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FOURTH WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



FEBRUARY 2022

FEBRUARY 22-28

1. Scientists from which country achieved a milestone in nuclear fusion energy, by generating 59 MJ of sustained energy?

- A) USA
B) China
C) India
D) UK ☒



- ✓ Scientists in the United Kingdom have achieved a new milestone in producing nuclear fusion energy, or imitating the way energy is produced in the Sun. A team at the Joint European Torus (JET) facility in central England generated 59 mega joules of sustained energy during an experiment. A kg of fusion fuel contains about 10 million times energy of that of a kg of coal, oil or gas.

2. 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, without class rooms.

3. Which developing country has imposed a ban on Import of Drones?

- A) India ☒
B) Indonesia
C) Argentina
D) Brazil



- ✓ India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade announced that the import of drones is banned. The order exempted those used for research and development, defense, and security purposes. This move also blocks the market for China's SZ DJI Technology Co., the world's top dronemaker, and encourages India's local industry to increase production.

4. What is the new policy repo rate, after the February 2022 Monetary Policy Committee meeting?

- A) 3.75%
B) 4.00% ☒
C) 4.25%
D) 4.50%

4

- ✓ RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has voted unanimously to keep policy repo rate unchanged at 4%. Reverse repo rate also remains unchanged at 3.35%. As per the RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, the 'accommodative' stance will continue as long as needed.

5. 'Namma Shaale Nanna Koduge' app is an initiative of which state/UT?

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



- ✓ Karnataka's Department of Primary and Secondary Education has developed an application named 'Namma Shaale Nanna Koduge' app. This aims to address infrastructure needs of government schools, shortage of teachers, better use of learning aids and utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility funds.

6. As per NASA, what is the total number of objects tracked on-orbit as of 2022?

- A) 1000
B) 10000
C) 25000 ☒
D) 50000

25 000

- ✓ As per NASA's recent announcement, there are currently 25,000 total objects tracked on-orbit.
✓ SpaceX's Gen2 expansion involves launching 30,000 satellites, which will double the number of tracked objects in orbit.

7. As per a recent study, which national park of India is releasing more carbon than it is absorbing?

- A) Pakke Tiger Reserve
B) Kaziranga National Park ☒
C) Namdapha National Park
D) Kuno National Park



- ✓ As per a recent research, Kaziranga National Park in Assam, is releasing more carbon than it is absorbing.
✓ The National Park is home to the largest-population of the one-horned rhinoceros in the world. Usually, forests absorb more carbon than they release, which makes them carbon sinks. This is mainly due to decreasing rainfall in the region.

8. 'World Pulses Day' is celebrated on which date?

- A) February 8
B) February 10 ☒
C) February 12
D) February 15



- ✓ 'World Pulses Day' is celebrated on February 10 every year. The UN General Assembly in 2019 dedicated this day to increase awareness and access to pulses globally.
✓ World Pulses Day 2022 is celebrated under the theme of "Pulses to empower youth in achieving sustainable agri-food systems".

9. Which Union Ministry/Institution organized Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India'?

- A) Ministry of Culture ☒
B) Ministry of Tourism
C) NITI Aayog
D) UNESCO



- ✓ Ministry of Culture organised a two-day Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India' in the month of February 2022. The summit was organized under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
✓ The online summit will encompass four broad themes: Architecture and Functional Needs, Management, Collections (including Curation and Conservation practices) and Education & Audience Engagement.

10. Which country holds the Presidency of G20 in 2022?

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



- ✓ Indonesia holds the Presidency of G 20 in 2022. The G20 second Finance and Central Bank Deputies meeting produced a communique draft containing a long-term economic recovery strategy to tackle future pandemics. The communique draft would be further discussed in the first Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting. The theme of G20 this year is "Recover Together, Recover Stronger".

1. Crimson Rose, which was seen in the news recently, belongs to which species?

- A) Flower
- B) Butterfly ☒
- C) Panda
- D) Snake



- ✓ Crimson Rose is a large butterfly with a mix of black, white and crimson colours on its wings and body. It belongs to the Swallowtails (Papilionidae) family and they are known to migrate along the coast, inland and cross the sea often.
- ✓ Recently, thousands of Crimson Rose butterflies were seen flying from Dhanushkodi, at the southern-most tip of Rameswaram Island towards Sri Lanka, which is around 25 km from the tip of Dhanushkodi.

