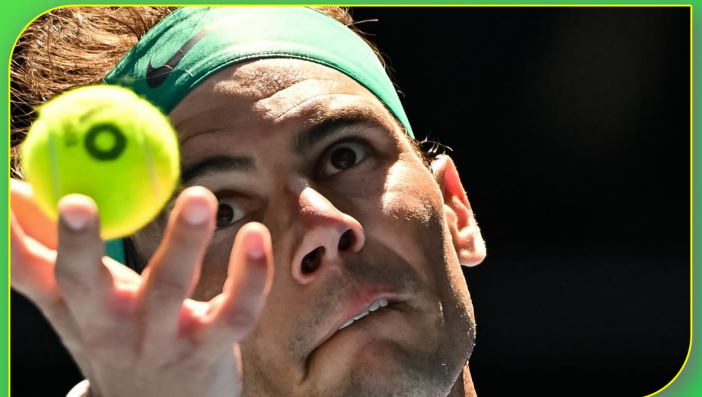
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# CURRENT AFFAIRS



1. What is the name of the carbon-rich, diamond-shaped, near-Earth asteroid, recently seen in the news?

- A) Apollo  
B) Ryugu ☒  
C) Eros  
D) Bennu



- ✓ Ryugu, also known as 1999 JU3, is a carbon-rich, diamond-shaped, near-Earth asteroid. An analysis of the JAXA's Hayabusa-2 sample of material returned to Earth from Ryugu shows that the material is very dark, reflecting only 2% of light.

2. Which state/UT Police has launched Project 'Abhaya', for safety and security of girls?

- A) Punjab  
B) New Delhi ☒  
C) Odisha  
D) West Bengal



- ✓ Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana launched Project 'Abhaya', a joint initiative of the Delhi Police force and an NGO for safety and security of girls. Delhi Police and NGO Shakti Foundation are implementing the project, which is aimed at empowering, educating and making children aware.

3. Ganymede, which was seen in the news recently, is the moon of which planet?

- A) Saturn  
B) Jupiter ☒  
C) Venus  
D) Neptune



- ✓ NASA has recently released noises captured near Jupiter's moon Ganymede. Ganymede is also the largest moon in our solar system. Ganymede also has its own magnetic field, which is not present in other moons of the solar system. NASA launched the Juno spacecraft, to observe Jupiter's neighbourhood. Earlier this year, Juno captured Ganymede's electromagnetic waves.

4. T-Setu, which has been recently inaugurated, is the longest bridge of which state?

- A) Karnataka  
B) Odisha ☒  
C) Bihar  
D) West Bengal



- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik recently inaugurated T-Setu, the State's longest bridge over Mahanadi in Cuttack district. The 3.4 km long bridge is located in the middle of the river, has been built in the shape of English alphabet 'T' at a cost of Rs 111 crore.

5. Pankaj Advani and Dhruv Sitwala are associated with which sports?

- A) Cricket  
B) Tennis  
C) Badminton  
D) Billiards ☒



- ✓ Indian ace billiards player Pankaj Advani has won the 11th national billiards title by defeating Dhruv Sitwala at the final game. Pankaj

Advani is a 23-time world champion in snooker. He has won the IBSF World Billiards Championship 15 times.

- ✓ In 2018, he has been awarded with the Padma Bhushan Award by the Government of India. Dhruv Sitwala has reached three world finals, and twice been Asian Billiards champion.

6. "Dragon spacecraft" belongs to which space agency?

- A) NASA  
B) Virgin Atlantic  
C) Space X ☒  
D) Blue Origin



- ✓ SpaceX's 'Dragon spacecraft' has been launched for making its 24th commercial cargo supply for NASA to the International Space Station on 21st December 2021. The launch took place from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

7. Indigenously developed next-gen armoured engineer reconnaissance vehicle was inducted into which armed force?

- A) Indian Army ☒  
B) Indian Navy  
C) Indian Air Force  
D) Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ The first set of indigenously developed next-gen armoured engineer reconnaissance vehicle was inducted into the Corps of Engineers of Indian Army. The system has been designed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by Ordnance Factory Medak and Bharat Electronics Limited, Pune. The vehicle can provide a real-time update to force commanders.

8. Which state government has notified 1 percent reservation to Transgenders across all ranks in the Police department?

- A) Tamil Nadu  
B) Karnataka ☒  
C) Odisha  
D) Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The Karnataka state government has decided to give 1 per cent reservation to the transgenders across all ranks in the Police department. This move by the state will help bring transgenders into the mainstream and remove the stereotypes against them in society. The Department has also notified the recruitment process regarding the same.

9. Which country recently launched the "Inmarsat-6 F1 satellite"?

- A) USA  
B) Japan ☒  
C) Israel  
D) UAE



- ✓ Japan has recently launched an advanced commercial communications satellite named 'Inmarsat-6 F1' aboard H-2A rocket. It is a 5,470-kilogram satellite and is one of the largest and most sophisticated commercial communications satellites ever launched.

10. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has recently launched an intelligent transport system in which place?

- A) Delhi Expressway ☒
- B) Ahmedabad Expressway
- C) Bengaluru Expressway
- D) Lucknow Expressway



- ✓ Union minister Nitin Gadkari has recently inaugurated an intelligent transport system at the Eastern Peripheral Expressway at Delhi.
  - ✓ This aims to minimize traffic related problems and improve safety of the travellers. The intelligent transport system is the one which has state of the art transportation infrastructure which gives prior information about traffic to improve driver's comfort, detect any accident and sends alerts to ensure that an ambulance reaches the spot in the shortest possible time.
-

1. Which state has recently passed an amendment to the Cattle Preservation Act, 1950?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Assam ☒



- ✓ The legislative assembly of the state of Assam has recently passed an amendment bill, which seeks to modify the Cattle Preservation Act, 1950 and strengthen the same. The additions made in the bill will provide for ease of transportation of cattle for agricultural purposes and ensure stringent punishment for cattle smugglers.

2. NMCG-TERI's Center of Excellence (CoE) on water reuse is set to come up in which place?

- A) Gurugram ☒
- B) New Delhi
- C) Mumbai
- D) Kolkata



- ✓ The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have launched the NMCG-TERI's Center of Excellence (CoE) on Water Reuse, which would come up at TERI campus, Gurugram – Haryana. The Center is being established to foster research and innovation and identify knowledge gaps for research and support all forms of research in water reuse.

3. Which state launched 'Meendum Manjappai' scheme to promote use of cloth bags?

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



- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin launched 'Meendum Manjappai' scheme to promote the use of cloth bags by the public and discourage the use of plastic bags.
- ✓ The state has disconnected electricity from 130 factories so far due to violations of the single-use plastics ban. Yellow-coloured cloth bags were extensively used in the state during auspicious occasions.

4. Which Indian state stands first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM)?

- A) Karnataka
- B) Telangana ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM). The scheme was launched four years ago to promote local economic development, enhance basic services and create well planned clusters. Sangareddy and Kamareddy districts claimed the first two positions among the 300 clusters across the country, where the programme is being implemented.

5. Moyuka Uchijima, who recently won the Women's ITF singles title, is from which country?

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



- ✓ Japanese tennis player Moyuka Uchijima won her maiden \$25,000 Women's ITF singles title. She defeated Diana Marcinkevica of Latvia in the singles final of the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the NECC Deccan \$25,000 Women's ITF Championships. Another Japanese pair Funa Kozaki and Misaki Matsuda won the second place in doubles title.

6. Which Union Ministry is implementing 'Gram Ujala programme'?

- A) Ministry of Power ☒
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



- ✓ Gram Ujala scheme is a flagship scheme of the Union Ministry of Power. Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) is providing high quality LED bulbs with 3 years guarantee at a cost of INR 10 per bulb in exchange of working incandescent bulbs. Recently, CESL has achieved a remarkable milestone of distributing 50 lakhs LED bulbs under Project Crore of Gram Ujala programme.

7. Which Asian Country recently unveiled its National Security Policy?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Pakistan ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ Pakistan's Cabinet endorsed the country's first-ever National Security Policy (NSP), which emphasised that economic progress should be at the center of national security. The Cabinet has adopted the document which was approved by the high-powered National Security Committee (NSC). The Policy is a five-year policy document covering the period 2022-26.

8. The latest version of 'Consumer Protection Act' was passed in which year?

- A) 2010
- B) 2015
- C) 2019 ☒
- D) 2021

2019

- ✓ The Union Government in exercise of the powers conferred by the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 has notified the Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021. As per the new rules, Direct selling entity and direct sellers are prohibited from Promoting a Pyramid Scheme or enroll any person to such scheme or participate in such arrangement. They are also prohibited from participating in money circulation scheme in the name of direct selling business.

9. Which state's legislative council has passed a bill to give more powers to Higher Education Minister in the state-run varsities?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Andhra Pradesh
- C) Maharashtra ☒
- D) Telangana



- ✓ The Maharashtra Legislative Council passed the Maharashtra Public University Act, 2016 (Third Amendment) bill. It seeks to give more powers to the Higher and Technical Education Minister in the state-run varsities.

- ✓ The bill also allows the minister to make recommendations to the Governor who is the chancellor of the universities. It also proposes

appointment of the Minister as pro-chancellor of the universities.

10. As per the Ratings agency ICRA, what is the estimated real GDP Growth of India in FY 2022?

- A) 12.5%
- B) 11%
- C) 10%
- D) 9% ☒



- ✓ The Ratings agency ICRA has maintained its forecast of a 9.0% GDP expansion for India in FY2022. It maintained that a K-shaped divergence will be seen amongst the formal and informal sectors of the economy. The ratings agency also expects the economy to maintain a similar 9.0% growth in the next fiscal year FY2023.

1. KSLV-II Nuri rocket, is the first domestically produced space launch vehicle of which country?

- A) South Korea ☒
- B) Israel
- C) UAE
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ South Korea's first domestically produced space launch vehicle KSLV-II Nuri rocket failed due to a loose helium tank. All the three stages of the rocket worked, taking it to a height of 700 kilometres, and the 1.5-tonne payload separated successfully. The mission failed as the third-stage engine stopped burning 46 seconds earlier than schedule.

2. Which country launched the 'Better Health Smoke-Free' campaign?

- A) Australia
- B) UK ☒
- C) India
- D) France



- ✓ The UK government has launched a new initiative named 'Better Health Smoke-Free' campaign, which highlights the impact of adult smokers on younger people. The campaign has urged the smokers to quit smoking. As per the data released by the campaign, 4.9 per cent of teenagers whose parents smoke have also adopted the habit. New Zealand has also set goals to go smoke-free by 2030.

3. 'Financial Stability Report (FSR)' is the flagship report released by which institution?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) Reserve Bank of India ☒
- C) World Bank
- D) Asian Development Bank



- ✓ 'Financial Stability Report (FSR)' is a half-yearly report released by the 'Reserve Bank of India'. The recent edition of the report was released by RBI. As per the report, the retail-led credit growth model in India is beginning to face issues due to two factors, increase in defaults in the consumer finance portfolio and slowdown in the new credit segment.

4. Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah is the Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Bahrain
- B) Kuwait ☒
- C) Oman
- D) Saudi Arabia



- ✓ Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah is the Prime Minister of Kuwait. Kuwait has recently formed a new cabinet with a new finance minister and three opposition legislators. The cabinet has only one female minister. It includes three opposition MPs and one pro-government lawmaker.

5. Which country is the new member of the BRICS New Development Bank?

- A) Italy
- B) Egypt ☒
- C) Israel
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ The BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) announced that it will add Egypt as its new member. NDB was established by BRICS nations, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, in the year 2015.
- ✓ Egypt is the fourth new member admitted into NDB, after Bangladesh, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Uruguay. Marcos Troyjo is the President of the NDB.

6. Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) is implemented by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Power ☒
- B) Ministry of Atomic Energy
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Coal



- ✓ The Government of India has approved the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to improve the efficiencies of DISCOMs by providing financial assistance. Two PSUs-REC and PFC have been nominated as nodal agencies for implementing the scheme. Assam and Meghalaya have been recently announced as frontrunners for Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

7. "Airgun Surrender Abhiyan", is being implemented in which state/UT?

- A) Chhattisgarh
- B) Arunachal Pradesh ☒
- C) Assam
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ 'Airgun Surrender Abhiyan' is being implemented in Arunachal Pradesh. Under the programme, people are voluntarily surrendering their airguns to stop indiscriminate hunting of birds. PM Narendra Modi recently appreciated about the Airgun Surrender Abhiyan.

8. HDFC Bank has tied up with which bank, to expand its banking services to semi-urban and rural areas?

- A) India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) ☒
- B) Kerala Gramin Bank
- C) Tamil Nadu Grama Bank
- D) South Indian Bank



- ✓ HDFC Bank has tied up with India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to offer its banking services to the unbanked segments in semi-urban and rural areas. An MoU was signed between HDFC Bank and IPPB to cater to the 4.7 crore customer base of IPPB, by providing access to finance. About 90 per cent of IPPB customers reside in rural areas.

