

| Topics | Page. No |
|--|----------|
| Current Affairs MCQ's July 1st Week | 2 |
| Current Affairs MCQ's July 2nd Week | 73 |
| Current Affairs MCQ's July 3rd Week | 147 |
| Current Affairs MCQ's July 4th Week | 214 |

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July 1st week Current Affairs MCQ

1. The Foundation day of the State Bank of India has been observed every year on 1st July. The bank was turned from the Imperial Bank of India to SBI in which among the following year?

- (a) 1945
- (b) 1960
- (c) 1955
- (d) 1950
- (e) 1947

Answer: C

The oldest commercial bank in the country, State Bank of India, SBI, is celebrating its 66th year on 1st July 2021. SBI descends from the Bank of Calcutta founded in 1806 through the Imperial Bank of India. The Bank of Madras merged into the other two presidency banks, the bank of Calcutta and the bank of Bombay to form the Imperial Bank of India which in turn became the State Bank of India on this day in 1955.

SBI is an Indian Multinational, Public Sector Banking and Financial services statutory body headquartered in Mumbai.

2. Which among the following Country's defence system has unveiled a 5th generation long range, precision-guided missile system called Sea Breaker?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Israel
- (c) France

(d) US

(e) Japan

Answer: B

Israeli defence major Rafael Advanced Defense Systems unveiled Sea Breaker, a 5th generation long range, autonomous, precision-guided missile system meant to hit high-value maritime and land targets.

Described by the firm as a naval and artillery unit force-multiplier, Sea Breaker, which has stand-off ranges of up to 300 km, can be fired both from land and surface ships.

Though company sources said they would be offering the system to India in future with a possible Make in India initiative, the country already has a similar product, BrahMos, an Indo-Russia missile system.

3. Who among the following has been appointed as the new Revenue Board chairperson the Uttar Pradesh government?

- (a) MukulSinghal
- (b) Renuka Kumar
- (c) DeveshChaturvedi
- (d) Suresh Chandra
- (e) Hithesh Gupta

Answer: A

In a late night announcement, the Uttar Pradesh government has elevated senior IAS officer MukulSinghal as chairperson Revenue Board.

Singhal was earlier posted as additional chief secretary (appointment and personnel) and member of Board of Revenue.

The 1986-batch IAS officer would replace top administrator Renuka Kumar who has moved to Delhi on deputation as secretary of the minority affairs ministry.

According to the state government notification, while senior IAS officer and ACS (agriculture) Devesh Chaturvedi has been given additional charge of the appointment and personnel department, IAS officer Suresh Chandra, ACS (labour and employment) has been given additional charge of the planning department.

4. NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission has recently concluded its first fintech cohort of AIM-iLEAP to accelerate Tech Start-ups across India. What does P mean in LEAP?

- (a) Partnership
- (b) Participation
- (c) Program
- (d) Pioneering
- (e) Profitability

Answer: E

In a move to give a major push to tech startups across the country, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog concluded its first fintech cohort of AIM-iLEAP- an initiative to back tech start-ups with much-needed access to industry, markets and investors.

The fintech cohort was done through a series of thematic virtual demo days organised AIM in partnership with StartupRéseau and Visa as part of AIM-iLEAP (Innovative leadership for entrepreneurial agility and profitability) initiative. After going through rigorous polishing, the start-ups showcased their solutions to various enterprises for market access and investors for funding via the inaugural virtual Demo Day on 30th June 2021. The Demo Day saw participation from a large number of corporates and investors. Fintech giants such as Visa, Paytm etc as well as big investors attended the program.

5. The National Doctors Day has been celebrated every year on July 1. It is celebrated on the remembrance of whom among the following?

- (a) Suresh H. Advani
- (b) Gopi Krishna Maddali
- (c) Ashok Rajgopal
- (d) Bidhan Chandra Roy
- (e) Sandeep Vaishya

Answer: D

India celebrates National Doctors' Day on July 1 every year to honour the birth and death anniversary of great physician and second chief minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. This day serves to show gratitude to all those doctors who have selflessly aided us in our time of need and tirelessly worked for the health of their patients.

6. Which among the following state government has set up Vedic Shiksha and Sanskar Board to teach students how Vedic education is linked to Science and Yoga?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Kerala

Answer: A

The government of Rajasthan has decided to set up Vedic Shiksha and Sanskar Board within 4-5 months to teach students how Vedic education is linked to Science and Yoga. Technical and Sanskrit Education Minister of Independent Charge, Dr SubhashGarg informed that a committee formed to look into the matter has submitted its report.

"Rajasthan government is going to set up Vedic Shiksha and Sanskar Board within 4-5 months. The committee has submitted its report. We would teach students how Vedic education is linked to Science and Yoga," said Garg.

The decision comes amidst the ongoing tussle within the Congress government in Rajasthan.

7. How much financial assistance has been approved by the World Bank to support India's vast informal workforce and create greater flexibility for state governments to cope with the covid-19 pandemic?

