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# **FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS**



## **FEBRUARY 2022**

**FEBRUARY 01-07**

1. Robert Lewandowski is associated with which sports?

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



- ✓ Polish striker Robert Lewandowski won the FIFA Best Men's Player award for 2021. At present, he plays for Bayern Munich and has won the award for the second straight year. Barcelona's Spanish midfielder Alexia Putellas won the FIFA Best Women's Player prize. The Puskas Award for best goal of the year was won by Argentine Erik Lamela.

2. 'Nusantara' is the new capital city of which country?

- A) Kazakhstan
- B) Afghanistan
- C) Indonesia ☒
- D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ Indonesia passed a bill replacing its capital Jakarta with East Kalimantan, situated to the east of Borneo Island. The new capital city of the country will be called Nusantara. Nusantara means 'Archipelago' in Javanese language. The Government also aims to build a smart metropolis in the new city as Jakarta was already overpopulated. As of 2022, Indonesia is the fourth largest populous country.

3. Which institution released the 'Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2022' Report?

- A) World Bank
- B) World Economic Forum ☒
- C) World Trade Organization
- D) International Telecom Union



- ✓ The World Economic Forum released the 'Global Cybersecurity Outlook 2022' report. As per the report, the COVID-19 pandemic has fast-tracked the use of digital tools in business and the home. These advances have led to several frequent, costly and damaging cyber incidents.

4. Which Indian Armed Force conducts 'Operation Sard Hawa'?

- A) Indo-Tibetan Police Force
- B) Border Security Force ☒
- C) Central Reserve Police Force
- D) Central Industrial Security Force



- ✓ The Border Security Force will increase surveillance along the Pakistan border in Rajasthan under its "Operation Sard Hawa" to be held from January 23 to 28. The Border Security Force conducts "Operation Garam Hawa" in summer and "Operation Sard Hawa" in winter every year.

5. Which financial institution launched the 'Saathi' mobile app?

- A) Reserve Bank of India
- B) NABARD
- C) SEBI ☒
- D) SIDBI



- ✓ Capital markets regulator SEBI launched its mobile App named 'Saathi' to create awareness among investors about the basic concepts of securities market. The app has been released among the recent rise in individual investors entering the market, and a large proportion of trading being mobile phone based.
- ✓ The App aims to create awareness about the basic concepts KYC process, trading and settlement, mutual funds, market developments, investor grievances redressal mechanism, etc.

6. Which country played host to the 'AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022'?

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



- ✓ India is hosting the 'AFC Women's Asian Cup 2022'. India is aiming to qualify for the quarterfinals and create history by reaching the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup. The FIFA Women's World Cup is scheduled to be held in Australia and New Zealand next year.
- ✓ No Indian senior football team has ever played in a World Cup. Japan is looking to reaffirm its top position for third consecutive time, with Australia and China as the biggest challenges.

7. 'Infinity Bridge' is the iconic architectural structure located in which country?

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



- ✓ The 'Infinity Bridge' in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, has been opened to traffic for the first time recently. The new bridge which is built over the Dubai Creek, beside the Al Shindagha Tunnel, which allowed vehicles to cross the Creek underwater. The Infinity Bridge is part of the Al Shindagha Corridor Project, which was first proposed in 2018.

8. Which department manages the 'Contingency Fund of India' on behalf of the President?

- A) Department of Economic Affairs ☒
- B) Department of Expenditure
- C) Department of Financial Services
- D) Department of Revenue



- ✓ The 'Contingency Fund of India' is held by the Finance Ministry's Department of economic affairs on behalf of the President of India. It can be operated by executive action and used during disasters and related unforeseen expenditures.
- ✓ Recently, the Government has tweaked spending norms for Contingency Fund, allowing 40% of the total corpus to be placed at disposal of the expenditure secretary.

9. Who has been selected for Assam's highest civilian award 'Assam Baibhav'?

- A) Ratan Tata ☒
- B) Gautam Adani
- C) Mukesh Ambani
- D) Azim Premji



- ✓ The Assam government is set to confer the state's highest civilian award 'Assam Baibhav' on industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata. The state will also confer Assam Baibhav, Assam Saurav and Assam Gaurav Awards. The Assam Saurav award will be conferred on five personalities including Olympics medallist Lovlina Borgohain.