9. India is set to chair the counter-terrorism committee at UNSC in which year?

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



- ✓ India is set to chair the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) during the year 2022. India had earlier chaired this committee in 2012. In this tenure, India also chairs the Taliban Sanctions Committee. India is set to chair the 15-nation council for two years.

10. What is the expansion of 'FFV-SHEV', related to the recent guidelines of Union Road Transport and Highways Ministry?

- A) Flex Fibre Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles
- B) Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles ☒
- C) Flex Fibre Substitute Hybrid Electric Vehicles
- D) Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles



- ✓ Union Road Transport and Highways Ministry has released guidelines regarding Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFV) and Flex Fuel Strong Hybrid Electric Vehicles (FFV-SHEV). The Automobile Manufacturers are advised to manufacture the vehicles complying with BS-6 Norms within a period of six months.
-

1. Felis silvestris ornate is the scientific name of which animal, spotted for the first time in Madhya Pradesh's Panna Tiger Reserve?

- A) Indian Desert Cat ☒
- B) Deer
- C) African Leopard
- D) Asian Elephant



- ✓ An Indian Desert Cat has been spotted for the first time in Madhya Pradesh's Panna Tiger Reserve (PTR). "Felis silvestris ornate" is the scientific name of the species. The Indian Desert Cat is usually found at the Thar desert in Rajasthan. A fishing cat, one of the endangered animals in India, was earlier spotted in the reserve.

2. The GST Council has decided to defer the increase in GST Rate on which product?

- A) Textile ☒
- B) Automobile
- C) Mobile Phones
- D) Cotton



- ✓ The GST Council decided to defer the increase in the rate for textiles to 12% from 5%. It has referred the matter to a panel of Ministers, to review Rate Rationalisation. The GST on all readymade textile items, except those made with cotton, was earlier hiked to 12 per cent. The GST on footwear, except those below Rs 1,000, was also hiked to 12 per cent from 5 per cent. State representatives from Gujarat, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu opposed the hike.

3. Which state government slashed Rs 25 per litre on petrol price for two-wheelers owned by the poor?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Odisha
- C) Jharkhand ☒
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren announced concession of Rs 25 per litre on petrol price for two-wheelers owned by the poor. The concession will be given for 10 litres of petrol for every month. An amount of Rs 25 per litre would be transferred to the bank account of poor ration card holders.

4. What is the deadline for KYC updation for bank accounts, as per the recent notification of RBI?

- A) January 31, 2022
- B) March 31, 2022 ☒
- C) June 30, 2022
- D) September 30, 2022



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the last date for KYC updation for bank accounts by three months to March 31 next year. The deadline has been extended due to prevalent uncertainty due to new variant of COVID-19.
- ✓ RBI had relaxed the rules first in May last year due to pandemic. It also announced that banking services should not be restricted because the KYC documents are not updated by the customer.

5. Which is India's first indigenously developed Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) protein sub-unit vaccine for COVID-19?

- A) CORBEVAXTM ☒
- B) NOVAVAX
- C) DIVIVAX
- D) SEROVAXTM



- ✓ India's first indigenously developed Receptor Binding Domain (RBD) protein sub-unit vaccine for COVID-19 is CORBEVAXTM. The vaccine, which has been developed by Biological E Limited, has recently received the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) approval for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).
- ✓ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and its PSU Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), have supported Biological E's COVID-19 vaccine candidate.

6. Which country has recently purchased 25 Chinese J-10C fighter jets?

- A) Afghanistan
- B) Pakistan ☒
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Bangladesh



- ✓ The Pakistan Government has confirmed the purchase of at least 25 Chinese J-10C fighter jets for the Pakistan Air Force. Pakistan claims these jets as an alternative to France's Rafale fighter jets owned by India. Pakistan also has a fleet of US-made F-16s jets.

7. Surya Regional Water Supply Project, is being implemented in which state?

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



- ✓ Surya Regional Water Supply Project is being implemented in Mumbai, which will provide 403 million litres per day (MLD) water supply to two Municipal Corporations, at the western sub-region of Mumbai. Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Development Authority (MMRDA) has achieved the first tunnel breakthrough of the project. The project is expected to be completed in phases till 2023.

8. Trace Gas Orbiter was launched to analyse the atmosphere of which planet?

- A) Venus
- B) Mars ☒
- C) Jupiter
- D) Saturn



- ✓ The Trace Gas Orbiter, also called as ExoMars TGO is a collaborative project between the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Russian Roscosmos agency. Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) arrived at Mars in 2016 and began its full mission in 2018. Recently, a new image taken by the spacecraft shows a small crater in the Vastitas Borealis region. The crater is partially filled with water ice.

9. 'Tejas' is a new programme, launched by India in association with which country?

- A) USA
- B) UAE ☒
- C) Australia
- D) France



- ✓ Under the new programme of Tejas, or Training in Emirate Jobs & Skills, the Government has partnered with leading employers in the UAE to train certify and place Indian workers in the Gulf countries.
- ✓ It aims to train, certify and place 10,000 Indian workers in a year and 100,000 workers across the Gulf Cooperation Council region over the next 5 years.

10. Ziyuan-1 02E satellite is a new Earth Observation Satellite launched by which country?

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



- ✓ China has deployed a new Earth resources observation satellite named 'Ziyuan-1 02E', via its Chang Zheng 4C rocket. The satellite, along with an amateur radio CubeSat, lifted off recently.
  - ✓ Ziyuan (ZY), meaning Resource, is a series of remote-sensing satellites, that aim to acquire high-resolution images. The images can be used for surveying Earth resources, disaster management, and land use monitoring.
-

1. When is the 'International Day of Epidemic Preparedness' observed?

- A) December 25  
B) December 26  
C) December 27 ☒  
D) December 28



- ✓ December 27 is observed as the International Day of Epidemic Preparedness. The first International Day of Epidemic Preparedness was marked in 2020 based on the proclamation of United Nations General Assembly. According to WHO, the day marks the significance of preventing, preparing for and partnering against epidemics.

2. 'World Sangeet Tansen festival' is being held in which state?

- A) Madhya Pradesh ☒  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Sikkim  
D) Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ World Sangeet Tansen festival has started from Madhya Pradesh. The festival will be organised till December 30 in Gwalior. This is the 97th edition of the World Sangeet Tansen festival.
- ✓ The stage has been constructed on the theme of Siddhanath temple situated in Omkareshwar. National Kalidas Awards will be presented in the inauguration ceremony.

3. Which Indian bureaucrat has been appointed Deputy National Security Advisor?

- A) Vikram Misri ☒  
B) Arun Kumar Singh  
C) Dinesh Bhatia  
D) Manpreet Vohra



- ✓ India's former envoy to China Vikram Misri was appointed Deputy National Security Advisor in the National Security Council Secretariat. He was an Indian Foreign Service Officer in the 1989 batch and has held several diplomatic positions. Mr Misri was appointed as India's Ambassador to China in 2019. The Ministry of External Affairs had earlier appointed Pradeep Kumar Rawat as the next ambassador to China.

4. Which Union Ministry has set up six Task Forces on 6G technology?

- A) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
B) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship  
C) Ministry of Communication ☒  
D) Ministry of Commerce and Industry



- ✓ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), under the Ministry of Communication has constituted six Task Forces on 6 G technology. The task forces are headed by various academia from across the country Directors of IIT-Madras, IIT-Kanpur, IISc among others. India is deploying 5G technology this year and the group will analyse the process and challenges in 6G.

5. 'SMILE' scheme is to be implemented by which Union Ministry?

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



- ✓ SMILE (Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) is an umbrella scheme being formulated by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It includes two sub-schemes for the welfare of transgender persons and persons engaged in begging. The scheme will include rehabilitation, medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development and economic linkages.

6. What is the Current Account Balance of India, in the second quarter ended September 2021?

- A) \$9.6 billion surplus  
B) \$9.6 billion deficit ☒  
C) \$0.6 billion surplus  
D) \$0.6 billion deficit



- ✓ India's current account balance posted a deficit of \$ 9.6 billion in the second quarter ended September 2021 (Q2FY22). It forms 1.3 per cent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).
- ✓ The current account was in surplus \$ 6.6 billion (0.9 percent of GDP) in the first quarter ended June 2021(Q1FY22). As per the RBI, the current account deficit (CAD) was mainly due to widening of trade gap and increase in outgo of investment income.

7. As on January 1, 2022, what is the estimated population of the world, as per the US Census Bureau?

- A) 3.8 billion  
B) 5.8 billion  
C) 7.8 billion ☒  
D) 9.8 billion



- ✓ The world's population is projected to be 7.8 billion people, as on New Year's Day 2022, according to the US Census Bureau. This represents an increase of 74 million people, or a 0.9% growth rate from New Year's Day 2021. 4.3 births and two deaths are expected every second worldwide. China remains the world's most-populous country with 1.4 billion people and India would overtake it by 2025.

8. What is the existing annual income limit for identification of economically weaker section?

- A) Rs 6 lakh  
B) Rs 8 lakh ☒  
C) Rs 9 lakh  
D) Rs 10 lakh



- ✓ After the recommendation by the three-member committee, the Centre has decided to continue with the existing annual income limit of ₹8 lakh for identification of economically weaker section (EWS). The Supreme Court raised doubts over the 10% quota while dealing with NEET-PG admissions and the Centre set up the committee to revisit the income limit of EWS quota. The committee comprised former union finance secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey among others.

9. What is the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) of India in the year 2020-21?

- A) 918  
B) 920  
C) 937 ☒  
D) 951



- ✓ India's Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) improved by 19 points at National level, from 918 in the year 2014-15 to 937 in 2020-21. This was announced during the Year End Review of Women and Child Development

Ministry. The "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme" is being implemented across India, covering 640 districts across the country.

- ✓ The Poshan Tracker application ensures real-time monitoring of supplementary nutrition. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana scheme is implemented for pregnant women and lactating mothers.

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10. Which is India's first large state to record 100 percent first-dose vaccinations?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Telangana ☒
- C) Andhra Pradesh
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ Telangana became the country's first large state to record 100 per cent first-dose vaccinations. The state has vaccinated 2.77 crore citizens with the first dose, as per the Central government's estimated adult population target. The state is ahead of the national average by 9 percent in terms of the first dose and ahead of the national average by 3 percent in second dose.

1. Which institution released the 'Women and girls left behind: Glaring gaps in pandemic responses' report?

- A) World Economic Forum
- B) World Bank
- C) UN Women ☒
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ United Nations Women recently released a new report titled "Women and girls left behind: Glaring gaps in pandemic responses". As per the report, women were less likely to receive COVID-19 relief from government. At least 29% of working mothers living with children lost their jobs compared to 20% of working men living with children. Single women living with children were left behind more, as per the report.

2. Which Indian Pace bowler achieved the milestone of 200 Test wickets recently?

- A) Mohammed Shami ☒
- B) Ravichandran Ashwin
- C) Ravindra Jadeja
- D) Jasprit Bumrah



- ✓ Mohammed Shami recently achieved the milestone of 200 Test wickets, during the first Test against South Africa.
- ✓ The 31-year-old bowler is third-fastest among Indian pacers to reach the landmark, as he achieved this feat in his 55<sup>th</sup> Test match. He is only behind Kapil Dev (434), Ishant Sharma (311), Zaheer Khan (311), and Javagal Srinath (236), at present.

3. Which state has unveiled the draft of 'New Policy for Women 2021'?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒
- B) Kerala
- C) Odisha
- D) West Bengal



- ✓ Tamil Nadu Government recently unveiled "New Policy for Women 2021", which includes features such as compulsory martial arts training for school and college females. The policy also seeks to make all modes of transportation women-friendly.

4. The Indian Army's 'Quantum computing laboratory and a centre for artificial intelligence (AI)' has been set up in which state?

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



- ✓ The Indian Army has set up a 'Quantum computing laboratory and a Centre for artificial intelligence (AI)' at Military College of Telecommunication Engineering, Mhow, Madhya Pradesh. The centres will carry out research in developing transformative technologies to be used by the armed forces. It has been established by the Indian Army, with support from the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS).

5. Which country is the world's top producer of 'Rare earth material'?

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



- ✓ China is the world's top producer of rare earth material. Recently, the country has 3 state-owned rare earth mining companies to form a

new entity named 'China Rare Earths Group'. China has been strengthening its supply chain of rare earth materials. Rare earth is a combination of 17 minerals used as vital ingredients in the production of consumer electronics as well as military equipment.

6. Which Union Ministry has released draft National Air Sports Policy?

- A) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- B) Ministry of Civil Aviation ☒
- C) Ministry of Renewable Energy
- D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



- ✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation has released draft National Air Sports Policy (NASP) for public feedback. The policy seeks to promote India's potential for air sports and focuses on ensuring international best practices in safety. The vision of the policy is to make India as one of the top air sports nations by 2030.

7. 'PM's Excellence Award' is being awarded for which sector?

- A) Sports
- B) Public Administration ☒
- C) Entrepreneurship
- D) Education



- ✓ The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) awards the "Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration" since 2006. Union Minister Jitendra Singh has recently launched the Web Portal for PM's Excellence Award, whose registrations began. The prize money was doubled this year from 10 lakh rupees to 20 lakh rupees.
- ✓ The Scheme was restructured in 2020, to recognize the performance of District Collectors towards economic development of the District.