2. Which is the venue of 'DefExpo 2022' Defence Exhibition?

- A) Goa
- B) Chennai
- C) Gandhi Nagar ☒
- D) Varanasi



- ✓ DefExpo 2022, India's biennial flagship defence exhibition is scheduled to be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat in the month of March. More than 900 defence firms and 55 countries have so far confirmed their participation in the Expo. It is also claimed to be Asia's largest defence exhibition. Out of the 900 exhibitors at the event, more than 100 are foreign players. The 2020 edition of the Expo was held at Lucknow.

3. The world's first woman was cured of HIV through which process?

- A) Stem cell transplant ☒
- B) Antiretroviral therapy
- C) Tuberculosis Treatment
- D) Blood Transfusion



- ✓ A US woman is said to have become the third person in the world to be cured of HIV. She is also the first woman to be cured. The woman is a leukaemia patient and received a stem cell transplant from someone with natural resistance to the Aids-causing virus. An umbilical cord blood transplant was done, as a part of her cancer treatment.

4. 'PM KUSUM' Scheme is associated with which Union Ministry?

- A) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy ☒
- B) Ministry of Power
- C) Ministry of Agriculture
- D) Ministry of Rural Development



- ✓ Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM KUSUM) Scheme for farmers for installation of solar pumps and grid connected solar and other renewable power plants.
- ✓ Recently, the Central government has set the target for replacing diesel with renewable energy in the agricultural sector by 2024.

5. 'National Award for Innovations and Good Practices in Educational Administration' are presented to?

- A) Teachers
- B) Education Officers ☒
- C) Student Volunteers
- D) NGOs in School Education



- ✓ The National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) has instituted National Award for Innovations and Good Practices in Educational Administration. The 5th National awards were recently presented to the selected District and Block level education officers from 29 states/ UTs of the country. This year, over hundred officers received Award or Certificate of Appreciation.

6. What is 'Proxima d', which was seen in the news recently?

- A) New Vaccine
- B) New Exoplanet ☒
- C) New Star
- D) New Mineral



- ✓ A team of astronomers has discovered a new planet orbiting Proxima Centauri, the star closest to the Sun. The planet named 'Proxima d', is the third detected in the system. It is among the lightest of the exoplanets discovered so far.
- ✓ The astronomers used the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope (ESO's VLT) in Chile to spot this exo-planet.

7. What is the rank of India in the USGBC 2021 global list for sustainable spaces?

- A) 1st
- B) 3rd ☒
- C) 5th
- D) 7th

3rd

- ✓ India is placed third in the globe on the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) 2021 global list for sustainable spaces. It is a ranking of the top 10 nations and areas outside of the United States for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in 2021. India has 1,649 LEED certified buildings.

8. Which Indian bank has partnered with NSE Academy to promote financial literacy as a necessary life skill?

- A) Punjab National Bank
- B) State Bank of India ☒
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) Axis Bank



- ✓ 'State Bank of India's Strategic Training Unit has entered into a partnership with NSE Academy to promote financial literacy as a necessary life skill. Five inaugural Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) of SBI have been on the NSE Knowledge Hub platform.
- ✓ The e-courses enable learners to gather knowledge on various aspects of banking and financial services.

9. Where is the headquarters of the 'United Nations Conference on Trade and Development' located?

- A) Geneva ☒
- B) Washington
- C) Paris
- D) Brussels



- ✓ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is an intergovernmental organisation, established in 1964 at Geneva, Switzerland, with an aim to promote trade among developing countries.
- ✓ Recently, the organisation has stated that India's trade deficit as a percentage of global trade has reduced to 0.6% in 2022 as against 0.7% in pre pandemic levels.

10. Which African country has recently declared a Polio outbreak?

- A) Malawi ☒
- B) South Africa
- C) Nigeria
- D) Democratic Republic of Congo



- ✓ The landlocked African nation – Malawi has recently declared a polio outbreak, after a case was identified in a young child.
 - ✓ As per the World Health Organisation, this outbreak is the first in the African continent in more than 5 years. This strain is of the type WPV1 [Type 1 Wild Polio Virus].
-

1. Where was the 6th African Union – European Union Summit held?

- A) Brussels ☒
- B) Cairo
- C) Rome
- D) Johannesburg



- ✓ The 6th African Union – European Union Summit was held on 17 February – 18 February 2022 at Brussels, where heads of member states of African Union and European Union participated.
- ✓ The meeting was co-chaired by the President of the European Council, President of Senegal and the Chairperson of the AU. During the summit, the leaders agreed on a joint vision for a renewed partnership.

