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# **THIRD WEEK**

# **CURRENT AFFAIRS**



# **FEBRUARY 2022**

**FEBRUARY 15-21**

1. What is the percentage of Women representation of board seats in India in 2021, as per 'Women in the Boardroom report'?

- A) 4.1  
B) 7.1  
C) 17.1 ☒  
D) 27.1



- ✓ In India, women representation of board seats increased by 9.4 per cent from 2014 to 17.1 percent in 2021 as per Deloitte's Women in the Boardroom report. But women comprise only 3.6 percent of the board chairs, down by 0.9 percent since 2018.
- ✓ The report finds that globally, women hold 19.7 percent of the board seats, which rose by 2.8 percent since 2018.

2. "Hoher Sonnenblick" mountain in the "Hohe Tauern" National Park is located in which country?

- A) Russia  
B) Germany  
C) Austria ☒  
D) New Zealand



- ✓ A new study has been done at an altitude of 3106 meters at the top of the mountain "Hoher Sonnenblick" in the "Hohe Tauern" National Park in Austria. The study is investigating the amount of plastic trickling down on us from the atmosphere. According to the study, about 30% of the nanoplastic particles measured on the mountain top originate from a radius of 200 kilometers, from cities.

3. Which is the nodal agency of the new scheme 'PM-DevINE'?

- A) NABARD  
B) North-Eastern Council ☒  
C) NITI Aayog  
D) IRDAI



- ✓ A new scheme, Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East, PM-DevINE was announced by the union minister for Finance Nirmala Sitharaman while presenting the Union Budget 2022-23.
- ✓ PM-DevINE will be implemented through the North-Eastern Council. An initial allocation of Rs. 1,500 crores will be made for the new scheme. It will fund infrastructure and social development projects based on needs of the North-East.

4. Which country's researchers have found out that Climate change is driving plants to flower earlier?

- A) Italy  
B) UK ☒  
C) Germany  
D) Israel



- ✓ As per a recent study by UK researchers, it has been found that Climate change is driving plants to flower earlier and earlier. The average first flowering date of UK plants is a month earlier than it was before 1986.

5. Which Indian city has the most Traffic congestion, as per TomTom Traffic Index?

- A) New Delhi  
B) Mumbai ☒  
C) Bengaluru  
D) Chennai



- ✓ Geo-location technology specialist TomTom has released the 11th edition of its annual TomTom Traffic Index. It is a report analysing traffic trends seen in 404 cities in 58 countries, during 2021. India fared better than the global average of 10% decrease in congestion.
- ✓ But, four cities from India featured in the Index's global top-25 list namely Mumbai (5<sup>th</sup>), Bengaluru (10<sup>th</sup>), and New Delhi (11<sup>th</sup>) and Pune (21<sup>st</sup>).

6. Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is published by which institution?

- A) NITI Aayog  
B) Pratham Foundation ☒  
C) Ministry of Education  
D) Ministry of Women and Child Development



- ✓ Pratham Foundation annually conducts an extensive survey in schools, to analyse the learning outcome of students. Recently, it released the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER, West Bengal). As per the report, the basic reading and numerical abilities of school children in West Bengal have reduced during COVID-19.

7. The National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture and Utilisation (NCOE-CCU) has been established at which institution?

- A) DRDO  
B) IIT- Bombay ☒  
C) IISc- Bengaluru  
D) ISRO



- ✓ The Department of Science & Technology (DST) has established the National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture and Utilisation (NCOE-CCU) at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay. This is India's first such centre centrally funded by the DST.
- ✓ This Centre of Excellence explores the potential of Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU) technologies, which will help India achieve its climate change goals.

8. An ancient Roman settlement has been recently found by the archaeologists in which country?

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



- ✓ The researchers from the United Kingdom found an ancient Roman settlement site while investigating the route of the construction of upcoming high-speed railway called HS2. In a recent excavation, Scientists could find 40 decapitated skeletons, which were likely to have been executed criminals.
- ✓ Many of these were buried in graves with their severed heads placed between their legs or at their feet. The team earlier found 1,200 coins, pottery, cutlery, gaming dice, bells and lead weights.

9. Which country recently provided recognition to the 'Ghost Army' deployed in the World War II?

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



- ✓ US President Joe Biden signed into law a bill titled, "Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act", to provide recognition to the 'Ghost Army'. It is a tactical deception unit deployed by the US during World War II. There are just nine surviving veterans of the Ghost Army across the US.