8. What is the annual export target of India, for the year 2021-22?

- A) \$100 billion
- B) \$200 billion
- C) \$400 billion ☒
- D) \$500 billion



- ✓ India exported goods worth 37.29 billion in December 2021, the highest ever in a month, as per the data released by the commerce and industry ministry. India's merchandise export in April-December was nearly 300 billion, which is an increase of 48.85 percent year-on-year and 26 percent against the same period in 2019.
- ✓ Hence, India has achieved three-fourths of its annual export target of \$400 billion in the first 9 months of FY22. This is due to the high demand for engineering products, petroleum items, and gems and jewellery.

9. What is the theme declared for the DRDO Day 2021?

- A) Atmanirbhar Bharat
- B) Export ☒
- C) Critical defence technologies
- D) Strength and Science



- ✓ DRDO observed the 63rd Foundation Day of its establishment on January 01, 2021. DRDO was established in 1958 with 10 laboratories to enhance the research work in Defence sector.
- ✓ At present, DRDO is working with several areas including aeronautics, combat vehicles, electronics, instrumentation, advanced computing, simulation among others. DRDO Chairperson declared 'Export' as the

theme of DRDO for 2021.

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10. INSACOG is the forum set up by which country to monitor genome sequencing and variation of Covid strains?

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



- ✓ Union Health Ministry of India set up the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) in 2020, to monitor genome sequencing and variation of Covid strains. INSACOG is jointly initiated by the Union Health Ministry, along with Department of Biotechnology, CSIR and ICMR. An INSACOG Lab has asked States to temporarily pause sending COVID-19 positive samples.
-

1. 'Seema Bhawani' is the name of which team of the Border Security Force (BSF)?

- A) Camel Contingent
- B) Creek Crocodile
- C) All-women Biker Team ☒
- D) All-women Creek Crocodile



- ✓ 'Seema Bhawani' is the all-women biker team of the Border Security Force (BSF). The team will showcase their talent on the Republic Day. Over 100 female troops from different ranks are taking part in the event. Seema Bhawani team was formed in the year 2016 and they participated in the Republic Day parade in 2018, for the first time.

2. Atal Tunnel, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which state/UT?

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



- ✓ Atal Tunnel is located in the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh. It is all-weather 9km road under the Rohtang Pass on the Leh-Manali Highway. The Tunnel saw a record number of vehicles crossing on the first day of 2022. As per officials, a total of 7,515 vehicles crossed the tunnel on January 1, 2022. This is the highest ever count since it was inaugurated on October 3, 2020.

3. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA), which was making news recently, is located at which state?

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



- ✓ Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) was established by the Government of India in the year 1986 at Fursatganj Airfield. It is located in the state of Uttar Pradesh. IGRUA is an Autonomous Body and it is administered by a Governing Council under Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ✓ During 2021, IGRUA recorded 19000 hours of flying as against an average yearly flying output of 15000 per year during the previous five years. It also targets 25000 flying hours in 2022.

4. "Blue Book" which was seen in the news, is the manual of which armed force / group?

- A) Central Reserve Police Force
- B) Special Protection Group ☒
- C) National Security Guard
- D) Indian Coast Guard



- ✓ "Blue Book" is the name of the manual of the Special Protection Group (SPG), which exclusively protects India's Prime Minister. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi spent 20 minutes on a Punjab highway blocked by protesting farmers in a security breach.
- ✓ Usually, the PM's plan is shared with the state's top leadership including the Chief Minister, Home Minister and police chief. SPG coordinates with State Police and other officers for a security plan.

5. Which state/UT recognised Takht Damdama Sahib, as the fifth Takht of Sikhs?

- A) Punjab
- B) Delhi ☒
- C) Bihar
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ Delhi Assembly passed an amendment Bill to the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Act, 1971, to recognise Takht Damdama Sahib as the fifth Takht of Sikhs. A Takht, or a throne, is a seat of temporal authority for Sikhs. There are five Sikh Takhts, three in Punjab and one each in Maharashtra and Bihar.

6. Novak Djokovic, who was named the 'Best Balkan Athlete of the year' 2021, is from which country?

- A) Bulgaria
- B) Siberia
- C) Serbia ☒
- D) Greece



- ✓ Ace Tennis Player Novak Djokovic from Serbia was named the Best Balkan Athlete of the year for a record seventh time. The 34-year-old player is ranked No. 1 in the world and won three of the four Grand Slam tournaments this year. Greek basketball player Giannis Antetokounmpo was second in the poll, followed by another Greek long jumper Miltiadis Tentoglu.

7. Which country launched the 'Simorgh' satellite carrier rocket with research devices?

- A) Bangladesh
- B) Iran ☒
- C) Israel
- D) UAE



- ✓ Iran has launched a satellite carrier rocket 'Simorgh' bearing three research devices into space, as per the country's media. 'Simorgh' translates to 'Phoenix' in Iran language. The country has launched the devices at an altitude of 470 kilometres (290 miles). United States unilaterally withdrew from the nuclear deal in May 2018 and re-imposed sanctions against Iran.

8. Which Indian state recorded the highest Tiger deaths in 2021?

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



- ✓ As per the data available in the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)'s website, a total of 126 tiger deaths were recorded in the country in 2021. It is said that out of 126 reported tiger deaths, 60 were due to poachers, accidents, animal-human conflict outside protected areas. The maximum tiger deaths took place in Madhya Pradesh (44), followed by Maharashtra (26) and Karnataka (14).

9. Which city has the longest metro rail network in the world?

- A) Chennai
- B) New Delhi
- C) Shanghai ☒
- D) Tokyo



- ✓ China's Shanghai has maintained its position as having the longest metro rail network in the world by adding two new lines that went into operation recently. The new lines took the total length of the city's metro network to 831 km. Shanghai's Metro network is followed by Beijing, and Delhi was ranked third.

10. 'Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA)' is located in which country?

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



- ✓ A team of Scientists used the Atacama Large Millimeter / submillimeter Array (ALMA) in Chile to observe a newborn star (protostar) in the WB89-789 region.
  - ✓ It is located in the extreme outer Galaxy. Scientists have detected carbon-, oxygen-, nitrogen-, sulfur-, and silicon-bearing molecules were detected. The protostar and the associated cocoon of chemically-rich gas was detected at the edge of our Galaxy, for the first time.
-

1. The subsidiary of which Indian company signed agreements on jointly developing the Trincomalee oil tank farm?

- A) Indian Oil Corporation ☒  
 B) Bharat Petroleum  
 C) Hindustan Petroleum  
 D) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation



- ✓ Lanka IOC, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the Government of Sri Lanka signed lease agreements on jointly developing the Trincomalee oil tank farm. Indian Oil Corporation's subsidiary Lanka IOC is set to run the 14 oil storage tanks while CPC would run 24 tanks. Trinco Petroleum Terminal Pvt. Ltd would develop the remaining 61 tanks, in a joint venture where 51% stakes will be held by CPC and 49% by Lanka IOC.

2. 'Khuntkatti' law, which was seen in the news recently, is practised in which Indian state/UT?

- A) Himachal Pradesh  
 B) Jharkhand ☒  
 C) Sikkim  
 D) Uttarakhand



- ✓ A man was beaten by some villagers for allegedly cutting off trees illegally and selling them. The man was burned alive in front of police, for violating the 'Khuntkatti' law. The 'Khuntkatti' system is a tribal lineage-based system of joint holding of land.
- ✓ According to the system, the Munda tribals would clear the trees and prepare the land for farming, which would then belong to the entire clan instead of a single person.

3. Japan recently signed 'Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA)' with which country?

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



- ✓ Japan recently signed a historic Defence Agreement with Australia, to ensure a secure and stable Indo-Pacific region. This agreement has been signed amidst the expansion of China's military and economic influence in the region. Called the Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA), this is Japan's second such agreement. Japan's only other military pact is with the United States.

4. 'Integrated Approach in S&T for Sustainable Future' has been declared as the theme of which special day?

- A) World Science and Technology Day  
 B) National Science Day ☒  
 C) World Research and Development Day  
 D) National Innovation Day



- ✓ The theme for this year's National Science Day is announced as 'Integrated Approach in S&T for Sustainable Future'. Union Science and technology Ministry has announced this recently. The theme has been chosen for raising public awareness of the scientific issues. National Science Day is celebrated in India on 28 February to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist Sir C. V. Raman.

5. As per APEDA, which is the top exported commodity in India in 2020-21?

- A) Non-Basmati Rice ☒  
 B) Tomato  
 C) Cotton  
 D) Milk



- ✓ As per Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Non-Basmati Rice, Basmati Rice and Buffalo Meat are the top 3 exported products from India in the year 2020-21. As per APEDA, the total export basket has increased more than Rs.15 lakh crore in 2020-21 in comparison to Rs.83 thousand crore in 2011-12.

6. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Railway Board?

- A) Shobhit Tripathi  
 B) Vinay Kumar Tripathi ☒  
 C) Rajesh Arora  
 D) Kumar Verma



- ✓ The Appointments Committee of Union Cabinet has approved the appointment of Vinay Kumar Tripathi as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Railway Board. Presently, he is serving as the General Manager, North Eastern Railway. He is a 1983 batch Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineers (IRSEE).

7. Padhe Bharat campaign is launched by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Women and Child Development  
 B) Ministry of Education ☒  
 C) Ministry of Home Affairs  
 D) Ministry of Defense



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Education has launched a reading campaign named Padhe Bharat campaign for 100 days starting from January 1, 2022. This campaign is aimed to improve the reading capabilities, vocabulary and thinking abilities of students studying between Balvatika and Class 8. The Government has released a comprehensive guideline on Reading Campaign for the states / UTs to follow.

8. Which State team clinched the Vijay Hazare Trophy title in 2021-22?

- A) Tamil Nadu  
 B) Himachal Pradesh ☒  
 C) Odisha  
 D) Karnataka



- ✓ Himachal Pradesh defeated Tamil Nadu by VJD method to clinch their maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy title in 2021-22 edition, held at Jaipur. Tamil Nadu has been the most successful team with 5 title wins. Vijay Hazare Trophy, also known as the Ranji One-Day Trophy, was started in 2002-03. It is named after the legendary Indian cricketer Vijay Hazare.

9. China has recently released a list of "standardised names" for 15 places in which Indian state?

- A) Mizoram  
 B) Nagaland  
 C) Tripura  
 D) Arunachal Pradesh ☒



- ✓ China's Ministry of Civil Affairs announced the "standardised" names of 15 places in Arunachal Pradesh. China has been claiming around 90,000 sq km of Arunachal Pradesh as its own territory. It had even called the state as "South Tibet" back in 2017.

- ✓ India, in response announced that the renaming does not take away the sovereignty of India from the state.

10. Environment Ministry released Guidelines on 'Extended producer responsibility (EPR)' for which product?

- A) Bio-medical Waste
- B) Waste Tyres ☒
- C) Plastic Waste
- D) e-waste



- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change released the draft notification for regulations for the extended producer responsibility (EPR) for Waste Tyres. If finalised, the draft will be effective from the new fiscal year.
  - ✓ India discards around 275,000 tyres each year but the country does not have a comprehensive plan for that. Producer of tyres to ensure environmentally safe management of waste tyres.
-

1. Which state is associated with 'Nirbhaya Kadhi' campaign?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Odisha ☒
- C) Karnataka
- D) Gujarat



- ✓ Odisha's Ganjam has declared itself the state's first child marriage free district. It has undertaken a campaign named Nirbhaya Kadhi (Fearless bud). Through the campaign, the district administration has counselled over one lakh teen-agers and stopped over 450 child marriages. They implemented various steps like providing incentives for informing child marriages, making Aadhaar card mandatory for marriages etc.

2. Which state launched the Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) 2.0?

- A) Telangana
- B) Gujarat ☒
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Odisha



- ✓ Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched the Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) 2.0, at the International Conference of Academic Institutions (ICAI-2022). It aims to financially support school students in innovation and will be implemented for the next five years till March, 2027. The financial support has been increased from Rs 200 of the previous edition to Rs 500 crore.

3. 'Olaf Scholz' is the recently appointed head of which country?

- A) USA
- B) Germany ☒
- C) Brazil
- D) Russia



- ✓ Olaf Scholz has been appointed as the Chancellor of Germany from December 2021. The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a discussion with his German counterpart and congratulated on his appointment as Chancellor. They reviewed the capacities of ongoing cooperation initiatives, including investment and trade links. They also discussed to diversify cooperation and exchanges in new areas.

4. Which Union Ministry implements the 'UJALA' programme?

- A) Ministry of Power ☒
- B) Ministry of Environment
- C) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



- ✓ The Power Ministry successfully completed seven years of distributing LED lights under its flagship UJALA programme. It is one of the world's largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programmes with more than 36 crore LEDs distributed across the country. Launched in 2015, UJALA stands for Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All.