2. Who has been conferred with Hilal-e-Pakistan – the 2nd highest civilian award of Pakistan, in 2022?

- A) Bill Gates ☒
- B) Malala Yousafzai
- C) Elon Musk
- D) Xi Jinping



- ✓ Philanthropist and founder of Microsoft corporation – Bill Gates has been conferred with Hilal-e-Pakistan, which is the 2nd highest civilian award of Pakistan. He is receiving this award as the co-chair of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- ✓ This award has been dedicated to him on account for the foundation's continuous efforts to eradicate polio and to reduce poverty in Pakistan.

3. With reference to plastic packaging, what does EPR stand for?

- A) Extended Producer Responsibility ☒
- B) Environment Protection Responsibility
- C) Ecological Protection Role
- D) Epoxy Poly Rehydroxy-sulphate



- ✓ Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Guidelines on Extended Producers Responsibility on plastic packaging under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- ✓ The guidelines on extended producer responsibility coupled with prohibition of identified single use plastic items, which have low utility and high littering potential, with effect from 1st July 2022.

4. Which Union Ministry released the publication titled 'Energy statistics India – 2022'?

- A) Ministry Of Statistics and Programme Implementation ☒
- B) Ministry of Power
- C) Ministry of Coal
- D) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



- ✓ Ministry Of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the 28th edition of the publication, 'Energy statistics India – 2022'. It is a repository of statistics on energy resources and highlights India's commitment and progress made in sustainable energy systems.
- ✓ The publication presents the concepts of production, consumption, trade, energy balance etc. The data is collected from Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

5. As per Union Budget 2022–23, what is the new Alternate Minimum Tax (AMT) for Cooperative societies?

- A) 10%
- B) 12.5%
- C) 15% ☒
- D) 17.5%



- ✓ The Union Budget has reduced the Alternate Minimum Tax (AMT) to be paid by Cooperative societies to 15 percent. At present, cooperative societies are required to pay AMT at the rate of 18.5 percent, while companies pay the same at 15 percent.
- ✓ The Budget proposed to reduce the surcharge from the 12% to 7%, for cooperatives with total income of Rs 1 crore up to Rs 10 crore.

6. Which type of villages are the beneficiaries of the newly announced 'Vibrant Villages programme'?

- A) Coastal Villages
- B) Border Villages ☒
- C) Hilly villages
- D) ODF Villages



- ✓ The Union Budget has announced a new scheme called 'Vibrant Villages programme', which aims to boost the infrastructure of the villages along India's border, especially with China.
- ✓ Under the programme, additional funding will be provided, existing schemes will be converged. Activities include housing, tourist centres, road connectivity, provisioning of decentralised renewable energy, DTH access for Doordarshan and educational channels, and livelihood support.

7. When is the 'World Radio Day' celebrated?

- A) February 13 ☒
- B) February 14
- C) February 15
- D) February 16



- ✓ 'World Radio Day' is celebrated on 'February 13' every year, across the world. It was first proclaimed by the member states of UNESCO in 2011. The UN General Assembly adopted the proposal in 2012. Theme of 2022 edition of the World Radio Day is, "Radio and Trust".

8. India signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with which country in February 2022?

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



- ✓ India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) recently signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). It is set to benefit almost 90 per cent of trade, both exports and imports, between the two countries.
- ✓ India has given duty concessions on gold exported from the UAE, while Indian exporters will attract zero per cent duty on jewellery.

9. India imported a record 100,000 tonnes of Soy Oil from which country?

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



- ✓ Indian traders have imported a record 100,000 tonnes of Soy Oil from the United States, because of limited supplies from drought-hit South America. This import has been undertaken amidst the high prices of its rival Palm Oil.

10. What is the objective of World Bank's REWARD Program?

- A) Promotion of School Education
- B) Watershed management ☒
- C) Solid waste Management
- D) Infrastructure Development



- ✓ Government of India, the State Governments of Karnataka and Odisha and the World Bank have signed a USD 115 million Programme.
 - ✓ The name of the project is REWARD (Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development Programme). It will help national and state institutions adopt improved watershed management practices.
-

1. 'Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)' is associated with which Union Ministry?