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10. Which became the first European country to introduce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate?

- A) Germany
- B) Italy
- C) Switzerland
- D) Austria ☒



- ✓ Austria became the first European country to introduce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate. The law, which was first introduced in November last year, came into effect recently. The President Alexander Van der Bellen gave his assent to the law, making it compulsory for adults to vaccinate against COVID-19. As per the law, everyone in the country must have an active vaccination status by March 15, 2022.

1. Which state tableau was voted as the best among the States/UTs in the 'popular choice' category in Republic Day 2022?

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



- ✓ Maharashtra was voted as the best tableau among the States/UTs in the popular choice category. Its tableau was based on theme 'Biodiversity and State Bio-symbols of Maharashtra'. Uttar Pradesh's tableau, based on the theme 'ODOP and Kashi Vishwanath Dham', was adjudged the best among 12 States and UTs.
- ✓ Ministry of Education and Ministry of Civil Aviation, Marching contingent of the Navy and CISF were named winners in respective categories.

2. Which is the first cricket team to play 1000 ODI matches?

- A) Australia  
 B) India ☒  
 C) West Indies  
 D) England



- ✓ Indian cricket team created history by becoming the first team to play the 1000th ODI during their game against the West Indies. Before this game, India had played 999 ODIs and recorded 518 victories. Rohit Sharma led the Indian Team in their 1000th ODI.
- ✓ Kapil Dev was the captain in India's 100th ODI, while Sourav Ganguly led the Indian team in its 500th ODI. Australia has played 958 ODIs while Pakistan has played 936 ODI matches.

3. JNU Vice-Chancellor Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar has been appointed as the Chairperson of which institution?

- A) NCERT  
 B) UGC ☒  
 C) UPSC  
 D) SSC



- ✓ Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vice-Chancellor Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar was appointed chairperson of the University Grants Commission (UGC). Ministry of Education said the appointment has been made for a period of five years, or until he turns 65, whichever is earlier.

4. Which State signed MoU with Ather Energy to set up 1,000 fast charging stations for Electric two-wheelers?

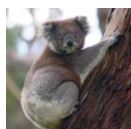
- A) Tamil Nadu  
 B) Maharashtra ☒  
 C) Kerala  
 D) Karnataka



- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Karnataka State Government and Ather Energy to set up 1,000 fast charging stations for electric two-wheelers across the state.
- ✓ The agreement was signed between Ather Energy and Electric supply companies (ESCOs). Ather Energy will provide free charging services for electric two-wheeler vehicles.

5. Australia has recently designated which species as 'Endangered'?

- A) Panda  
 B) Koala ☒  
 C) Kangaroo  
 D) Sloth bear



- ✓ Australia has recently designated the koala an endangered species, which was classified as vulnerable only 10 years ago. The impact of prolonged drought, summer bushfires, and the cumulative impacts of disease, urbanisation and habitat loss over the last twenty years have led to the decision. From now, Koalas will be provided with greater protection under Australia's national environment law.

6. Which country is the host of One Summit, which was seen in the news recently?

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



- ✓ 'One Ocean Summit' is being organised by France in cooperation with the United Nations and the World Bank. India supported the French initiative of a 'High Ambition Coalition on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction'. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the conference and said that India is committed to eliminating single-use plastic.

7. Belarus is bordered by which Sea?

- A) Baltic Sea  
 B) North Sea  
 C) Black Sea  
 D) No Sea Border ☒



- ✓ Belarus is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe. It is bordered by Russia to the east and northeast, Ukraine to the south, Poland to the west, and Lithuania and Latvia to the northwest. Russia and Belarus have started joint military exercises close to the Belarusian border with Ukraine. Russia has already amassed forces along its own border with Ukraine, and in the annexed Crimean Peninsula.

8. What is the official Gross domestic product (GDP) deflator projection for 2022-23?

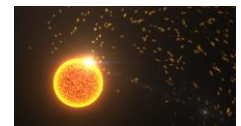
- A) 1.5-2%  
 B) 3-3.5% ☒  
 C) 4.5-5%  
 D) 10%



- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the Centre's Gross domestic product (GDP) deflator projection for 2022-23 is 3 to 3.5 percent. GDP deflator is a measure of inflation and is the difference between nominal GDP and real GDP. Union Budget assumes a nominal GDP growth rate of 11.1 percent for FY23.