5. Which institution appointed the technical committee to look into the Pegasus malware issue?

- A) Ministry of Electronics and IT
- B) Supreme Court of India ☒
- C) Madras High Court
- D) NITI Aayog



- ✓ The Supreme Court of India appointed the technical committee to look into the Pegasus malware issue. The technical committee issued a public notice asking citizens to contact the panel if they suspected

that their mobile devices are infected by Pegasus malware. The committee would request the person to allow examination of the device, if reasonable.

6. Nodirbek Abdusattorov, the youngest ever World Rapid Chess champion, is from which country?

- A) Switzerland
- B) Russia
- C) Uzbekistan ☒
- D) Ukraine



- ✓ Nodirbek Abdusattorov from Uzbekistan became the youngest ever World Rapid Chess champion, at 17 years three months. Magnus Carlsen had won the 2009 World Blitz Title at the age of 18.
- ✓ He also defeated the Ace player Magnus Carlsen to win the World Rapid championship in Warsaw, Poland. France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave won the World Blitz title.

7. Which Indian company has commissioned India's largest solar power project at Rajasthan?

- A) Adani Power
- B) Azure Power ☒
- C) TATA Power
- D) ReNew Power



- ✓ Indian solar power producer Azure Power has fully commissioned its largest project, a 600-MW solar park in the state of Rajasthan. The solar park is located in Bikaner. It will supply its power to Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) over 25 years.

8. Who is the head of the 'Energy Transition Advisory Committee', which was recently set up?

- A) Tarun Kapoor ☒
- B) Ramesh Chand
- C) V K Paul
- D) Amitabh Kant



- ✓ The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has set up Energy Transition Advisory Committee headed by former petroleum secretary Tarun Kapoor. The panel includes representatives of all public-sector oil and gas companies and it will energy transition roadmap for the oil and gas sector. India has committed for net-zero emissions by the year 2070. The committee will recommend a transition roadmap by middle of 2022.

9. Which is the first state/UT to have 'District-level Good Governance Index'?

- A) Mizoram
- B) Puducherry
- C) Tripura
- D) Jammu & Kashmir ☒



- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir is set to become the first Union Territory to have a district-level Good Governance Index. The Department of administrative reforms and public grievances will carry out this task in association with the Jammu and Kashmir government.
- ✓ The framework will have 58 indicators to assess different aspects of development and district administration such as agriculture, commerce and industry, public safety, public health among others.

10. The Social reformer Savitribai Phule, founded India's first girls' school in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Maharashtra ☒
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Social reformer Savitribai Phule was born on January 3, 1831 in Maharashtra. Her birth anniversary was observed across the country. In 1848, Savitribai along with her husband Jyotirao Phule, founded one of India's first girls' schools in Pune, Maharashtra.
  - ✓ She also became the first Indian woman to become a teacher. She also opened women's shelter for widows and Home for Prevention of Infanticide. She strongly opposed child marriage and Sati tradition.
-

1. How many women MPs are present in the Parliamentary panel, which was set up to examine the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill?

- A) 01 ☒  
B) 02  
C) 03  
D) 04



- ✓ Trinamool Congress MP Sushmita Dev is the only woman in the 31-member parliamentary panel assigned to examine the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill. The seeks to raise the legal age of marriage for women to 21.
- ✓ At present, the minimum age of marriage for men is 21 and for women is 18. The proposal to increase the marriage age of women was recommended by the NITI Aayog task force headed by Jaya Jaitley.

2. Researchers at which Institution has developed "5<sup>th</sup> generation microwave absorbers"?

- A) IIT Madras  
B) IIT Bombay  
C) Kerala University ☒  
D) IISc, Bengaluru



- ✓ A Professor and Research Scholar Department of Physics at Kerala University, have developed fifth-generation (5G) microwave absorbers, which can be used as an effective shield against electromagnetic radiation. The electromagnetic interference (EMI) is known to be dangerous to the health of living organisms. It also affects the high-end electronic devices. They used new shielding material 'mayenite electride' for microwave absorption in high frequency region.

3. The Special Protection Group Act, 1988 was passed to provide security to.....

- A) Nuclear Power Plants  
B) Prime Minister and former Prime Ministers ☒  
C) India's land borders  
D) India's water borders



- ✓ The Special Protection Group Act, 1988 was passed by the parliament after the assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. It aimed to provide for regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing security to the Prime Minister of India and the former Prime Ministers of India and members of their immediate families. It was extended to all former Prime Ministers and their immediate families after former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated.

4. "Abilympics" are the competitions held for Persons with Disabilities, in which field?

- A) Sports  
B) Coding  
C) Skill Demonstration ☒  
D) Business Administration



- ✓ The National Competition of IndiaSkills 2021 has been organised by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). NSDC is the nodal agency for skill and entrepreneurship development, working under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- ✓ The event included 'Abilympics', a Skill Demonstration by Persons with Disabilities. IndiaSkill 2021 also introduced three new skills – Yoga, Shoe Making (Leather) and Garment Making (Leather).

5. 'Hyderabad declaration', which was seen in the news, is associated with?

- A) Climate Change  
B) E-Governance ☒  
C) Women Empowerment  
D) Covid-19 Protocol



- ✓ The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DAPRG), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), in collaboration with the Government of Telangana organized the 24th National Conference on e-Governance at Hyderabad.
- ✓ The theme of this Conference is "India's Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World".

6. Sanjay Lake is a wetland located in which state/UT?

- A) Karnataka  
B) New Delhi ☒  
C) Himachal Pradesh  
D) Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ The Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) is being carried out across seven wetlands in the NCR – Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, Dhanauri and Surajpur wetlands in Greater Noida, Delhi Zoo and Sanjay Lake, Okhla Bird Sanctuary, Najafgarh Jheel and the Yamuna River.
- ✓ The census recorded only 13 species in the Sanjay Lake, down from 17 species recorded from 2019 to 2021.

7. Which group of countries participate in 'Sea Dragon 22' Military Exercise?

- A) Indo-Pacific countries ☒  
B) QUAD Group  
C) Indian Ocean Rim Countries  
D) Balkan Countries



- ✓ The US Navy announced that the Sea Dragon 22 exercise began along with the navies of India, Australia, Canada, Japan and South Korea. It is a multi-lateral anti-submarine warfare exercise in the Pacific Ocean, participated by six Indo-Pacific nations.
- ✓ India, Japan, Australia and America are also part of the 'QUAD' group, and also participate in the Malabar exercise.

8. Which state/UTs Buddhist community celebrates Losar festival as the traditional New Year?

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



- ✓ Ladakh is celebrating Losar, the traditional new year. Losar festival is being celebrated by Buddhist Community in the region. The festival began with the celebration of Birth and Nirvana Anniversary Je Tsongkhapa. People celebrated the festival at religious places like Monasteries, Stupas and other places. The festival is celebrated in Tibetan Buddhism in the month of February or March.

9. Khurnak Fort, which was historically a part of India, is under the control of which country, at present?

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



- ✓ Khurnak Fort, which was historically a part of India has been under Chinese control since 1958. Near to the Fort, China is building a new bridge. The bridge is being constructed on Pangong Tso, near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.
- 

10. Which global association / body recently released a statement with a view to avoid nuclear war?

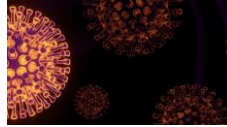
- A) UNSC ☒
- B) BRICS
- C) G20
- D) G7



- ✓ The five permanent members of United Nations Security Council, namely Russia, Britain, China, the United States and France released a statement recently. The countries are of the view that a further spread of nuclear arms and a nuclear war should be avoided. The statement seeks to avoid war between the nuclear states and reduce strategic risks. China has a "no first use" policy on nuclear weapons.
-

1. The new COVID variant named IHU (B.1.640.2), has been discovered in which country?

- A) USA  
B) India  
C) France ☒  
D) Italy



- ✓ The new COVID variant named IHU (B.1.640.2) has been discovered at the IHU Mediterranean Infection Institute in France. The new variant is said to have 46 mutations more than Omicron. The first case was reported from a person who had come from the African country of Cameroon. As per the Scientists, the new strain carries E484K mutation making it vaccine-resistant.

2. 'KABIL' is a joint venture company created by which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Mines ☒  
B) Ministry of Steel  
C) Ministry of MSME  
D) Ministry of Power



- ✓ The Mines Ministry has created a joint venture company called 'Khanij Bidesh India (KABIL)'. The equity participation of National Aluminium Company (NALCO), Hindustan Copper (HCL) and Mineral Exploration Corporation (MECL) is 40:30:30. India is working to acquire mines of strategic minerals such as lithium and cobalt in countries like Australia, Argentina, Bolivia and Chile.

3. Alka Mittal has been appointed as the first female Chairman and MD of which Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE)?

- A) ONGC ☒  
B) SAIL  
C) PFC  
D) NTPC



- ✓ Alka Mittal has been appointed as the first female Chairman and MD of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). ONGC is the country's largest oil and gas producer. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for this appointment.

4. India's first Mobile Honey Processing Van was launched in which state?

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



- ✓ India's first Mobile Honey Processing Van was launched at Village Sirora in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. It was inaugurated by the Chairman of KVIC, Vinai Kumar Saxena. The Mobile Van has been designed by KVIC at its Multi-disciplinary Training Centre, Panjokehra, at a cost of INR 15 lakh. It can process up to 300 KG of honey in 8 hours and also comprises of with a testing laboratory, which would examine the quality of honey.

5. 'Ecowrap' is the flagship report released by which institution?

- A) Asian Development Bank  
B) NITI Aayog  
C) Reserve Bank of India  
D) State Bank of India ☒



- ✓ 'Ecowrap' is the report released by the Research Team of the State Bank of India. As per the latest edition of the report, India's real GDP is expected to grow at around 9.5 per cent in 2021-22. The NSO released the First Advance Estimates of National Income for financial year 2021-22. It estimated the GDP Growth in 2021-22 as 9.2 per cent.

6. What is the maximum limit of Aadhaar-enabled cash withdrawal transactions, per customer, per terminal per day, as per NPCI?

- A) Two  
B) Three  
C) Five ☒  
D) Seven



- ✓ National Payments Corporation of India has introduced limits for cash withdrawals and mini statements. It states that the maximum limit of five Aadhaar enabled cash withdrawal transactions, per customer, per terminal per day. The issuers will also implement a limit of a minimum of five mini statement transactions per customer per month. This has to be implemented by January 15, 2022.

7. The New Jan Shatabdi Express inaugurated between Agartala and Jiribam connects Tripura with which state?

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



- ✓ Union Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off the Jan Shatabdi Express between Agartala and Jiribam connecting two northeastern states, Tripura and Manipur. The Jan Shatabdi Express will run thrice a week and the journey will take six hours.  
✓ Besides this, Tripura has Rajdhani Express, Kanchanjungha Express, Humsafar Express among others.

8. Wolf Volcano, which was seen in the news, is the highest peak in which island group?

- A) Hawaiian Islands  
B) Galápagos Islands ☒  
C) Mariana Islands  
D) Caroline Islands



- ✓ Wolf Volcano, also known as Mount Whiton, is the highest peak in the Galápagos Islands. It is a volcanic archipelago in the Pacific Ocean. The volcanic mountain recently erupted, spewing lava and clouds of ash over the Pacific Ocean. The islands are part of the province of Ecuador.

9. Nandur Madhmeshwar bird sanctuary is situated in which state/UT?

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



- ✓ Nandur Madhmeshwar bird sanctuary is a wetland situated in Niphad in Maharashtra's Nashik. With the beginning of winter, a large number of migratory birds have flocked to the bird sanctuary.  
✓ As per the Forest Department, more than 30,000 birds including flamingos, cranes, golden plovers, blue chicks and many others have come to the place. Birds from Siberia, Europe migrate here to escape

the harsh winter conditions.

10. Which state/UT is set to host the 25<sup>th</sup> National Youth Festival in 2022?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Puducherry ☒
- C) Goa
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ Puducherry Union Territory government is making arrangements to host the 25<sup>th</sup> National Youth Festival on January 12. The Day marks the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- ✓ Over 7,000 youth from across the country will take part in the events, held in association with the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The Minister also unveiled the festival logo and mascot, "Saksham Yuva-Shashakt Yuva".

1. Which is the first state/UT to provide the caste certificate based on the mother's credentials?

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



- ✓ Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia handed over the first caste certificate based on the mother's credentials to a single mother. Earlier, SC/ST caste certificates were issued only based on the fathers' caste certificates or paternal side certificates. Hence, this is considered as a landmark move

2. As of 2022, how many banks are classified as Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) in India?

- A) 2
- B) 3 ☒
- C) 4
- D) 5

3

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India announced that SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs). These banks are Too big to fail and they need to maintain an additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital, in addition to the capital conservation buffer. The update is based on the data collected from banks as on March 31, 2021.

3. Nalabana Bird Sanctuary is located in which state/UT?

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



- ✓ Nalabana Bird Sanctuary is the core area of the Ramsar designated wetlands of Chilika Lake, Odisha. Chilika Lake is the largest brackish water lake in India. As per the water bird status survey-2022 conducted in the Chilika, a total of 10,74,173 birds of the 107 water bird species and 37,953 individuals of 76 wetland dependent species were counted.
- ✓ A total of 3,58,889 birds of 97 species were counted in Nalabana Bird Sanctuary.