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



- ✓ The Central Government has approved the implementation of Phase II of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project, at a total cost of Rs 3,375 crore during the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26.
- ✓ This phase of the ICJS project by the Home Affairs Ministry will be implemented as a central sector scheme. ICJS is a national platform for enabling integration of main IT system used for delivery of Criminal Justice in the country.

2. 'Khajuraho Dance Festival' is a famous event organised in which Indian state?

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



- ✓ The 48th Khajuraho Dance Festival commenced from in Madhya Pradesh. The weeklong festival will be held till February 26, 2022. The world famous 'Khajuraho Dance Festival' is being organized in Khajuraho, located in Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh. The festival is being organized on the theme of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

3. Which nocturnal pollinator has been found to have vital role in 'Pollination' in the Himalayan ecosystem?

- A) Moths ☒
- B) Bees
- C) Butterflies
- D) Bats



- ✓ As per a recent study, Moths are vital to pollination in the Himalayan ecosystem of northeast India.
- ✓ The study highlights 91 species of moths as potential pollinators of 21 plant families in Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

4. In which Indian state is the 'Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope' located?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Sikkim
- C) Maharashtra ☒
- D) Uttarakhand



- ✓ 'Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT)' is an array of thirty fully steerable parabolic radio telescopes. It is located near Pune at Khodad in Maharashtra. Astronomers from the National Centre of Radio Astrophysics (NCRA-TIFR) in Pune, and the University of California, Santa Cruz, have used GMRT to map the distribution of atomic hydrogen gas from the host galaxy of a fast radio burst (FRB).

5. Which Indian city has been elected as the host of 2023 International Olympic Committee's (IOC) session?

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



- ✓ India will host the 2023 International Olympic Committee's (IOC) session in Mumbai.
- ✓ India will be hosting the prestigious IOC meeting for the first time since 1983, when the 86th Session was held in New Delhi. The session which will be held in May or June next year, will include election for the host country for the 2030 Winter Olympics and sports programmes for LA 2028 Olympic Games.

6. Which state has framed a 'Draft policy for senior citizens' recognising Demographic transition?

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



- ✓ The Government of Tamil Nadu has framed a draft policy for senior citizens, acknowledging the State's demographic transition.
- ✓ The policy also proposes to create a Directorate for the Welfare of Senior Citizens. The draft document is based on Article 41 of the Constitution, which requires the State 'to secure the right to work, education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement'.

7. Which State/UT has approved Ex-gratia relief of Rs 20,000 per acre to farmers?

- A) West Bengal
- B) Delhi ☒
- C) Punjab
- D) Uttar Pradesh



- ✓ The Delhi cabinet approved ex-gratia relief of Rs 20,000 per acre to farmers whose lands were damaged by rains last year.
- ✓ In September–October 2021, several acres of farmland were damaged due to heavy rain and water-logging in fields. If the damage is found to be 70% or less, the compensation will be 70% of the amount. If the assessed loss is more than 70%, Rs 20,000 per acre will be paid.

8. What is the name of the Tropical Storm which made landfall on three southern African countries?

- A) Rina
- B) Ana ☒
- C) Boss
- D) Sue



- ✓ Tropical Storm Ana hit three southern African countries, leading to a death count of 70. The storm made landfall in Madagascar before entering into Mozambique and Malawi. Madagascar reported 41 dead and 18 others were killed in Mozambique and 11 in Malawi.

9. Masada Fortress, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- A) India
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Israel ☒
- D) UAE



- ✓ Masada Fortress, which is located in Israel, is a symbol of Jewish Heroism. Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon shared a video that showed the Masada Fortress in Israel illuminated with lights. It commemorates the India-Israel Ties, as the two countries celebrate 30 years of diplomatic relations.

10. Who is the first male Tennis star to win 21 Grand Slam titles?

- A) Roger Federer
- B) Rafael Nadal ☒
- C) Novak Djokovic
- D) Andre Agassi



- ✓ Ace Tennis player Rafael Nadal created history as he won a historic 21st Grand Slam title, defeating Russia's Daniil Medvedev in the final of the Australian Open. The Spaniard became the first male tennis player to win 21 Grand Slam titles.
 - ✓ He went ahead of Switzerland's Roger Federer and Serbia's Novak Djokovic—both tied at 20 each. Australian retired tennis player Margaret Court won 24 Grand Slam women's singles titles.
-

1. What is the name of the new week-long commemoration before the 'National Science Day'?

- A) Atmanirbhar Vigyan
- B) Vigyan Sarvatra Pujate ☒
- C) Celebration of Science in Past
- D) 'Science in Culture' Celebrations



- ✓ A week-long commemoration event titled Vigyan Sarvatra Pujate was launched by Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh and Union Minister of Culture G Kishan Reddy. This was launched as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The event is being held simultaneously at 75 locations across the country till February 28, National Science Day.