9. MUSE and HelioSwarm, which were seen in the news recently, are associated with which space agency?

- A) ISRO  
 B) JAXA  
 C) NASA ☒  
 D) ESA



- ✓ NASA has announced two new science missions namely Multi-slit Solar Explorer (MUSE) and HelioSwarm. These two missions aim to study the sun's corona and also measuring the magnetic field of the solar wind. NASA earlier announced the latest observations done by the Parker Solar probe on its way to the sun.

10. The World's largest Igloo Cafe has been inaugurated in which country?

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



- ✓ An igloo cafe, claimed to be the world's largest, has been opened at Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir. With a height of 37.5 feet and a diameter of 44.5 feet, this was the world's largest cafe of its kind. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the biggest igloo cafe is in Switzerland, and its height is 33.8 feet and diameter 42.4 feet.
-

1. Which country has the highest digital readiness score, in the Salesforce Global Digital Skills Index?

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



- ✓ According to the Salesforce Global Digital Skills Index, among 19 countries, India has the Index's highest digital readiness score at 63 out of 100. In India, 72 per cent of respondents say they are actively learning digital skills to prepare themselves for future of work.
- ✓ 66 percent said they are equipped with resources to learn digital skills. The Index is based on a survey of over 23,500 workers in 19 countries, with an average global score of 33.

2. Which Indian state issued an order to mandate 'Uniform style of clothes' to educational institution?

- A) Bihar
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Karnataka ☒
- D) Goa



- ✓ Invoking 133 (2) of the Karnataka Education Act-1983, the Education Department issued an order which says a uniform style of clothes has to be worn compulsorily. The private school administration can choose a uniform of their choice.
- ✓ As per the order, if the administrative committee doesn't select uniform, clothes which disturb equality, integrity and public law and order should not be worn.

3. Singer Lata Mangeshkar, who recently passed away, was awarded the Bharat Ratna in which year?

- A) 2001 ☒
- B) 2002
- C) 2003
- D) 2004



- ✓ Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, who passed away recently, was laid to rest with full state honours. Her career spanned more than half a century and she recorded thousands of songs in 36 languages.
- ✓ The singer was nominated to the upper house of India's parliament in 1999. She received India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, in the year 2001.

4. Justin Trudeau is the Prime Minister of which country that is witnessing massive anti-vaccine protests?

- A) Italy
- B) Canada ☒
- C) Switzerland
- D) France



- ✓ Justin Trudeau is the Prime Minister of Canada, which is witnessing massive anti-vaccine protests. The Capital City of Ottawa declared a state of emergency amidst the huge protests.
- ✓ The "Freedom Convoy" demonstrations began in western Canada, as protests by truckers angry with vaccine requirements when crossing the US-Canadian border.

5. Who is the captain of the Indian team which won the ICC U19 World Cup in 2022?

- A) Yash Dhull ☒
- B) Raj Bara
- C) Nishant Sindhu
- D) Shaik Rasheed



- ✓ Yash Dhull captained the Indian team which won the ICC U19 World Cup in 2022. India defeated England by 4 wickets to win the final held in Antigua. It was also a record fifth U-19 title for India.
- ✓ Other players who contributed to the success include Nishant Sindhu, Shaik Rasheed, Raj Bawa and Ravi Kumar among others. England was bowled out for 189 in 44.5 overs.

6. Which country provides Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan to 'Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project'?

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



- ✓ Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provides the Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan for the 'Project for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail (MAHSR)'. Surat is set to become the first station for the project. The MAHSR corridor will cover 12 stations in total- Surat, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad, Sabarmati, Bilimora, Bharuch, Mumbai, Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi stations.

7. Which institution launched agro ecology-based programme named 'JIVA'?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) NABARD ☒
- C) ICAR
- D) CSIR



- ✓ The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) recently launched an agro ecology-based programme JIVA. It aims to promote natural farming under NABARD's watershed and wadi programmes in 11 states covering five agro-ecological zones. It aims to nudge the farming community towards natural farming.

8. Which body regulates the Stock Exchanges in India?

- A) Reserve Bank of India
- B) Securities and Exchange Board of India ☒
- C) Finance Ministry
- D) Securities and Exchange Commission



- ✓ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is a regulatory authority established under the SEBI Act 1992. It is the principal regulator for Stock Exchanges in India.
- ✓ SEBI has recently penalised the National Stock Exchange (NSE), its former CEOs Chitra Ramkrishna and Ravi Narain for governance lapses in hiring of its chief operating officer Anand Subramanian.

9. Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) functions under the aegis of which institution?