4. 'Plan Bee', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Railways ☒
- B) Ministry of Environment, Forest
- C) Ministry of Agriculture
- D) Ministry of MSME



- ✓ 'Plan Bee' was first implemented by the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) as a unique method to keep elephants away from railway tracks. Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw informed that the Railways is set to implement 'Plan Bee' throughout the country. It uses an amplifying system to imitate the buzz of a swarm of honey bees.

5. Which country recently fired a "hypersonic missile", after its first test in September?

- A) Israel
- B) North Korea ☒
- C) Iran
- D) UAE



- ✓ North Korea recently fired a "hypersonic missile" that successfully hit a target. The test-fire was detected by several militaries in the region, and drew criticism from the United States, South Korea, and Japan.
- ✓ North Korea first tested a hypersonic missile in September. Hypersonic weapons can achieve more than five times the speed of sound – or about 6,200 km per hour.

6. 'Electric Bike Taxi Scheme' is the initiative of which Indian state/UT?

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



- ✓ The 'Karnataka Electric Bike Taxi Scheme' was launched in Karnataka six months ago. It allowed private players, individuals, firms, and aggregators to run electric bike taxis in Bengaluru. Citizens can avail of the service for a maximum distance of 10 km.
- ✓ However, the Transport Department has received only one application for a licence. The state has not yet fixed the bike taxi fares.

7. India's first RT-PCR kit to detect the Omicron variant, named 'Omisure' is developed by which company?

- A) TATA MD ☒
- B) Piramal
- C) Sun Pharma
- D) Apex Pharma



- ✓ India has recently approved a new RT-PCR test kit that can detect whether a sample is Covid-19 positive and if the variant is Omicron. The kit, called Omisure has been developed by TataMD, in partnership with ICMR. It detects Sars-CoV-2, and it has two specific targets for the S gene that are Omicron-specific.

8. Bharath Subramaniam, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

- A) Tennis
- B) Chess ☒
- C) Table-Tennis
- D) Weightlifting



- ✓ Fourteen-year-old Bharath Subramaniam became India's 73rd chess Grandmaster, after he secured the third and final GM norm at an event in Italy. He also touched the requisite 2,500 (Elo) mark. Fellow Indian player M R Lalith Babu emerged winner in the tournament, winning the title. Mitrabha Guha had become the country's 72nd GM in November last, two days after Sankalp Gupta became the 71st GM.

9. UNESCO agreed to publish descriptions of India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites on its website in which language?

- A) Tamil
- B) Hindi ☒
- C) Sanskrit
- D) Telugu

हिन्दी

- ✓ The UNESCO's World Heritage Centre (WHC) has agreed to publish Hindi descriptions of India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites on the WHC website.
- ✓ The information was shared by the Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO announced this news, to be implemented on the occasion of World Hindi Day. It is observed on January 10 across the world.

10. West African Countries announced to cut their ties with which African country, over delayed elections?

- A) Mali ☒
- B) Egypt
- C) Peru
- D) South Africa



- ✓ West African nations will close their borders with Mali, cut diplomatic ties and impose tough economic sanctions in response to delay in holding elections. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the 15-state regional bloc announced this stance.
-

1. India set a bilateral trade target of \$50 billion before 2030, with which country?

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



- ✓ India and South Korea set a bilateral trade target of USD 50 billion before 2030. South Korea's Trade Minister Yeo Han-Koo and Indian Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal held bilateral talks in New Delhi.

2. 'National Innovation Week' is organised in which month in India?

- A) January ☒
- B) February
- C) March
- D) April



- ✓ Ministry of Education (MoE), AICTE, and Ministry of Commerce & Industry (DPIIT) is organising 'National Innovation Week' from January 10 to 16, 2022. During the innovation week, various initiatives undertaken by these agencies to spread awareness to promote innovation and entrepreneurship will be highlighted.
- ✓ An e- symposium on 'Building Innovation Ecosystem in educational institutions was held by the Ministry of Education.

3. Which payments bank has been granted the status of a Scheduled bank by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A) Airtel Payments Bank ☒
- B) Aditya Birla Payments Bank
- C) NSDL Payments Bank
- D) Jio Payments Bank



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently granted the status of a scheduled bank to Airtel Payments Bank. After the status of a scheduled bank, Airtel Payments Bank can now apply for Government-issued requests for primary auctions. It can also take up central and state government-level businesses.

4. Which Central Asian country's government resigned recently after massive protests due to fuel price increase?

- A) Kazakhstan ☒
- B) Kyrgyzstan
- C) Uzbekistan
- D) Turkmenistan



- ✓ Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev accepted the government's resignation, after nation-wide protests against fuel price increase. Thousands of citizens were involved in the protests and a state of Emergency was declared earlier by the Government.

5. Which Indian state is set to host the next edition of Khelo India Games in 2023?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Himachal Pradesh
- C) Karnataka ☒
- D) Goa



- ✓ Karnataka Minister for Youth Empowerment and Sports announced that Karnataka will host the next Khelo India Games in 2023. He also

announced that over 75 sports students are being trained in the State to take part in the next Olympics. The 2021 edition of Khelo India is postponed due to the pandemic and is to be held in Haryana.

6. What was India's target in installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy sources, to be achieved by 2030?

- A) 30%
- B) 40% ☒
- C) 50%
- D) 100%



- ✓ As a part of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) at COP-21, India committed to achieve 40 per cent of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030. India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has said that India has achieved its non-fossil fuel-based energy target in November 2021.
- ✓ At present, India has over 40.1 percent of the total installed energy capacity of 392.01 GW.

7. Which organisation has partnered with Akshaya Patra Foundation for effective implementation of PM-POSHAN scheme?

- A) IMF
- B) World Bank
- C) United Nations - WFP ☒
- D) UNICEF



- ✓ The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has joined hands with the Akshaya Patra Foundation for effective implementation of Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM-POSHAN) scheme. The World Food Programme has more than 6 decades of experience in supporting school feeding and improving nutrition among children.
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman is Government of India's flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

8. Kuno Palpur National Park, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Madhya Pradesh ☒
- C) Karnataka
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Around 8 to 12 Cheetahs, which became extinct in independent India since 1950s, are set to be translocated from South Africa, Namibia and Botswana to Kuno Palpur National Park - Madhya Pradesh. In this regard, the union minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav has released an 'Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India'.

9. Which South-American country is drafting a new Constitution?

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



- ✓ South American nation Chile is in the process of drafting a new constitution for the nation. In this regard, the constitution assembly has recently elected epidemiologist Maria Elisa Quinteros as the new President to replace the body's inaugural president Elisa Loncon.

- ✓ The country has decided to replace its previous Magna Carta which was produced during the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet.
- 

10. Darvaza gas crater, also known as the 'Gateway to Hell', is located in which country?

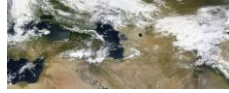
- A) USA
- B) Russia
- C) Indonesia
- D) Turkmenistan ☒



- ✓ Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdymukhamedov has ordered experts to find a method to extinguish a fire in the Darvaza gas crater. Also known as the 'Gateway to Hell', it is a huge natural gas crater.
  - ✓ It is located in the Karakum desert, 260 kilometres away from Turkmenistan's capital, Ashgabat. The Gas Crater has been burning for the last 50 years.
-

1. Western disturbance, which was seen in the news recently, is associated with?

- A) Culture
- B) Meteorology ☒
- C) Economy
- D) Politics



- ✓ A western disturbance is an extra-tropical storm originating in the Mediterranean region. It is said to bring winter rain to the northern parts of the Indian subcontinent. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted an intense Western Disturbance to affect Northwest India, triggering rainfall.
- ✓ Later, it also predicted 2 western disturbances would bring rain across northwest India and the western Himalayan region for a few days.

2. The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is an autonomous body under which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Culture
- B) Ministry of External Affairs
- C) Ministry of Education ☒
- D) Ministry of Tourism



- ✓ The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is an autonomous body under the Union Ministry of Education. Professor Raghuvendra Tanwar has been recently appointed as Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), for a period of three years or until further order. The aim of the council is to give directions to historical research and to encourage objective and scientific writing of history.

3. 'Ibonia', which was seen in the news recently, is a similar version of Ramayana found in which country?

- A) Nepal
- B) Madagascar ☒
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Mauritius

**ibonia**

- ✓ Indian Poet and Diplomat Abhay K has found that the 'Ibonia' of Madagascar resembles the Indian epic 'Ramayana' in its grand plot. Ibonia is an epic poem of Madagascar, which narrates the story of birth, betrothal, struggle and death of its hero Ibonia. His betrothed wife Rampela was abducted by Ravato in similar lines with Ramayana.
- ✓ There are over 300 similar words between Sanskrit and the Malagasy Language.

4. India's first Open Rock Museum is located in which city?

- A) Hyderabad ☒
- B) Mysuru
- C) Trivandrum
- D) Varanasi



- ✓ Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first Open Rock Museum in Hyderabad.
- ✓ The Museum displays around 35 types of rocks from various parts of India with ages ranging from 3.3 billion years to around 55 million years of the Earth's history.

5. India approved signing of MoU with which country, on Cooperation in Disaster Management?

- A) France
- B) Turkmenistan ☒
- C) Australia
- D) New Zealand



- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management.
- ✓ At present, India has signed agreements of Cooperation for cooperation in the field of Disaster Management with Switzerland, Russia, SAARC, Germany, Japan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Bangladesh and Italy. The Union Cabinet also approved the signing of Agreement between India and Spain on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters.

6. 'Mission Jeewan Raksha' is associated with which institution?

- A) Indian Army
- B) Indian Navy
- C) Railway Police Force ☒
- D) National Security Guard



- ✓ Railway Police Force personnel saved 601 persons across Indian Railways in the year 2021. They have saved 1650 lives from the wheels of the running trains at railway stations across India in the last four years under 'Mission Jeewan Raksha'.
- ✓ Indian Railways has returned left behind luggage with value at 23 crores to over 1.2 lakh rightful passengers.

7. Who is the head of the committee set up by Union Home Ministry, to probe on Prime Minister's Security Lapse?

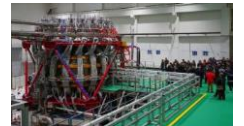
- A) Sudhir Kumar Saxena ☒
- B) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- C) Surjit Bhalla
- D) Ranjan Gogoi



- ✓ The Union Home Affairs Ministry constituted a three-member committee to probe into the lapses in the security arrangement during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Punjab's Ferozepur. The Committee will be led by Sudhir Kumar Saxena, secretary (security), Cabinet Secretariat.

8. The 'Artificial Sun' is an ambitious project of which country?

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



- ✓ China's 'Artificial sun' recently set a new world record after superheating to temperatures five times hotter than the sun for more than 17 minutes (1,056 seconds). The EAST (Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak) nuclear fusion reactor maintained a temperature of 158 million degrees Fahrenheit (70 million degrees Celsius). In 2003 France's Tore Supra tokamak, maintained similar temperatures for 390 seconds.

9. How many states are covered in the second phase of the Green Energy Corridor scheme?

- A) Three
- B) Five
- C) Seven ☒
- D) Ten

**7**

- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the second phase of the Green Energy Corridor scheme. Under the scheme, over 20 GW of Renewable energy projects will be installed across seven states namely Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh in this phase.

- ✓ The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs 12,031 crore, and 33 percent of the project cost will be provided as central financial assistance.

10. What is the objective of 'Clairvoyant', the AI-based patented system launched recently?

- A) Tackle Air Pollution
- B) Water Purification ☒
- C) Mine Cryptocurrency
- D) Disinfection



- ✓ Union Minister Jitendra Singh launched Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven Start-Up named 'Swajal Water Private Limited' started by IIT alumni for water purification.
- ✓ The company's patented system, 'Clairvoyant' uses Artificial Intelligence to optimise purification systems and predict future breakdowns. They have also developed clean drinking water solutions in the form of Water ATMS, which combines Internet of Things technology with solar energy.

1. PARAKH, which was seen in the news recently, is a portal associated with which field?

- A) Student Learning Assessment ☒  
 B) Defence Acquisition  
 C) Investment Advice  
 D) Customs Clearance



- ✓ The National Education Policy introduced a national assessment centre named PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development). Recently, the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) launched a portal of Student Learning Assessment (PARAKH), which will conduct assessments of students and faculty members of higher educational institutes and schools.

2. Gulabo, which recently passed away at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal is a .....

- A) One-horned Rhino  
 B) Sloth Bear ☒  
 C) Bengal Tiger  
 D) Giant Tortoise



- ✓ India's oldest sloth bear, named Gulabo, died at the age of 40 at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo in Bhopal. The female bear was rescued from a street performer in 2006 at the age of 25 years. The autopsy determined that failure of internal organs due to old age is the cause of death of the sloth bear.

3. 'Central Institute of Classical Tamil', is located in which city?