2. India, along with which country, agreed on 'Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance'?

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



- ✓ India and France have agreed on a Roadmap on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance. The agreement aims to contribute to scientific knowledge and ocean conservation and ensure that the ocean remains a global common.
- ✓ It was made during External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's three-day visit to France. The scope includes maritime trade, marine eco-tourism, inland waterways, scientific research, and integrated coastal management among others.

3. 'CEPI' has announced partnership with which Indian pharma company to develop Covid Vaccine?

- A) Panacea Biotec ☒
- B) Cadila Healthcare
- C) Cipla
- D) Sun Pharma



- ✓ Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) will partner with a consortium comprised of the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and Panacea Biotec to develop COVID vaccine. THSTI is an autonomous institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology. CEPI will fund the new project up to USD 12 million.

4. Which country topped the medal tally in the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics?

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



- ✓ For the second Games in a row, Norway topped the medal tally in the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, with 16 golds. It was followed by Germany with 12 golds and China with 9. The Games recently ended in the "Bird's Nest" stadium, China and its President Xi Jinping handed over the games to 2026 hosts Milano-Cortina.

5. Which region is affected by Storm Clusters including three Storms- Eunice, Franklin and Dudley?

- A) North America
- B) Europe ☒
- C) Australia
- D) Africa



- ✓ Storm Eunice sparked the first-ever red weather warning for London. It was one of the most powerful tempests in Europe since the Great Storm hit Britain and northern France in 1987.
- ✓ Over 15 people were killed by falling trees, flying debris and high winds in Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Poland. Storm Franklin and Storm Dudley followed in two days.

6. Which newly discovered species has been named after the pandemic as '*Humbertium covidum*'?

- A) Snake
- B) Flatworm ☒
- C) House Rat
- D) House Fly



- ✓ Scientists have discovered an alien hammerhead flatworm species that looks like a miniature king cobra. The researchers found the creatures hunting snails in France and Italy. The flatworm has been named after the COVID-19 pandemic as *Humbertium covidum*.

7. Khijadiya wildlife sanctuary, is a new Ramsar site, located in which state/UT?

- A) Haryana
- B) Bihar
- C) Gujarat ☒
- D) Uttarakhand



- ✓ Two new Ramsar sites were announced on the occasion of World Wetlands Day. They are: Khijadiya wildlife sanctuary in Gujarat and Bakhira wildlife sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ India has a network of 49 such sites covering 10,93,636 hectares, which is the highest in South Asia. The Union Environment Ministry had earlier notified the Sultanpur National Park and Bhindawas wildlife sanctuary in Jhajjar as Ramsar sites in Haryana.

8. 99-million-years old Flowers have been discovered in protected state in which country?

- A) India
- B) Myanmar ☒
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) USA



- ✓ Paleontologists have identified two new types of fossil flowers- Eophyllica priscastellata and Phyllica piloburmensis in Myanmar. They have been found in cretaceous amber from the Hkamti and Tanaing mines, northern Myanmar, dated to at least 99 million years ago.

9. What are '2010 TK7 and 2020 XL5', which are seen in the news recently?

- A) Exoplanets
- B) Earth Trojans ☒
- C) Meteors
- D) Telescopes



- ✓ Earth Trojan is an asteroid that shares the same orbit as our planet, going around the Sun. The second Earth Trojan was detected in 2020 and has been named 2020 XL5. It is a near-earth asteroid that is expected to stay in orbit for the next 4,000 years before deviating away. The asteroid was discovered by the Pan-STARRS S1 telescope survey. The first known Earth Trojan asteroid was 2010 TK7, about 0.3 km wide, and discovered in 2010.