10. *Halodule uninervis*, a species of sea grass, is found to have strong activity against which disease?

- A) Cancer ☒
- B) Hypertension
- C) Diabetes
- D) COVID-19



- ✓ Researchers have recently found scientific evidence of a strong anti-cancer activity in the ethyl acetate fraction of *Halodule uninervis*.
  - ✓ It is a species of sea-grass found in the coastal region near Rameswaram in southern Tamil Nadu. It evaluated the activity of the species against various human cancer cell lines, including malignant melanoma, lung, cervix, carcinoma and colorectal cancers.
-

1. Which is the northern most state of India, as of 2022?

- A) Jammu & Kashmir  
B) Punjab  
C) Himachal Pradesh ☒  
D) Haryana



- ✓ Himachal Pradesh is the northernmost state of India and shares borders with the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to the north. The state is celebrating its 52<sup>nd</sup> full statehood day on 25 January, as it was formed as the 18<sup>th</sup> Indian state on the same day in 1971, with Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar as its first Chief Minister.

2. 'INS Khukri Memorial' is located in which state/UT?

- A) Punjab  
B) Diu ☒  
C) Puducherry  
D) Goa



- ✓ 'INS Khukri Memorial' is a Indo-Pakistani War memorial commemorating a frigate attacked by a Pakistani submarine in 1976. INS Khukri, the lead ship of the Indian Navy's Khukri class corvettes and an indigenous surface-to-surface missile fitted vessel, was handed over to Diu administration. Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, the ship was commissioned in 1989, in Mumbai. The ship was decommissioned in December 2021 and sent to Diu, for public display in INS Khukri Memorial.

3. Nagaland was carved out from which state, with which it shares a 512 km long border?

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



- ✓ Nagaland state was carved out of Assam in 1963 and the two states share a 512.1-km-long border. Nagaland has been demanding Naga Hills and all Naga-dominated areas in the then North Cachar and Nagaon districts of Assam, to be part of the state. The Governments of Nagaland and Assam announced that they are ready for out-of-court settlement of the long pending inter-state boundary dispute.

4. India has paid \$29.9 million in budget assessment of which institution?

- A) World Bank  
B) United Nations ☒  
C) ADB  
D) BRICS Bank



- ✓ India has paid USD 29.9 million in United Nations regular budget assessments for the year 2022. India is a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term will end on December 31, 2022. As of January 21, 2022, 24 Member States have paid their regular budget assessments in full.
- ✓ Iran, Guinea and Vanuatu paid sufficient dues to the UN regular budget to regain their voting rights. Only Venezuela and Papua New Guinea don't have the right to vote in the 193-member body.

5. As per IMF World Economic Outlook January assessment, what is the estimated growth of India in 2021-22?

- A) 8.5%  
B) 9% ☒  
C) 9.5%  
D) 10%



- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its World Economic Outlook January 2022 assessment.
- ✓ As per the update, India is estimated to grow at 9% in 2021-2022, down from 9.5% projected in October 2021. It also projects 9% growth for the Indian economy in 2022-23. Global economic growth will dip from 5.9% in 2021 to 4.4% in 2022.

6. 'National Commission for Safai Karamcharis' is a body under which Union Ministry?

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



- ✓ The Union Cabinet approved the extension of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) for three years with effect from April 1, 2022. NCSK was constituted as a statutory body in 1994 by 'National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993. The tenures have been extended several times. It works under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. As per official data, there were 58,098 manual scavengers identified in the country as on December 31, 2021.

7. Laokhowa and Burachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries are located in which state?

- A) Assam ☒  
B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) Andhra Pradesh  
D) Maharashtra



- ✓ A Census in Assam's Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve has found that the National Park has at least 868 swamp deer, down from 907 counted in 2018 due to the two floods.
- ✓ In the census of wetland birds, a total of 66,776 numbers of birds of 126 species were enumerated, out of which 42,205 birds were counted in the Kaziranga National Park area while 24,571 numbers of birds were counted in Laokhowa & Burachapori Wildlife Sanctuaries of Assam.