- A) Madurai  
 B) Chennai ☒  
 C) Coimbatore  
 D) Tiruchirappalli



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new building of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil in Perumbakkam on the outskirts of the Chennai city. CICT was formerly known as the Centre of Excellence for Classical Tamil (CECT), is an autonomous organisation under the Union Ministry of Education. It was functioning at the campus of the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore from 2006 to 2008.

4. Which state won the first prize in Third National Water Awards-2020 in the best state category?

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



- ✓ Uttar Pradesh has been awarded the first prize in Third National Water Awards-2020 in the best state category. It is followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti gives 57 awards to States, Organizations, Individuals etc. in 11 different categories. It encourages stakeholders to adopt holistic approach in water management and motivate people to adopt best water usage practices.

5. Which state signed agreement with 'National Dairy Development Board' to create a Rs 2,000 Cr Dairy joint venture?

- A) Punjab  
 B) Assam ☒  
 C) Gujarat  
 D) Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ The Assam government and National Dairy Development Board signed an agreement to create a Rs 2,000-crore joint venture for holistic development of the sector in the state. As per the MoU, a joint venture company will be set up for Rs 2,000 crore with a target of processing 10 lakh litres of milk from six new units in seven years. Foundation stone of Dairy's expansion initiative under the World Bank-funded 'Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transportation Project' was also laid.

6. As per NSO First Advance Estimates, what is the GDP Growth forecasted for FY 2021-22?

- A) 8.5%  
 B) 9.2% ☒  
 C) 10%  
 D) 11.5%



- ✓ The National Statistical Office (NSO) released the First Advance Estimates of GDP Growth for FY 2021-22 as 9.2 per cent, as compared to the contraction of 7.3 percent in 2020-21.  
 ✓ As per the estimates, the Indian economy remains on track to regain its position as the world's fastest-growing major economy. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) forecast the growth at 9.5 percent.

7. In which year, the first Start-up India 'Innovation Week' was launched?

- A) 2015  
 B) 2017  
 C) 2019  
 D) 2021 ☒



- ✓ The Indian Government is organising the first-ever Startup India 'Innovation Week' from January 10, 2021. It aims to bring together the startups, entrepreneurs, investors, incubators, funding entities, banks and policymakers under one platform to promote innovation. It also aims to showcase the spread of entrepreneurship across India.  
 ✓ Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is organising the virtual week-long innovation celebration.

8. Which Technology company is the service provider for Passport Seva Programme 2.0?

- A) Tech Mahindra  
 B) TCS ☒  
 C) Accenture  
 D) Wipro



- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has selected Tata Consultancy Services for the second phase of the Passport Seva Programme. TCS had successfully implemented its first phase, which was introduced in 2008. The programme aimed to improve delivery of passport-related services, digitise processes, fast-track the timelines, and improve transparency.

9. What is the expenditure limit for candidates for Lok Sabha elections, as per recent notification of Election Commission?

- A) Rs 95 lakhs ☒  
 B) Rs 75 lakhs  
 C) Rs 60 lakhs  
 D) Rs 50 lakhs



- ✓ The Election Commission announced a hike in expenditure limit for candidates to Rs 95 lakh, up from Rs 70 lakh for Lok Sabha elections. The Election Commission had formed a committee to study cost factors and other related issues.

- ✓ For Assembly elections, the revised expenditure limit for candidates is Rs 40 lakh for big states, up from Rs 28 lakh. Candidates in smaller states can spend a maximum Rs 28 lakh instead of the earlier limit of Rs 20 lakh.

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10. India's first multi-dimensional 'adventure sports expedition' was carried out in which country?

- A) USA
- B) France ☒
- C) Switzerland
- D) Australia



- ✓ India's first multi-dimensional 'adventure sports expedition' was flagged off on October 27, 2021. It was conducted by National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) in France. Recently, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged-in India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports expedition.
- ✓ The team, which included 8 Army personnel and 4 youths of Arunachal Pradesh, carried out over 250 kilometres of winter trekking in the Alps Mountain Ranges, paragliding, 975 kilometres of cycling and 12 deep scuba dives in the Mediterranean Sea.

1. Which zone received maximum share of complaints under Ombudsman schemes, as per recent RBI Report?

- A) South Zone
- B) East Zone
- C) North Zone ☒
- D) West Zone



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) witnessed a 22.27 per cent rise in the volume of complaints under various ombudsman schemes during April 2020-March 2021, at 4,04,143. Chandigarh, Kanpur and Delhi got the maximum number of complaints and the North zone accounted for the maximum share of complaints (43.10 per cent) in 2020-21.
- ✓ It was followed by the West zone and the South zone. East zone continued to have the least share of complaints. ATM and debit cards, mobile banking and credit cards accounted for the most reasons of complaints.

2. Which country recently launched formal Free Trade Agreement negotiations with India?

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



- ✓ With an aim of doubling the trade between India and the United Kingdom (UK) by 2030, the countries launched formal Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations. Bilateral trade between the countries is worth about \$50 billion per year.
- ✓ Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said both countries had agreed to sensitive sectors such as agriculture and dairy sectors.

3. Who is the head of the Working group set up to strengthen television rating point (TRP) services?

- A) Shashi Shekhar Vempati ☒
- B) Anurag Singh Thakur
- C) L Murugan
- D) Sukant Vatsa



- ✓ The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has asked television monitoring agency Broadcast Audience Research Council India (Barc) to release viewership ratings of news channels with immediate effect.
- ✓ The Ministry has also set up a Sukant Vatsa under the chairmanship of Prasar Bharti CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati to study different aspects of capturing data and to strengthen television rating point (TRP) services.

4. What is the Crew capacity of the Gaganyaan programme?

- A) 2
- B) 3 ☒
- C) 4
- D) 5

3

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully conducted the qualification test of the Cryogenic Engine for the Gaganyaan programme for a duration of 720 seconds. The test was conducted at ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu. This long-duration test is a major milestone for the three-crewed Human Space Programme Gaganyaan.

5. Murree is a popular hill station of which country?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Pakistan ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Nepal

- ✓ Pakistan's popular hill station Murree was declared a calamity-hit area after at least 21 people, froze to death due to unprecedented

snowfall. Murree is a mountain town, located in the Pir Panjal Range, in the Rawalpindi District of Punjab, Pakistan.

6. When is the 'Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas' observed in India?

- A) January 9 ☒
- B) January 10
- C) January 11
- D) January 12



- ✓ On Jan,9, the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas is observed to strengthen the engagement of Indian community overseas with the India government, Jan.9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion as, in 1915, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa.

7. Which Tennis player won the Melbourne Summer Set ATP 250 event Title?

- A) Roger Federer
- B) Rafael Nadal ☒
- C) Daniil Medvedev
- D) Novak Djokovic



- ✓ Tennis Player Rafael Nadal won the Melbourne Summer Set ATP 250 event title recently. The 20-time Grand Slam champion defeated American Maxime Cressy. It was also Rafael Nadal's 89<sup>th</sup> tour-level crown.

8. Which Indian has been appointed as the New Vice President of Asian Infrastructure Investment Fund (AIIB)?

- A) Raghuram Rajan
- B) Urjit Patel ☒
- C) D Subbarao
- D) Y V Reddy



- ✓ Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Urjit Patel has been appointed Vice-President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). He will serve a three-year term as one of the five Vice-Presidents Beijing-based multilateral bank.

9. 'Mission Parvarish' is associated with which state?

- A) Assam ☒
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Punjab
- D) Maharashtra



- ✓ Cachar district of Assam carried out 'Mission Parvarish', which recovered 704 out of 800 children aged six months to five years from severely acute malnourishment. The mission, which involved Government agencies, local civic bodies, NGOs and businessmen recently, won the SKOCH Award.

10. Which is the first city in India to have a water metro project?

- A) Chennai
- B) Kolkata
- C) Kochi ☒
- D) Mumbai



- ✓ Kochi city of Kerala became the first city in India to have a water metro project, after it launched battery-powered electric boats. The project aims to develop an integrated water transport system with 15 identified routes. It is operated by Kochi Metro Rail Ltd.

1. Which country launched an inter-city train service using Indian-funded coaches?

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



- ✓ Sri Lanka recently launched an inter-city train service, using the Diesel Multiple Units procured from India. The train service will run across the country, connecting the capital city of Colombo with Kankesanthurai of the Yaazhpaanam Peninsula, which has a Tamil-majority population.

2. What is the name of the new Department created by the Reserve Bank in 2022?

- A) Department of Digital Currency  
B) Department of Fin-tech ☒  
C) Department of Data Science  
D) Department of AI



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has created a new department named "Department of Fin-Tech", to promote innovation in the fin-tech sector. It also aims to identify the challenges and opportunities associated with it. In 2018, RBI created a financial technology within its Department of Payment Settlement Systems.
- ✓ The new fintech department will also provide framework for further research on the subject and help in policy interventions of RBI.

3. Which Union Ministry released the 'Harmonised Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility in India 2021'?

- A) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒  
B) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
C) Ministry of Law and Justice  
D) Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ The Central Public Works Department (CPWD), under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) released the Harmonised Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility in India 2021. This is a revision to a set of guidelines for barrier-free environment released in 2016.
- ✓ It has been drafted by a team of the Indian Institute of Technology-Roorkee and the National Institute of Urban Affairs of the MoHUA.

4. Which state constituted the Justice Hema Commission?

- A) Tamil Nadu  
B) Kerala ☒  
C) West Bengal  
D) Gujarat



- ✓ In 2017, the Kerala Government formed a three-member commission headed by Justice K Hema (retired), former bureaucrat KB Valsalakumari and veteran actress Sharada as members.
- ✓ The commission was formed to scrutinise problems faced by women in the Malayalam film industry. The Government in Kerala recently formed a three-member panel to study and work out a plan to implement the recommendations of the Justice Hema Commission report.

5. '*Xylophaga nandani*', which was recently identified, is a species of \_\_\_\_?

- A) Mollusc ☒  
B) Fish  
C) Turtle  
D) Snake



- ✓ A team of researchers from Kerala and Brazil have identified a new species of a rare, deep-sea mollusc named '*Xylophaga nandani*'. The mollusc belonging to the family Xylophagidae has been identified from the eastern Arabian Sea. The wood-boring, tiny species has been named after Professor Bijoy Nandan, Dean, faculty of Marine Sciences, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT)

6. 'Magh Mela' is an annual religious fair held in which state?

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



- ✓ The 47-day annual religious fair 'Magh Mela-2022' has been inaugurated with thousands of pilgrims taking holy dip on the banks of the Sangam in Prayagraj. Sangam is a sacred confluence of the three rivers namely Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati. The fair is usually held to mark the occasion of Makar Sankranti.

7. '*Hydrophis gracilis*', a rare sea snake has been spotted in which state/UT?

- A) Kerala ☒  
B) Maharashtra  
C) Goa  
D) Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ During a water bird census, an uncommon sea snake was spotted by a team of bird watchers. *Hydrophis gracilis*, the small-headed sea snake, was spotted at the Perumathura coast in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Members of the Thiruvananthapuram-based forum of bird watchers and nature lovers, Warblers and Waders, were carrying out the survey as part of the yearly water-bird census.

8. What is the main objective of the 'James Webb space telescope'?

- A) To find out about the Surface of the Sun  
B) To find out about the origin of the Universe ☒  
C) To study the most distant known galaxies  
D) To explore the structure of planetary system



- ✓ NASA launched the James Webb space telescope on December 25, 2021. It is a joint collaboration between NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA), and the Canadian Space Agency. The telescope recently completed its final deployment which was of the primary mirror.
- ✓ The mission of the James Webb telescope is the largest space telescope ever built and its mission is to help scientists find out more about the origin of the universe. It will capture infrared light from celestial objects with high resolution.

9. What is the present status of China at the World Trade Organization?

- A) Upper Middle-Income country  
B) Developed Country  
C) Developing Country ☒  
D) Least Developed Country



- ✓ China completed 20 years at the World Trade Organisation and its present status at the 'World Trade Organization (WTO)' is 'Developing Country'. A number of countries are raising concerns that China being an upper middle-income nation deriving benefits reserved for developing countries under WTO norms.

10. Which Union Ministry announced a dedicated Grievance Cell, for uninterrupted supply of essentials?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- B) Ministry of Food Processing Industries ☒
- C) Ministry of Textiles
- D) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways



- ✓ Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a dedicated grievance cell for the food and food-related industry to ensure smooth operations and uninterrupted supply of essentials for all citizens. The Ministry had set up a similar grievance cell during the first wave when the national lockdown was imposed in the country.
  - ✓ The Ministry said that industry players and people can send their concerns and queries on covidgrievance-mofpi@gov.in.
-

1. Which film won the 'Best picture (drama)' award at the Golden Globes 2022?

- A) The Power of a Dog ☒
- B) King Richard
- C) Belfast
- D) Coda



- ✓ The Power of a Dog' was named the 'Best picture (drama)' at the Golden Globes 2022. The Benedict Cumberbatch-starring movie also won the best director for Jane Campion and best supporting actor for Kodi Smit-McPhee. Steven Spielberg's 'West Side Story' won the best picture (musical or comedy), best actress in a motion picture (musical or comedy) and best supporting actress in a motion picture awards.
- ✓ Will Smith, (King Richard) won the Best actor in a motion picture, drama award.