- A) Reserve Bank of India
- B) Ministry of Finance ☒
- C) Ministry of External Affairs
- D) Ministry of Commerce





- ✓ The Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL) is a government printing and minting agency. It functions under the Ministry of Finance. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the first colour souvenir coin on 'Panchtantra' on the occasion of 17<sup>th</sup> foundation day of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL).
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10. Which Indian state has the highest number of killings as a part of 'Witch Hunting', as per NCRB?

- A) Jharkhand ☒  
B) Odisha  
C) Gujarat  
D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ The number of killings as a part of 'Witch Hunting' is the second-highest in Odisha, after Jharkhand, according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The Odisha State Commission for Women (SCW) has recently sought stringent provisions in the Odisha Prevention of 'Witch Hunting Act 2013'. It also demanded that branding of victims be treated as heinous crime and punishable in the State.
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1. When is the World Leprosy Day observed in the year 2022?

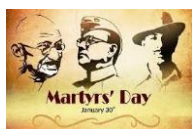
- A) January 30 ☒  
 B) January 31  
 C) February 01  
 D) February 02



- ✓ World Leprosy Day is observed around the world on the last Sunday of January every year. This year World Leprosy Day held on 30 January.  
 ✓ The day is celebrated to raise global awareness of this deadly ancient disease and call attention to the fact that it can be prevented, treated and cured. This year theme of World Leprosy Day 2022 is "United for Dignity".

2. The death anniversary of which national leader was observed as the Martyrs' Day on January 30 in India?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru  
 B) Mahatma Gandhi ☒  
 C) Bhagat Singh  
 D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



- ✓ On 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 1948, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by Nathuram Godse in the year 1948. On this day, India observes Martyrs Day or Shaheed Diwas, to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi and all martyrs who sacrificed their life for the nation's freedom.

3. When is the International Day of Human Fraternity observed?

- A) February 02  
 B) February 03  
 C) February 04 ☒  
 D) February 05



- ✓ The International Day of Human Fraternity is observed every year by the United Nations on February 4. In the year 2019, on the same day, the document entitled "Human fraternity for world peace and living together" was signed in 2019.

4. What is the theme of the 'World Wetlands Day 2022'?

- A) Wetlands for Us  
 B) Wetlands Action for People and Nature ☒  
 C) Wetlands and COVID-19  
 D) Save Wetlands



- ✓ World Wetlands Day is observed every year on 2<sup>nd</sup> February to create awareness on the importance of wetlands and its role played in the planet. This year, the theme of the World Wetlands Day is "Wetlands Action for People and Nature".

5. When is the World Pulses Day observed, across the world?

- A) February 8  
 B) February 9  
 C) February 10 ☒  
 D) February 11



- ✓ In 2019, the United Nations General Assembly announced 10 February as the World Pulses Day. This was followed by the celebration of the year 2016 as the International Year of Pulses (IYP), across the world, led by the Food and Agriculture Organization.  
 ✓ The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the nutritional values of pulses and ways to tackle malnutrition through pulses. This year, the theme of the World Pulses Day is "Pulses to empower youth in achieving sustainable agrifood systems".

6. When is the 'International Day of Women and Girls in Science' observed?

- A) February 10  
 B) February 11 ☒  
 C) February 12  
 D) February 13



- ✓ International Day of Women and Girls in Science' is observed every year on February 11, across the world. This year, the day will mark the sixth International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly. United Nations leads the observance of the day. This year, the theme is "Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Water Unites Us".

7. Which day is observed on February 10 and August 10 every year in India?

- A) National Deworming Day ☒  
 B) National Anemia Day  
 C) National Dehydration Day  
 D) National Cancer Day



- ✓ In India, every year February 10 and August 10 are observed as the National Deworming Day (NDD). The day aims to eradicate intestinal worms within the age bracket of 1-19 years, which are also referred to as Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH).  
 ✓ As per the World Health Organisation, about 241 million children in India between 1-14 years are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms.

8. Luc Montagnier, who passed away recently, won Nobel Prize for Medicine for which discovery?

- A) Human Immunodeficiency Virus ☒  
 B) Ebola  
 C) Chikungunya  
 D) Rotavirus



- ✓ Veteran Nobel-winning virologist Luc Montagnier died in Paris recently. He won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2008 for the discovery of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus that causes AIDS, along with his colleague Francoise Barr-Sinoussi.

9. Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba has been declared President of which country?