8. Which institution releases the 'Digital Payment Index'?

- A) NITI Aayog  
B) Reserve Bank of India ☒  
C) Ministry of Finance  
D) National Payment Corporation of India



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India releases the 'Digital Payment Index', which shows the deepening of payments through digital modes in India. The Index rose by 39.64 per cent to 304.06 in September 2021 against 217.74 in the year-ago month.

9. India along with which country signed the 'Green Strategic Partnership - Action Plan 2020-2025'?

- A) France  
B) Denmark ☒  
C) Australia  
D) United Kingdom



- ✓ India and Denmark have agreed to initiate joint research and development on green fuels, including green hydrogen. This is a part of the already adopted Green Strategic Partnership - Action Plan 2020-2025.

- ✓ The India-Denmark Joint Committee discussed the priorities and developments in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) of both countries with a special focus on green solutions.

10. Prabha Atre, who was conferred the Padma Vibhushan is associated with which field?

- A) Literature
- B) Music ☒
- C) Sports
- D) Civil Service

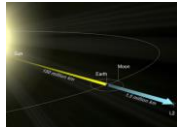


- ✓ The President of India Ram Nath Kovind approved to confer 128 Padma Awards this year, on the eve of the 73rd Republic Day. The 89-year-old Kirana gharana Vocalist 'Prabha Atre' was awarded the Padma Vibhushan. She holds a world record for releasing 11 books on music in Hindi and English from a single stage. She established the 'Swarmayee Gurukul'.
- ✓ Radheyshyam Khemka (Posthumous; Literature, UP), General Bipin Rawat (Civil Service) and Kalyan Singh (Posthumous; Public Affairs, UP) were also awarded the Padma Vibhushan.



1. What is the area of space around which the James Webb Space Telescope orbits?

- A) Lagrange point L2 ☒
- B) Curie Point
- C) Newton Point
- D) CV Raman Point



- ✓ James Webb Space Telescope reached its final destination, at around 15 lakh km from Earth. The telescope will orbit in an area of space known as a Lagrange point, where the gravitational pull from the Sun and Earth will be balanced by the centrifugal force of the rotating system.
- ✓ The points were first theorized by Italian French mathematician Joseph-Louis Lagrange.

2. Scientists from IIT Kharagpur have developed a portable device for detecting which disease?

- A) Oral Cancer ☒
- B) Breast Cancer
- C) Prostate Cancer
- D) Lung Cancer



- ✓ Scientists from IIT Kharagpur have developed a portable, inexpensive device for detecting oral cancer. The estimated cost per device is within USD500. The new technology enables a clinician in a community health centre detect potential vulnerable cases early enough, during the first examination.

3. 'MY2022' application, which was seen in the news, is associated with which country?

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



- ✓ MY2022 is the name of the application used by athletes and others attending the upcoming Winter Games in Beijing. As per the recent report by Citizen Lab, an internet watchdog group, the application has flawed the encryption that would make sensitive data and other data communicated through it vulnerable to being hacked.

4. Who has been announced as the first UNDP India Youth Climate Champion?

- A) Prajakta Koli ☒
- B) Licypriya Kangujam
- C) Dia Mirza
- D) A Disha Ravi



- ✓ The United Nations Development Programme-India announced Content creator and actor Prajakta Koli as their first UNDP India Youth Climate Champion. The UNDP recognised her contribution towards mental health, women's rights and girl child education through various global social campaigns.

5. As per recent research by Oxford University Press, which has been chosen as Children's word of the year for 2021?

- A) Depression
- B) Virus
- C) Anxiety ☒
- D) Teacher



- ✓ 'Anxiety' has been chosen by children as their word of the year for 2021, according to new research from Oxford University Press.
- ✓ The research also highlights that Teachers have chosen "resilience" as their word. Oxford University Press analysed the evolution of children's language, and how they use it to reflect their emotions and experiences.