2. Which country is the first to successfully conduct a human heart transplant from a genetically modified pig?

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



- ✓ Doctors at the University of Maryland Medical Center, USA has successfully conducted a human heart transplant from a genetically modified pig. David Bennett, 57 became the first person in the world to get such a heart transplant.

3. 'Rojgar Mission' is the recent initiative of which state?

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) Chhattisgarh ☒
- C) Punjab
- D) Assam



- ✓ The Chhattisgarh government has decided to set up an employment mission headed by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. The Chhattisgarh Rojgar Mission will have chief secretary and principal secretary as the Vice Chairman and CEO respectively. It aims to create around 15 lakh job opportunities in the state in the next five years, by leveraging expertise of premiere institutions such as IITs and IIMs.

4. Pandit Birju Maharaj, who passed away recently, was associated with which dance?

- A) Kathak ☒
- B) Bharatanatyam
- C) Kuchipudi
- D) Mohiniyattam



- ✓ Legendary Kathak dancer Pandit Birju Maharaj passed away recently at the age of 83. He is also known as Panditji and Maharaj-ji by his disciples. He is regarded as one of India's best-known artistes.
- ✓ He was awarded the 'Sangeet Natak Akademi Award' in 1964 and the Padma Vibhushan in 1986. He was also awarded the National Film Award for Best Choreography.

5. As per Standards for Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles (EV), who can set up a Public Charging Station (PCS)?

- A) DISCOMs
- B) Individuals ☒
- C) Ministry of Power
- D) State Governments



- ✓ The Union Ministry of Power promulgated the revised Guidelines & Standards for Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles (EV). As per the guidelines, any individual/entity is free to set up public charging stations without the requirement of a licence provided that, such stations meet the technical, safety standards and protocols.

6. India's Commemorative postal stamp on Covid-19 vaccination features which vaccine?

- A) Covishield
- B) Covaxin ☒
- C) COVOVAX
- D) ZyCoV-D



- ✓ India released a commemorative postal stamp on Covid-19 vaccination to mark the first anniversary of the country's national immunization programme. The stamp shows a health worker inoculating a senior citizen with Covaxin. Within a span of one year, India has administered more than 156 crore doses.
- ✓ Covaxin was developed by Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

7. Who is the first Black woman to appear on US coin?

- A) Maya Angelou ☒
- B) Phillis Wheatley
- C) Wanda Coleman
- D) Gwendolyn Brooks



- ✓ Poet and activist Maya Angelou has become the first Black woman to appear on the US coin. The coin is part of the African Women Quarters program. For the last 90 years, the first US President George Washington was seen on one side and an eagle on the other.

8. 'Daniel Ortega' sworn in as which country's President, for his fourth consecutive term?

- A) Nicaragua ☒
- B) El Salvador
- C) Peru
- D) Argentina



- ✓ Daniel Ortega was sworn in as the President of the Central American country 'Nicaragua' for his fourth consecutive term. The United States and European Union imposed sanctions on several persons in his government after the elections. Ortega's government has been in power since 2007.

9. Orang National Park is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Orang National Park is located in the state of Assam at the north bank of the river Brahmaputra. It was previously called as the 'Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park'. The Government has recently issued notification to make Orang National Park more than thrice its existing size.

10. Which state launched the 'Smart Township' scheme?

- A) Andhra Pradesh ☒
- B) Odisha
- C) Gujarat
- D) Kerala



- ✓ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy recently launched the website for Jagananna Smart Township scheme. Under the scheme, the Government aims to give land with litigation-free titles and at a reasonable price.
- ✓ The state government has already distributed 31 lakh house pattas to the middle-class families and started the construction of 15.6 lakh houses in the first phase.

1. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act came into effect from which year?

- A) 2000  
B) 2005  
C) 2010  
D) 2020 ☒



- ✓ The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 came into effect from January 2020. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has asked prison authorities to make separate facilities for trans men and trans women to preserve the right to privacy and dignity of the inmates.
- ✓ The guidelines are released considering the Transgender Persons Act, 2019. According to a National Crime Records Bureau, there were 70 transgender prisoners in jails across the country in 2020.

2. Which state government notified the 'Regional Plan Rules, 2021'?

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



- ✓ The state government of Tamil Nadu notified the 'Regional Plan Rules, 2021'. The rules are notified for preparing plans for 12 regions covering 1.36 lakh sq km in the State. Under the new rules, the State will constitute a regional planning authority to prepare land and building use maps over the next 18 months.
- ✓ The regional plan is an inter-settlement plan, while master plans and detailed development plans are intra-settlement plans.

3. Which state/UT played host to the '25<sup>th</sup> National Youth Festival' in 2022?

- A) Goa  
B) Lakshadweep  
C) Puducherry ☒  
D) Assam



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 25<sup>th</sup> National Youth Festival in Puducherry via video conference. The Prime Minister also inaugurated a technology centre of the MSME Ministry and Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Manimandapam, an auditorium with an open-air theatre in Puducherry, to be used for educational purposes.

4. Which country proposed 'P3 (Pro-Planet People) movement' during the WEF Davos Agenda 2022?

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



- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced the "P3 (Pro-Planet People) movement" to underline India's climate change commitments at World Economic Forum's (WEF) Davos Agenda 2022. The World Economic Forum's Davos Agenda Virtual Summit hosted world leaders and heads of important institutions around the world to discuss climate action, pandemic recovery, and socio-economic resilience.

5. Senior bureaucrat Vikram Dev Dutt is the new Chairman & Managing Director of which organisation?

- A) Air India ☒ B) Life Insurance Corporation  
C) Central Electronics Ltd D) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd

- ✓ Senior bureaucrat Vikram Dev Dutt has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of Air India Ltd. Vikram Dev Dutt was a 1993-batch IAS officer of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre and is at present Principal Secretary (Tourism) in Delhi Government.
- ✓ He has been appointed in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary, as per the order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

6. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Climate Hazards and Vulnerability Atlas of India'?

- A) Ministry of Science and Technology  
B) Ministry of Earth Sciences ☒  
C) Ministry of Environment, Forest  
D) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



- ✓ The first of its kind 'Climate Hazards and Vulnerability Atlas of India' has been recently released by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences. As per the report, the Sunderbans in West Bengal, neighbouring districts of Odisha, and Ramanathapuram, Pudukkottai and Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu are the most vulnerable to high storm surges of as much as 8.5 to 13.7 metres that are induced by cyclones.

7. Which Tennis star was deported from Australia, after his unvaccinated status?

- A) Rafael Nadal  
B) Novak Djokovic ☒  
C) Roger Federer  
D) Daniil Medvedev



- ✓ Ace Tennis player Novak Djokovic has been deported from Australia after Judges rejected a challenge by the unvaccinated tennis star.
- ✓ The Australian Government cancelled his visa on "health and good order" grounds.

8. Which Ministry initiated a Comprehensive Review of India's criminal laws?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs ☒  
B) Ministry of Law and Justice  
C) Ministry of Mines  
D) Ministry of Earth Science



- ✓ Ministry of Home Affairs has initiated the process for a "comprehensive review" of India's criminal laws. Union Home Minister Amit Shah sought suggestions from within the judiciary, including the Chief Justice of India, MPs and Chief Ministers for amendments to the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and the Indian Evidence Act.
- ✓ Suggestions were invited from Chief Justices of High Courts, Administrators of Union Territories, Bar Councils and law universities.

9. India signed an agreement with which country for implementing "2 Vs 2" Agri market access issues?

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



- ✓ India's Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) signed an agreement for implementing the "2 Vs 2 Agri market access" issues.

- ✓ The export of Indian mangoes and pomegranates to the US is in accordance with the recent agreement. India also signed agreements to allow import of cherries, Alfalfa hay, US pork and pork products to India.

10. Who is the head of the Supreme Court appointed Inquiry Committee to probe Prime Minister security breach?

- A) Justice Ranjan Gogoi
- B) Justice Indu Malhotra ☒
- C) Justice P Sathasivam
- D) Justice K G Balakrishnan



- ✓ The Supreme Court appointed an inquiry committee under its former judge Justice Indu Malhotra to probe the security breach during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Punjab. The committee will also include the Registrar General of the Punjab and Haryana Court, the Director General of the National Investigation Agency or an officer nominated by him and ADGP (Security) of Punjab Police.
- ✓ The committee will look into the reasons for security breach and suggest safeguards are necessary for the security of the PM and Constitutional functionaries.

1. Kumbalangi, India's first-ever sanitary napkin-free village, is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Kumbalangi became the first-ever sanitary napkin-free village in the country. It is located in the Ernakulam district of Kerala. It is part of 'Avalkayi' (for her) campaign being implemented in the Ernakulam constituency, under which menstrual cups are distributed to women aged 18 and above.
- ✓ Kumbalangi was declared a model village by the Kerala Governor. It also holds the title of India's first model tourist village.

2. Which country has developed Tu-160M / White Swan Bomber?

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



- ✓ Russia has developed and unveiled its Tu-160M strategic bomber also known as White Swan. Recently, the debut flight of the bomber was conducted successfully.
- ✓ As per the Russian Military sources, the newly built Tu-160M strategic missile-carrying bomber has 80% of its equipment upgraded and is capable to strike enemy targets in remote areas with nuclear and conventional weapons.

3. Which type of LED uses an organic compound as film which emits light in response to an electric current?

- A) QLED
- B) OLED ☒
- C) Beta LED
- D) Meta LED



- ✓ Organic light-emitting diode (OLED) is a type of LED (Light-Emitting Diode) in which emissive electroluminescent layer is a film of organic compound that emits light in response to an electric current. This is a competitive alternative to liquid crystal displays (LCDs).
- ✓ Recently, team of researchers from University of Minnesota, MIT, Korea Institute of Industrial Technology and Pusan National University have demonstrated a printing technique which produces fully 3D-printed flexible OLED displays.

4. Which Indian has been roped in as the Ambassador for ICANN-supported Universal Acceptance Steering Group?

- A) Vijay Shekhar Sharma ☒
- B) Sachin Bansal
- C) Bhavish Aggarwal
- D) Deepinder Goyal



- ✓ Global internet body ICANN-supported Universal Acceptance Steering Group has roped in Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma as UA Ambassador.
- ✓ The Group works on developing and recommending standards for languages script that are not currently used to access the internet.

5. Dimitar Kovacevski is the new Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Greece
- B) North Macedonia ☒
- C) Egypt
- D) Argentina



- ✓ North Macedonia's Parliament elected a new cabinet under a new Social Democratic leader, Dimitar Kovacevski. He succeeds his Social Democratic predecessor, Zoran Zaev.
- ✓ The new Prime Minister announced that his immediate tasks are tackling the ongoing energy crisis and key talks with Bulgaria. The Republic of North Macedonia is a country in Southeast Europe.

6. Which Indian state has joined hands with the World Food Programme (WFP) to improve food security of farmers?

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



- ✓ The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Odisha government have joined hands to improve the food security of small and marginal farmers. The agreement aims to strengthen the farmers' resilience to climate change.
- ✓ The WFP and the Agriculture Department will develop toolkits and guidelines to provide services to small farmers.

7. Roberta Metsola is the youngest President of which multilateral institution?

- A) European Parliament ☒
- B) UNESCO
- C) UNICEF
- D) World Bank



- ✓ Centre-right lawmaker Roberta Metsola has been selected as the third woman to head the European Parliament. The 43-year-old from the European Union's smallest nation Malta is also the youngest President of the European Parliament.

8. Which country initiated the 'Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure'?

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



- ✓ India announced 'Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure' at UN Climate Action Summit in New York in 2019. The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day is annually marked on January 19. NDRF was formed on the same day in 2006. NDRF functions under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

9. Which is the first country to approve purchase of BrahMos Missiles from India?

- A) Philippines ☒
- B) Israel
- C) Russia
- D) Australia



- ✓ The Philippines has given a \$374 million contract to BrahMos Aerospace to supply shore-based anti-ship missiles for the country's navy. BrahMos Aerospace, an India-Russian joint venture, produces Supersonic cruise missile 'BrahMos' that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms.

10. Which institution recently released report on 'Pandemic Billionaires'?

- A) Pratham Foundation
- B) Oxfam ☒
- C) Amnesty International
- D) UNICEF



- ✓ As per a recent Oxfam report, 20 people in Asia (from India, China, Hong Kong, and Japan) mostly associated with the field of pharmaceuticals, saw their wealth zoom during the pandemic period.
- ✓ As per the report, the richest 1 percent owned more wealth than the poorest 90 percent in the region. The total number of billionaires grew by almost a third from 803 in March 2020 to 1,087 by November last year, whom the report calls "Pandemic Billionaires".

1. Which country has built an 'Artificial Moon' project?

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



- ✓ Chinese scientists have built an "artificial moon" research facility, to simulate low-gravity environments using magnetism. The facility, which is to be officially launched this year, will use powerful magnetic fields inside vacuum chamber to make gravity disappear. This effect is called 'Diamagnetic levitation'.