- A) Burkina Faso ☒  
 B) Namibia  
 C) Zimbabwe  
 D) Mali



- ✓ Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba, Lieutenant-colonel in the national armed forces, has been declared President of the African country Burkina Faso. The country's top constitutional body has announced this decision after a coup last month.

10. What is the rank of India in the 2021 Democracy Index report?

- A) 32  
 B) 46 ☒  
 C) 52  
 D) 85

46

- ✓ India is ranked 46 on the EIU's Democracy Index report, which was released recently. In the Global index, India has scored 6.91. Norway and New Zealand got the top two places respectively, while North Korea, Myanmar, Afghanistan were placed at the bottom. India has the lowest score of 5 on political culture and the highest score of 8.67 on electoral process and pluralism.



1. Which state initiated 'Operation Parivartan' to eliminate the cultivation of cannabis?

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



- ✓ The Andhra Pradesh Police has initiated 'Operation Parivartan', a special operation to eliminate the cultivation of cannabis. This operation was led by the Andhra Pradesh Police with the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) in Visakhapatnam. Recently, around 2 lakh kilograms of processed cannabis was seized while it was being shipped out.

2. India signed agreement with UN World Food Program for distribution of wheat to which country?

- A) Maldives  
B) Afghanistan ☒  
C) Syria  
D) Sri Lanka



- ✓ India signed an agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme for the distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat. India has committed to send relief to Afghanistan as part of a humanitarian assistance, to be sent in truck convoys through Pakistan by road.

3. Which state has re-adopted the anti-NEET Bill, which was returned by the Governor for re-consideration?

- A) Tamil Nadu ☒  
B) Karnataka  
C) Punjab  
D) West Bengal



- ✓ A special Assembly session of Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously re-adopted the anti-NEET Bill, which Governor R N Ravi had returned to the government. By re-adopting the Bill, and sending it again to the Governor, he is expected to forward it to the President for his assent. The state had set up Justice A K Rajan Committee to look into the impact of NEET in medical admissions.

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

- A) Bihar  
B) Uttarakhand  
C) Madhya Pradesh ☒  
D) Assam



- ✓ 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'.

5. India has agreed to provide a grant to which country to implement 'Unitary Digital Identity framework'?

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



- ✓ India has agreed to provide a grant to Sri Lanka to implement a 'Unitary Digital Identity framework'. It is modelled similar to India's flagship Aadhaar card.  
✓ Sri Lanka's Cabinet decided that the Government will prioritise the implementation of the Framework as a national level programme.

6. 'Medaram Jatara' is a fair celebrated in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ Medaram Jatara is the second-largest fair of India, after Kumbh Mela, celebrated by Koya Tribal Community of Telangana, for four days. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned ₹2.26 Crores for various activities related to Medaram Jathara 2022.

7. Ilker Ayci, former Turkish Airlines Chairman has been appointed as the MD and CEO of which Indian Airlines?

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



- ✓ The Tata Group has appointed Ilker Ayci, former Turkish Airlines Chairman, as Air India's Managing Director and CEO. The decision is in line with the Tata Group's plans to appoint an expatriate chief to run Air India, which it took over from the Indian government recently.

8. Which Union Ministry launched 'New Frontiers' program, as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav?

- A) Ministry of New & Renewable Energy ☒  
B) Ministry of Power  
C) Ministry of Coal  
D) Ministry of External Affairs



- ✓ Ministry of New & Renewable Energy is conducting a three-day program "New Frontiers" on Renewable Energy. This has been conducted as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. A brainstorming meeting on "Roadmap to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070" will also be conducted

9. Which is the first institution set up under the National River interlinking policy?

- A) Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority ☒  
B) Kaveri-Godavari Link Project Authority  
C) Godavari-Krishna Link Project Authority  
D) Narmada-Tapti Link Project Authority



- ✓ The Central Government has constituted the Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority to implement the first initiative under the national river interlinking policy. The policy seeks to bring nearly 11 lakh hectares of land under irrigation in the Bundelkhand region spanning between Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

10. Which is the only Indian documentary that has been nominated at 2022 Oscar awards?

- A) India Untouched  
B) Writing with Fire ☒  
C) Period. End of Sentence  
D) Jai Bhim



- ✓ Indian documentary 'Writing with Fire', directed by filmmakers Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, has been nominated at the 94<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards in the Best Documentary Feature category.  
✓ Writing with Fire is the only Indian documentary to be nominated at this year's Oscar awards.