6. Who is the first Indian woman tennis player to rise to the top spot in either singles or doubles?

- A) Ankita Raina
- B) Sania Mirza ☒
- C) Karman Thandi
- D) Riya Bhatia



- ✓ Sania Mirza was the Indian woman tennis player to rise to the top spot in either singles or doubles, when she claimed the No 1 place in Doubles in 2015. She also holds the record of the first Indian woman to lift a Grand slam doubles title, when she won at the Wimbledon.
- ✓ After a break, she created a record by winning the Fed Cup heart Award. Recently, the ace tennis player has announced retirement after 2022 season.

7. Which country's head topped the global rating survey as the most popular leader in January 2022?

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



- ✓ Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi topped the global rating survey among the world leaders as the most popular leader, with an approval rating of 71 percent. The survey was released by Morning Consult Political Intelligence and it is based on data collected from January 13-19, 2022. Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador came second with 66 percent rating and Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi ranked third with 60 percent rating.

8. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Swachhata Start-Up Challenge'?

- A) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs ☒
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Ministry of Agriculture
- D) Ministry of Home Affairs



- ✓ Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the Swachhata Start-Up Challenge to encourage innovative start-ups to transform the sanitation and waste management sector.
- ✓ The challenge has been launched in partnership with Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Agence Française de Développement (AFD). It seeks to promote enterprise development under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0).

9. What is the type of authorisation granted to Covishield and Covaxin vaccines, as of January 2022?

- A) Emergency Use Authorisation
- B) Conditional Market Authorisation ☒
- C) Essential Market Authorisation
- D) Full Market Authorisation



- ✓ The drug regulator has granted Serum Institute of India's Covishield and Bharat Biotech's Covaxin Covid-19 vaccines "conditional market

authorisation". Since January last year, the two vaccines have been available under "Emergency Use Authorisation" (EUA).

- ✓ They have to submit the safety and efficacy data every six months, under the new authorisation against 15 days earlier. This is different from the Full Market Authorisation.

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10. What is the other name of 'National Conference on Agriculture for Summer Campaign'?

- A) Rabi Conference
- B) Zaid Conference ☒
- C) Kharif Conference
- D) Cash Crop Conference



- ✓ The National Conference on Agriculture for Summer Campaign 2021-22 was held through video conference. It is also called as Zaid Conference. Zaid crops are grown between Kharif and Rabi Seasons. Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Kumar Tomar attended the conference. The objective is to review the crop performance during the preceding crop seasons and fix crop-wise targets for the next summer season in consultation with State Governments.

1. When is the 'International Customs Day' observed every year?

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



- ✓ 'International Customs Day' is observed every year on January 26, across the world with the United Nations as the host. It recognises the role of customs officials and agencies in ensuring flow of goods across the world borders. The Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) announced the observance of ICD in 1953.
- ✓ CCC was renamed as World Customs Organization (WCO) in 1994. The theme of 2022 is 'Scaling up Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem'.

2. Which country is the host of the 2022 Winter Olympics?

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



- ✓ The 2022 Winter Olympics, officially the XXIV Olympic Winter Games is scheduled to take place from 4 to 20 February 2022 in Beijing and its neighbouring town in China. A report released by Sport Ecology Group and Save Our Winters has stated the dangers of artificial snow to be produced in the Olympics on athletes' bodies. It also warned on water wastage that happens for the snow at these games.

3. Which global institution laid out priorities for 2022 as 'Five-alarm global fire'?

- A) World Bank  
B) World Economic Forum  
C) United Nations ☒  
D) International Monetary Fund



- ✓ United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres addressed the General Assembly and laid out the priorities for 2022.
- ✓ Terming it as a 'Five-alarm global fire' he listed down the five priorities as the raging COVID-19 pandemic, a morally bankrupt global financial system, the climate crisis, lawlessness in cyberspace, and diminished peace and security.

4. Union Government has approved to set up a Plastic Park in which city?

- A) Chennai  
B) Mangaluru ☒  
C) Bengaluru  
D) Tirunelveli



- ✓ The Union Government has given the final approval for setting up a plastic park at Ganjimutt in Mangaluru, Karnataka. The park will be set up on 104 acres at an estimated cost of ₹62.77 crore, out of which 50% of the project cost will be borne by the Union Government and the rest by Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB).