2. When is the 'National Start-up Day' celebrated?

- A) January 1  
B) January 16 ☒  
C) January 17  
D) January 25



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that January 16 will be celebrated as National Start-up Day every year. The prime minister also said this decade is the 'techade of India'.
- ✓ With over 61,000 recognised startups by the Department for promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT), the government acknowledges India as the world's 3rd largest start-up ecosystem.

3. As per the India State of Forest Report 2021, the country's forest cover increased to ..... of India's geographical area.

- A) 19.71%  
B) 21.71% ☒  
C) 25.71%  
D) 30.71%



- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released the India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021. As per the report, the forest cover has increased to 7,13,789 sq km, or 21.71% of India's geographical area. It is an increase of 1,540 sq km.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, Karnataka and Jharkhand contributed the most to increase in forest cover.

4. 'I4F Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund' is a collaboration between India and which country?

- A) Indonesia  
B) Israel ☒  
C) Germany  
D) France



- ✓ 'I4F- India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund' is collaboration between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Israel Innovation Authority. It aims to promote joint Industrial R&D between India & Israel.
- ✓ The two countries have recently approved three joint R&D projects worth \$5.5 million including 'Centrally monitored IoT nano-sensors for diagnostics in healthcare; 'NoMoreMos' – a mosquito control biological solution; and 'IoT enabled satellite communication for real-time collection of agriculture and environment data across India'.

5. Which country has inaugurated the 'India-assisted social housing units project'?

- A) Madagascar  
B) Mauritius ☒  
C) Maldives  
D) Myanmar



- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart Pravind Jugnauth jointly inaugurated India-assisted social housing units project in Mauritius virtually. They also laid foundation stone for Civil Service College and an 8 MW Solar PV Farm, undertaken with India's support
- ✓ They also signed agreement for the extension of USD 190M Line of Credit from the India to Mauritius for the Metro Express and other infrastructure projects, and an MoU on the implementation of small development projects.

6. Which Indian state has launched the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the state and decided to set up 'Infrastructure Financing Authority'?

- A) Tamil Nadu  
B) Arunachal Pradesh ☒  
C) Telangana  
D) Assam



- ✓ Arunachal Pradesh government will establish 'Arunachal Pradesh Infrastructure Financing Authority', to fast-track infrastructure development. Chief Minister Pema Khandu commemorated the launch of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Arunachal Pradesh as an independent identity. The Cabinet also decided to formulate District Level Good Governance Index.

7. Which Union Ministry released revised 'Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI) Guidelines'?

- A) Ministry of Rural Development  
B) Ministry of Panchayati Raj ☒  
C) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare  
D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change



- ✓ Ministry of Panchayati Raj released the revised 'Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI) Guidelines'. The newly introduced Rural guidelines aim to transform rural India and to promote rural prosperity. It would supplement the efforts of the Centre such as the SVAMITVA scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj and RURBAN Mission of Ministry of Rural Development.

8. Which institution released the 'Climate of India during 2021' Report?

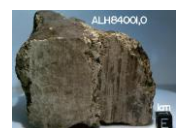
- A) NABARD  
B) India Meteorological Department ☒  
C) NITI Aayog  
D) Environment Ministry



- ✓ India Meteorological Department (IMD) recently released its 'Climate of India during 2021' report. As per the report, 2021 was the fifth warmest year in India since nation-wide records commenced in the country in 1901. It also shows that the country reported loss of 1,750 lives due to extreme weather events last year and Maharashtra was the most adversely affected state.

9. 'ALH 84001' meteorite which was making news, landed on the Earth from which planet?

- A) Jupiter  
B) Mars ☒  
C) Venus  
D) Saturn



- ✓ A meteorite called (ALH) 84001 landed on the Earth from Mars in 1984. For more than four decades scientists have debated if the organic compounds found on the surface of the meteorite were proof of ancient life on Mars.
- 

10. India recently undertook a 'Maritime Partnership Exercise' in the Bay of Bengal with which country?

- A) Australia
- B) Japan ☒
- C) France
- D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ Indian Naval Ships Shivalik and Kadmat undertook Maritime Partnership Exercise with Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) ships Uraga and Hirado in the Bay of Bengal. The Maritime Partnership Exercise included several maritime operations including Flying Operations and Tactical Manoeuvres. It aims to further strengthen the wide-ranging strategic partnerships between the navies.
-

1. Which is the first Indian scheduled commercial bank to issue public Formosa USD bonds?

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



- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has raised \$300 million through "Regulation S" Formosa Bonds for five years. It is the first Indian scheduled commercial bank to issue public Formosa Bonds. The bonds have been benchmarked against five-year US Treasury notes.

2. India recently granted \$900 mn loan to which country to tackle forex crisis?

- A) Nepal
- B) Sri Lanka ☒
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Venezuela



- ✓ India has announced a USD 900 million loan to Sri Lanka to build up its depleted foreign reserves and for food imports, Sri Lanka is also negotiating a USD one billion loan from India to import goods from the country. There has been a shortage of almost all essential commodities in the island nation, due to a shortage of dollars to pay for the imports.

3. As of January 2022, what is the minimum number of airbags compulsory for vehicles carrying up to eight passengers?

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



- ✓ A driver airbag was made compulsory for all passenger vehicles since July 1, 2019. Dual airbags (driver and passenger in front row) became mandatory on all vehicles from January 2022. Road Transport ministry recently approved a draft notification to make a minimum of six airbags compulsory for vehicles carrying up to eight passengers. The aim is to minimise the impact of "frontal and lateral collisions".

4. When is the 'Army Day' observed every year in India?

- A) January 15 ☒
- B) January 20
- C) January 25
- D) January 30



- ✓ January 15 has been celebrated as Army Day every year, to mark the day General KM Cariappa (who later became Field Marshal) took over as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from Gen F R Roy Bucher.

5. Which country has organised the 'Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation'?

- A) India
- B) Malaysia ☒
- C) UK
- D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ Government of Malaysia and Global Tiger Forum (GTF) jointly organised the 4th Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation. India's Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Bhupender Yadav delivered India's statement at the Conference on Tiger Conservation.

- ✓ India will facilitate Tiger Range Countries towards finalisation of New Delhi declaration for Global Tiger Summit to be held in Russia.

6. Which Union Ministry launched the "Koyla Darpan" portal?

- A) Ministry of Steel
- B) Ministry of Coal ☒
- C) Ministry of Power
- D) Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ Union Ministry of Coal launched the "Koyla Darpan" portal, to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) related to the Coal Sector. At present, the portal has 9 KPIs including Coal/Lignite Production, Status of Coal Stock in Thermal Power Plants, Infrastructure Projects, Allocation of Blocks, Monitoring of Major Coal Mines and Coal Price.

7. Ayesha Malik became the first-ever woman judge of the Supreme Court of which country?

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



- ✓ High Court Justice Ayesha Malik has been appointed as Pakistan's first-ever woman judge of the Supreme Court. Pakistan President Arif Alvi gave his approval to the elevation of the Judge, who was serving as Lahore High Court Justice since 2012. She will now work as a Supreme Court Judge until her superannuation in June 2031.

8. Repos, one of the winners of the National Startup Award 2021, is associated with which field?

- A) Energy Distribution ☒
- B) Health Innovation
- C) Fintech
- D) Skill Development



- ✓ Ministry of Commerce and Industry named the top 46 Indian startups and presented them National Startup Award 2021. 150 entrepreneurs presented their policy recommendations at the virtual gathering presided by PM Narendra Modi.
- ✓ Pune-based Repos won this award in the Energy distribution category, for their door-to-door delivery of fuel.

9. Where is India's first BHEL-built 'coal to methanol' pilot plant located?

- A) Chennai
- B) Mumbai
- C) Hyderabad ☒
- D) Kochi



- ✓ Union Minister for Heavy Industries Mahendra Nath Pandey inaugurated India's first BHEL-built 'coal to methanol' (CTM) pilot plant at Hyderabad. This 0.25 TPD (tonnes per day) capacity CTM pilot plant has been indigenously designed, developed and installed by BHEL. It is producing methanol with purity of more than 99 per cent from high-ash Indian coal.

10. Who is the first Indian to win an Indian Open men's singles title on debut?

- A) K Srikanth
- B) Lakshya Sen ☒
- C) P Kashyap
- D) Sai Praneeth



- ✓ Lakshya Sen became the first Indian to win an Indian Open men's singles title on debut as he defeated the reigning world champion Loh Kean Yew in the final. This is Lakshya's first Super 500 title on the BWF tour. He had earlier won bronze in the 2021 World Championships.
-

1. 'World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP)' is the flagship publication of which institution?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank
- C) United Nations ☒
- D) Reserve Bank of India



- ✓ World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) is the flagship publication of United Nations. Recently the 2022 edition was launched. As per the report, the global output is projected to grow by only 4 per cent in 2022 and 3.5 per cent in 2023.

2. Pench Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Pench Tiger Reserve is located in the state of Madhya Pradesh. It was seen in the news, as its most famous tigress named 'Collarwali' recently passed away. The tigress (T-15) was born on September 22, 2005. She is also fondly called as 'Supermom' as held the distinguished record of giving birth to five cubs in a litter. She also birthed 29 cubs totally and successfully raised 25 of them.

3. 'Mana ooru, mana badi' programme is implemented in which state?

- A) Odisha
- B) Telangana ☒
- C) West Bengal
- D) Karnataka



- ✓ Telangana Cabinet recently approved 'Mana ooru, mana badi' programme, which is to be implemented in three years with a budget of ₹7,289 crore. It aims to provide overall development and creation of effective basic infrastructure in schools across the State.
- ✓ The programme is expected to benefit 19.84 lakh children of over 26000 schools in the state of Telangana.

4. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Open Data Week'?

- A) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒
- C) Ministry of Science & Tech
- D) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



- ✓ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) announced the launch of the Open Data Week. It aims to encourage the adoption of open data and promote innovation across India's urban ecosystem.
- ✓ Open Data Week is part of the pre-event initiatives being undertaken by MoHUA to promote awareness and use of open data, for the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - Smart Cities: Smart Urbanization' conference to be held in Surat, during February 2022.

5. 'Yogyata' mobile phone application was launched by .....

- A) Common Services Centers ☒
- B) National Green Tribunal
- C) Election Commission of India
- D) Supreme Court of India



- ✓ The Common Services Centers (CSC) has recently launched the 'Yogyata' mobile phone application. It aims to provide vocational

education and skill enhancement opportunities to youth and other citizens in rural areas. It includes the access to courses like Cyber Security, CAD and 3D printing, to increase employability.

6. Which state/UT launched India's 1<sup>st</sup> District Good Governance Index?

- A) Kerala
- B) Jammu & Kashmir ☒
- C) Goa
- D) Sikkim



- ✓ India's first ever District Good Governance Index (DGGI) was released in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. In the composite ranking of the index, the Jammu district tops the list followed by districts of Doda, Samba, Pulwama and Srinagar in the UT.
- ✓ The Index is a framework document which assesses the performance under ten governance sectors with 58 indicators.

7. "Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)" is a scheme of which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Science and Technology
- B) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare ☒
- C) Ministry of Rural Development
- D) Ministry of Electronics and IT



- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare launched a Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) in 2014-15, to increase the reach of farm mechanization to small and marginal farmers and to the regions where farm power availability is low.
- ✓ As per recent guidelines of SMAM, a grant of up to 100 percent of the cost of agriculture drone or Rs 10 lakh is provided for purchase of drones by the Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institutes, ICAR institutes, KVKs and State Agriculture Universities for demonstrations of this technology the farmers' fields. FPOs can get up to 75 percent of the cost of agriculture drone.

8. 'Spices Board' is a regulatory and export promotion agency under which Ministry?

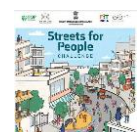
- A) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry ☒
- C) Ministry of MSME
- D) Ministry of Tribal Affairs



- ✓ 'Spices Board' is a regulatory and export promotion agency of Spices, working under the aegis of Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It is headquartered at Kochi, Kerala. Spices Board launched the country's first virtual platform for spice exports "Spice Xchange India".
- ✓ India exports 225 different spices and spice products to more than 180 countries. It is a 3D virtual platform which aims to connect India's spice exporters with buyers from around the world, using AI.

9. 'Streets for People Challenge' is an initiative of which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs ☒
- C) Ministry of Science & Tech
- D) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting



- ✓ Streets for People Challenge is the flagship initiative of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Recently the Ministry announced eleven winning cities for the Streets for People Challenge, and ten winning cities for the pilot stage of the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge.

- ✓ The Ministry also launched Season-2 of India Cycles4Change and Streets for People Challenges and a book titled 'Nurturing Neighbourhoods Challenge: Stories from the Field'.

10. 'Grama One' programme is an initiative of which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Kerala
- C) Karnataka ✓
- D) Andhra Pradesh



- ✓ Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said the ambitious 'Grama One' programme will be implemented from Republic Day in rural areas of 12 districts. The programme is aimed at providing services of various departments at the citizens' doorsteps.
- ✓ As many as 30000 'Grama One' service centre would be opened across the states to provide various government services.