10. Indian Army signed contract with which company for manufacture of Konkurs-M missiles?

- A) DRDO
- B) Bharat Dynamics Ltd ☒
- C) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd
- D) Bharat Electronics Ltd



- ✓ Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and the Indian Army have signed a contract worth Rs 3,131.82 crore for the manufacture and supply of Konkurs-M anti-tank guided missiles.
 - ✓ The missile with 75-4000 metre range can be launched either from the BMP-II tank or from a ground launcher. Konkurs-M is being manufactured under a license agreement with a Russian Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).
-

1. Which Union Ministry implements the 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)' scheme?

- A) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- B) Ministry of Rural Development ☒
- C) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj



- ✓ Union Ministry of Rural Development implements the 'Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)' scheme, with National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) as the nodal implementation agency. Recently, the union minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh released Rural Connectivity GIS Data in Public Domain.
- ✓ This includes GIS data for 800,000+ rural facilities as points, 1 million+ habitations and 25,00,000+ km of rural roads, digitised using the GIS platform.

2. Which institution authorises all Pre-paid Instruments (PPI) in India?

- A) NPCI
- B) RBI ☒
- C) Finance Ministry
- D) Enforcement Directorate



- ✓ The Reserve bank of India authorises all Pre-paid Instruments (PPI) in India, under the powers conferred under Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (PSS Act). The RBI recently cautioned public against car pooling app sRide, that the firm was operating pre-paid instrument without authorization from the central bank, under PSS Act, 2007.

3. Which Indian mathematician was conferred 'Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians' 2021?

- A) Neena Gupta ☒
- B) R Praggnanandhaa
- C) Dr. B. Uma Shankar
- D) Dr. Kuntal Ghosh



- ✓ Professor Neena Gupta, a mathematician at the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata, was conferred the Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians. She received the award for the year 2021 for her significant work in affine algebraic geometry and commutative algebra.
- ✓ The prize is awarded annually to a researcher from a developing country, funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in association with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and the International Mathematical Union (IMU).

4. Who chairs the Financial Stability and Development Council?

- A) RBI Governor
- B) Union Finance Minister ☒
- C) Prime Minister
- D) NITI Aayog CEO



- ✓ The 25th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was held, under the Chairpersonship of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- ✓ The Council discussed measures required for development of the financial sector and to achieve an inclusive economic growth with macroeconomic stability. The Council discussed various operational issues relating to currency management.

5. National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) has been extended till which year?

- A) 2023-24
- B) 2025-26 ☒
- C) 2029-30
- D) 2031-32



- ✓ The Ministry of Education (MoE) has approved the continuation of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) till 2025-26.
- ✓ Some changes in eligibility criteria have been introduced such as increasing income ceiling from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 3.5 lakh per annum. It aims to deter meritorious students from dropping out at class 8 and encourage them to continue their education at secondary stage.

6. Which space agency has provided a 'International Space Station Transition Report'?

- A) SpaceX
- B) NASA ☒
- C) ESA
- D) CNSA



- ✓ NASA has released an updated International Space Station Transition Report. It includes the goals for the next decade of station operations leading to a smooth transition to commercial services.
- ✓ It also includes the steps being taken to develop both the supply and demand side of the low-Earth orbit commercial economy, and technical steps and budget required for transition.

7. Which institution released the report on 'Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19'?

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) WHO ☒
- C) John Hopkins University
- D) FDA



- ✓ The World Health Organisation released the report on 'Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19'. As per the report, eight billion vaccine doses administered globally were estimated to have produced an additional 144,000 tonnes of waste in the form of glass vials, syringes, needles and safety boxes.

8. 'Space Applications Centre and Physical Research Laboratory' function under the aegis of which institution?

- A) DRDO
- B) ISRO ☒
- C) CSIR
- D) BARC



- ✓ Ahmedabad-based Space Applications Centre and Physical Research Laboratory function under the aegis of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Recently, the Scientists from the institute successfully demonstrated 'Quantum entanglement'. Using real-time Quantum Key Distribution (QKD), they conducted hack-proof communication between two buildings separated by 300 meters.

9. Which team won its 1st African Cup of Nations title in 2021-2022?

- A) Senegal ☒
- B) Malawi
- C) Guinea
- D) Namibia



- ✓ Senegal won its first African Cup of Nations title in the year 2022 by beating Egypt 4-2 in a penalty shootout.
- ✓ Senegal's Sadio Mané scored the winning spot kick. Senegal had finished as runners-up in 2019 African Cup, losing the final 0-1 to Algeria. Senegal has played in sixteen editions of the Africa Cup of Nations and the team finally won their first AFCON title in 2021.

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 Bheem



- ✓ Indian documentary 'Writing with Fire', directed by filmmakers Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, has been nominated at the 94th 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.