5. 'Living root bridges' is an iconic structure, found in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ The 'Living Root Bridges' are found in Meghalaya. They are made from rubber tree roots, known as 'Ficus elastica' tree and their tangled roots provides a stable alternative to wooden bridges.
- ✓ Recently, the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has underlined some green rules for the living root bridges to get the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma sought UNESCO recognition on its 50th statehood day - January 21.

6. Kiribati, which was seen in the news recently, is a country located in which continent?

- A) Asia  
B) Oceania ☒  
C) Europe  
D) Africa



- ✓ Kiribati is one of the most isolated islands in the world. It is located in Oceania and is about 4,800km from Australia. Until last week, Kiribati had recorded just two Covid cases.
- ✓ After the passengers on the first international flight tested positive for Covid, the country has imposed its first lock-down.

7. When was the 'Amar Jawan Jyoti' established in India?

- A) 1947  
B) 1950  
C) 1972 ☒  
D) 1958



- ✓ The Amar Jawan Jyoti was established in 1972, to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh. The Indian Government has put out the eternal flame of the Amar Jawan Jyoti underneath India Gate and merged it with the flame instituted at the National War Memorial in 2019.
- ✓ The then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi inaugurated it on Republic Day 1972, after India defeated Pakistan in 1971.

8. Which state governments signed agreement to rejuvenate the Saraswati River by constructing Adi Badra Dam?

- A) Haryana-Himachal Pradesh ☒  
B) Gujarat-Rajasthan  
C) Haryana-Punjab  
D) Himachal Pradesh-Delhi



- ✓ The Governments of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh entered into an agreement to build a dam at Adi Badri in Yamunanagar district. Along with this, the area will also develop as a pilgrimage site.
- ✓ The objective of the project is to revive the Saraswati River as well as increase ground water level. Adi Badri dam will be built on 31.66 hectares of land in Himachal Pradesh and Rs 215.33 crore will be spent for the same.

9. Telineelapuram Bird Sanctuary is located in which state?

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



- ✓ Telineelapuram International Bird Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh's Srikakulam district. Recently, mass deaths of migratory spot-billed pelicans happened at the Bird Sanctuary.
- ✓ According to government data, about 113 species of exotic birds come to these areas each year from Siberia, Russia, Malaysia, Hungary,



Singapore and Germany for breeding.

10. 'NeoCov', which was seen in the news, was first identified in which species?

- A) Monkey
- B) Bat ☒
- C) Owl
- D) Rodent



- ✓ NeoCov stands for Neoromicia, the species of bat that have been infected with the virus. This virus is associated with MERS Coronavirus and not the SARS-CoV-2. Recently news about the virus discovered in South Africa amongst bats is being circulated widely. However, the World Health Organization has said that whether NeoCov coronavirus poses a threat to humans requires further study.

1. Which country has declared a 90-day "environmental emergency" after a massive Crude Oil Spill?

- A) Argentina  
B) Peru ☒  
C) Australia  
D) Canada



- ✓ The Peruvian Government declared a 90-day "environmental emergency" in damaged coastal territories, after 6,000 barrels of crude oil spilled into the sea. The incident occurred at the La Pampilla refinery, where the "Mare Doricum" tanker belonging to the Spanish energy firm Repsol was transporting 965,000 barrels of crude oil.
- ✓ The spill has caused death of marine wildlife and the spill is investigated as an environmental pollution crime.

2. When is the "National Girl Child Day" celebrated in India?

- A) January 24 ☒  
B) January 25  
C) January 26  
D) January 27



- ✓ India celebrates National Girl Child Day on January 24 every year. It is an initiative undertaken by the Ministry of women and child development, to create awareness and provide opportunities to the girls of India. The government of India, in 2008, declared January 24 to be celebrated as the National Girl Child Day every year.

3. Which Indian badminton player won the womens singles title at the Syed Modi International tournament?

- A) P V Sindhu ☒  
B) Saina Nehwal  
C) Ashmita Chaliha  
D) Malvika Bansod



- ✓ India ace badminton player PV Sindhu won the women's singles title at the Syed Modi International tournament. The top-seed Sindhu defeated Malvika Bansod 21-13, 21-16 in the final clash. The men's singles final of the Syed Modi India International 2022 was declared a 'No Match' as one of the finalists was declared Covid positive.