1. Which state/UT has digitised the whole process of disbursement of Pension?

- A) Tamil Nadu  
B) New Delhi ☒  
C) Puducherry  
D) Goa



- ✓ The Delhi government has digitised the whole process of disbursement of Pension. The entire process, from filling the application form to disbursement of pension, will be online. The Social Welfare Department of the state has implemented the process successfully. It also announced that there will be no hindrance or delay in pension cases.

2. What is the maturity period of the Sovereign gold bond scheme?

- A) 8 years ☒  
B) 10 years  
C) 5 years  
D) 4 years



- ✓ Sovereign gold bonds are government securities denominated in grams of gold, issued by the RBI on behalf of the Government of India. The maturity period of the sovereign gold bond is eight years. The premature redemption is permitted after the fifth year from the date of issue of such gold bonds on the interest payout date.

3. As per a recent Parliamentary committee report, what is the proposed 'guaranteed number of days of work' in MGNREGA?

- A) 90  
B) 120  
C) 150 ☒  
D) 350



- ✓ A Parliamentary committee has recommended increase in guaranteed days of work from 100 to 150, in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). They also highlighted that the scheme is a last "fall-back" option for many in the rural areas. The Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, headed by Shiv Sena member Prataprao Jadhav tabled the report in Lok Sabha.

4. Which institution announced a new partnership under SAMRIDH initiative, along with USAID?

- A) NITI Aayog ☒  
B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
C) UN Women  
D) Women's Global Empowerment Fund



- ✓ Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a new partnership under the Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare (SAMRIDH) initiative.  
✓ The partnership with AIM, NITI Aayog will promote SAMRIDH's efforts to reach sustainable healthcare models and innovative financing mechanisms to improve the quality of spending in the health sector.

5. Malkangiri, which topped the most improved aspirational districts in 'Agriculture and Water Resources sector', is in which state?

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



- ✓ NITI Aayog has announced the five most improved aspirational districts in the Agriculture and Water Resources sector for December 2021. Malkangiri in Odisha tops the list. It is followed by Chhatrapur in Madhya Pradesh and Baramulla in Jammu and Kashmir. This is as per the Delta Rankings published by NITI Aayog.

6. Which institution hosts the 'World Sustainable Development Summit'?

- A) UNFCCC  
B) NITI Aayog  
C) The Energy and Resources Institute ☒  
D) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre



- ✓ The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) hosted the latest edition of the World Sustainable Development Summit. Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the summit, which was based on the theme 'Towards a Resilient Planet: Ensuring a Sustainable and Equitable Future'.  
✓ The keynote addresses will be delivered by President of Republic of Guyana Dr Irfaan Ali and Deputy Secretary-General of the UN.

7. What is the outlay of Prime Minister Awas Yojana (PMAY), in the Union Budget 2022-23?

- A) Rs 96000 Cr  
B) Rs 75000 Cr  
C) Rs 48000 Cr ☒  
D) Rs 36000 Cr



- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman allocated ₹48,000 crore towards completion of 80 lakh houses under Prime Minister Awas Yojana (PMAY) in rural and urban areas during 2022-23.  
✓ Recently, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs approved project proposals for over 60,000 houses across five states – Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan.

8. Which institution has organised 'Darkathon -2022' initiative to find solutions to counter dark-net markets?

- A) Central Bureau of Investigation  
B) Narcotics Control Bureau ☒  
C) Enforcement Directorate  
D) National Investigation Agency



- ✓ Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has organised 'Darkathon -2022' initiative to find solutions to counter dark-net markets.  
✓ The initiative aims at involving students, youth and technical experts to find effective solutions to counter drug trafficking through darknet. NCB is a Law enforcement and intelligence agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

9. India signed a Lol on New and Renewable energy technology with which country?

- A) Israel  
B) Australia ☒  
C) USA  
D) New Zealand



- ✓ India and Australia have signed a letter of intent (Lol) on New and Renewable energy technology. It aims to scale up manufacturing and deployment of ultra low-cost solar and clean hydrogen. The Lol was signed during the 4<sup>th</sup> India – Australia Energy Dialogue. The dialogue was co-chaired by Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, R.K. Singh and his Australian counterpart.

10. What is the main objective of PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan?

- A) Skill Development
- B) Infrastructure Development ☒
- C) Healthcare Development
- D) Export Development



- ✓ Gati Shakti is a digital platform, which will bring 16 ministries together, for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.
  - ✓ Under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP), the government plans to develop 22 greenfield expressways, 23 key infrastructure projects including other highways and 35 multi-modal logistics parks (MMLPs), as per the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways.
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