4. Which state celebrates Subash Chandra Bose's birth anniversary 'Desh Nayak Diwas'?

- A) West Bengal ☒  
B) Punjab  
C) Maharashtra  
D) Nagaland



- ✓ Last year, the Centre decided to celebrate Bose's birth anniversary as 'Parakram Diwas' (the day of valour), West Bengal announced that the day would be observed as 'Desh Nayak Diwas' (the day of the national hero). The Prime Minister unveiled the hologram statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at India Gate, until a grand statue of the freedom fighter will be installed. This year is 125th birth anniversary of Netaji.

5. Which institution released the 'G20 People's Climate Vote 2021 report'?

- A) UNFCCC  
B) UNDP ☒  
C) UNEP  
D) WEF



- ✓ According to the G20 People's Climate Vote 2021 report, which was recently released by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), around 67 per cent of the youth in India consider the climate crisis as a global emergency. The youth are also vocal about the need for urgent policy creation and change. Whereas, India has only about 58 per cent adults, who consider climate change a global emergency.

6. Which former Prime Minister was conferred with 'Netaji Award 2022', by the Netaji Research Bureau?

- A) Donald Trump  
B) Manmohan Singh  
C) Shinzo Abe ☒  
D) Theresa May



- ✓ Former Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe was conferred with the Netaji Award 2022 by the Netaji Research Bureau on the 125th birth anniversary of the freedom fighter, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. Consul general of Japan in Kolkata, Nakamura Yutaka, received the honour on behalf of former PM Shinzo Abe.

7. Pandit Jasraj was associated with which field?

- A) Literature  
B) Vocal Music ☒  
C) Kathak  
D) Painting



- ✓ Pandit Jasraj (1930-2020) was an Indian classical vocalist, belonging to the Mewati Gharana. Recently the Pandit Jasraj Cultural Foundation was launched, presided over by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It is a not-for-profit organisation set up with the objective of protecting and promoting national heritage, art and culture.

8. 'Great Barrier Reef', the world's largest coral reef system, is located in which country?

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



- ✓ 'Great Barrier Reef' is the world's largest coral reef system located in Australia. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison has recently announced a further one billion Australian dollars to protect the Great Barrier Reef. The reef is under threat from global warming said Australian government.

9. Which country has agreed to cooperate with the European Union on Energy Security?

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



- ✓ US President Joe Biden and European Union President Ursula von der Leyen pledged to cooperate on guaranteeing Europe's energy security. They released a joint cooperation statement amidst standoff triggered by Russia consolidating troops at Ukraine's border. The European Union depends on Russia for around one-third of its gas supplies.

10. As of 2022, which country is the top Steel Producer in the world?

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



- ✓ According to World Steel Association, India's crude steel production rose by 18 per cent to 118 million ton (MT) in 2021. India is the second largest steel producing nation, as it manufactured 100.3 MT steel in 2020 and China produced 1064.7 MT of steel in the same year. China recorded a 3 percent decline to 1032.8 MT in 2021.
-

1. Indian Women's Hockey Team won which position in the Asia Cup 2022?

- A) First  
B) Second  
C) Third ☒  
D) Fourth



- ✓ India women's hockey team have won bronze medal after beating former champions China. Though Savita Punia-led missed to defend their Asia Cup title, they returned with bronze. After defeating Malaysia 9-0, India suffered a 0-2 defeat against Asian Games champions Japan.
- ✓ It thrashed Singapore 9-1 to qualify for the semi-finals and was beaten by Korea. Japan won the Asia Cup Title after defeating South Korea.

2. Which country launched the Hwasong-12 mid-range ballistic missile?

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



- ✓ North Korea has confirmed that it fired a Hwasong-12 mid-range ballistic missile. This is the first time it has tested a weapon of that size since 2017. Japan and South Korea detected the launch of the intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM), which is the seventh weapons test done by North Korea this month.

3. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has approved to set up India's first Geo-Park in which state?

- A) Maharashtra  
B) Goa  
C) Madhya Pradesh ☒  
D) Telangana



- ✓ The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has approved to set up India's first Geo-Park at Lamheta village on the banks of the Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh. A Geo-Park is a unified area which aims to protect the geological heritage in a sustainable way.
- ✓ The site is already in the UNESCO Geo-heritage tentative list. Several dinosaur fossils had been found in the Narmada valley, in the Bhedaghat-Lameta Ghat area of Jabalpur.

4. Which institution released the 'Death Penalty in India' Report?

- A) National Crime Records Bureau  
B) National Law University ☒  
C) NITI Aayog  
D) Supreme Court



- ✓ Death Penalty in India Report was released by the criminal law reforms advocacy group at the National Law University, Delhi- named Project 39A. As per the report, the number of prisoners on death row at the end of 2021 stood at 488, the highest in 17 years. This is an increase of nearly 21% from 2020.

5. What is the expansion of 'VRR Auction', conducted by the Reserve Bank of India?

- A) Variable Rate Repo auction ☒  
B) Virtual Reality Repo auction  
C) Viable Rate Repo auction  
D) Vernacular Region Repo auction



- ✓ 'VRR Auction' stands for Variable rate repo auction. Repo is the rate at which RBI lends short term loans to Banks. A part of it is done at a fixed rate and some of it is a variable rate.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India said it will conduct an overnight variable rate repo auction under liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) for an amount of Rs 75,000 crore. On January 20, the RBI conducted an overnight variable rate repo (VRR) auction of Rs 50,000 crore.

6. 'Najafgarh jheel' is a trans-boundary wetland between which two states?

- A) Delhi-Uttar Pradesh  
B) Delhi-Haryana ☒  
C) Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand  
D) Uttar Pradesh-Bihar



- ✓ 'Najafgarh jheel' is a trans-boundary wetland between Delhi and Haryana. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) had earlier directed Haryana and Delhi to prepare an Environment Management Plan for the jheel. The NGT has directed Delhi and Haryana to enforce the Environment Management Plans that the two governments have prepared for the rejuvenation and protection of the Najafgarh jheel.

7. "Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra" are found in the commemorative logo of which two countries?

- A) India-USA  
B) India-UK  
C) India-Israel ☒  
D) India-Australia



- ✓ India and Israel launched a commemorative logo to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries. The logo has the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra- the two symbols that feature in the national flags of both countries and forms the numeral 30 depicting the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations. Israel and India established diplomatic relations on 29th of January 1992.

8. What is the theme of the 'National Tourism Day' 2022?

- A) Sustainable Tourism  
B) Rural and Community Centric Tourism ☒  
C) Gender - Neutral Tourism  
D) Child Friendly Tourism



- ✓ National Tourism Day is celebrated across the country on January 25 every year to spread awareness about the importance of tourism and its impact on the economy.
- ✓ This year, the Ministry of Tourism is observing National Tourism Day under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. This year's theme for National Tourism Day is 'Rural and Community Centric Tourism'.

9. 'CHIRU-2Q22' is a Joint Naval Drill, participated by which set of countries?

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



- ✓ China-Russia-Iran Navies participate in the 'CHIRU-2Q22' is a Joint Drill. China announced that it has sent its naval missile destroyer Urumqi to the Gulf of Oman to participate in the drill. The Chinese regime also sent helicopters and marines for the exercise.

- ✓ Russia sent its Pacific Fleet's task force which included Nakhimov missile cruiser Varyag and anti-submarine warfare ship Admiral Tributs. The exercises are held in the waters of the Mediterranean and Okhotsk seas.

10. Who is the only second player to win 'ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year' award?

- A) Mithali Raj
- B) Smriti Mandhana ☒
- C) Harmanpreet Gaur
- D) Shafali Verma



- ✓ India's Smriti Mandhana was named the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year for her contribution across all formats in 2021. She was short-listed for 'the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy'.
- ✓ The Indian T20 Vice-Captain is only the second India woman player to bag an ICC award after veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami, who was named the ICC Player of the Year in 2007. England captain Root was named ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year for 2021 and Pakistan skipper Babar Azam named ICC ODI Cricketer of the Year for 2021.