- (a) \$550 Million
- (b) \$400 Million

(c) \$450 Million

(d) \$500 Million

(e) \$200 Million

Answer: D

The World Bank has approved a \$500 million programme to support India's vast informal workforce including gig workers, and create greater flexibility for state governments to cope with the covid-19 pandemic, and future climate and disaster shocks.

The funds, the World Bank said, will strengthen the capability of the central and state governments in India to respond to the needs of informal workers through a resilient and coordinated social protection system.

8. 'Operation Oliva' has been launched by the Coast Guard in Odisha coast. What does 'Operation Oliva' mean?

- (a) To prevent illegal smuggling
- (b) To intercept unlawful trawling
- (c) To control Oil spillage
- (d) To defeat enemies submarine
- (e) None of these

Answer: B

The Coast Guard has launched 'Operation Oliva' to intercept unlawful trawling activities along Odisha coast while embarking on its annual mission to ensure safe mid-sea sojourn of Olive Ridley turtles. "The Odisha government agencies have sought for our services in the turtle conservation programme. Accordingly the operation to keep watch and vigil on

illegal fishing along the turtle concentration zone is presently going on in full swing," said Deputy Commandant (operation), Coast Guard Paradip, V Vijay.

9. K V Sampath Kumar an editor of which among the following newspaper has passed away recently?

- (a) VishvasyaVrutantam
- (b) Sudharm Sanskrit daily
- (c) Sanskrit dainik newspaper
- (d) Vishvasyavrutantamsanskrit newspaper
- (e) Sanskrit daily Sudharma

Answer: E

K V Sampath Kumar, editor of India's only Sanskrit daily Sudharma for the past 31 years, passed away following a heart attack. He was 64.

Sudharma was founded by his father

KalaleNadadurVaradarajalyengar, a renowned Sanskrit scholar from Mysuru, on July 15, 1970. After his death in 1990, Sampath Kumar and his wife Vidushi Jayalakshmi K S took over.

10. Abhimanyu Mishra became the youngest chess grandmaster in history after a victory in Budapest. He hails from which among the following place?

- (a) Florida
- (b) Pittsburgh
- (c) New Jersey
- (d) Pennsylvania
- (e) Toronto

Answer: C

Abhimanyu Mishra became the youngest chess grandmaster in history. The 12-year-old player from New Jersey scored his third GM norm in Budapest, having already crossed the required 2500 Elo rating barrier.

Mishra spent several months in Budapest, Hungary playing back-to-back tournaments, chasing the title and the record. He scored both his first and second GM norms there, at the April Vezerkepzo tournament and the May 2021 First tournament, both round-robins of 10 players specially set up for scoring norms

11. Which among the following minister has inaugurated Asia's longest high-speed test track at National Automotive Test Tracks in Pithampur, Indore?

- (a) Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- (b) Minister of Highways and Road Transport
- (c) Minister of Defence
- (d) Minister of Home Affairs
- (e) Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs

Answer: A

Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Prakash Javdekar inaugurated Asia's longest high-speed test track at National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX) in Pithampur, Indore.

The facility measures 11.3km in length and will facilitate automotive and component testing for automobile companies as well as double up as a test bed for measuring maximum speed of high-end

cars and other categories of vehicles. The new test track is also the fifth-largest in the world. The NATRAX is located 50km away from Indore, developed in around 3,000 acres of land. The oval-shaped high speed test track comprises of four independent lanes each measuring 16 metres wide.

12. "Home in the World", a memoir of whom among the following has set to release soon?

- (a) Daniel Kahneman
- (b) Nabaneeta Dev Sen
- (c) Ruskin Bond
- (d) Amartya Sen
- (e) Eva Colorni

Answer: D

Nobel laureate, economist and philosopher Amartya Sen talks about the influences that shaped his life and beliefs, the importance of independent thought, and his new memoir, Home in the World, released on July 8, 2021.

13. Mukul Goel has been appointed the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Uttar Pradesh by replacing H C Awasthy. He hails from _____.

- (a) Aligarh
- (b) Muzaffarnagar
- (c) Allahabad
- (d) Ghaziabad
- (e) Gorakhpur

Answer: B

Mukul Goel has been appointed the new Director General of Police (DGP) of Uttar Pradesh. An IPS officer of the 1987 batch, Mukul Goel is currently posted as the Additional DG Operations in the Border Security Force (BSF).

Goel replaces H C Awasthy, who retired. Hailing from UP's Muzaffarnagar, Goel was born on February 22, 1964 and has done B.Tech in Electrical Engineering from the IIT, Delhi.

He also has a certificate of proficiency in French and a diploma in Disaster Management. Goel earlier worked as an SP/SSP in Almora, Jalaun, Mainpuri, Hathras, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Saharanpur and Meerut districts of the state. He was also posted in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the National Disaster Response Force.

14. The Minister of Defence, Rajnath Singh has virtually inaugurated the 63 bridges at an event held at Kyungam. What is the overall cost of the project?

- (a) Rs 200 Crore
- (b) Rs 210 Crore
- (c) Rs 220 Crore
- (d) Rs 230 Crore
- (e) Rs 240 Crore

Answer: E

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reaffirmed the government's resolve to bolster border infrastructure for the security and development of the nation. Singh, who is on a visit to Leh for three days, virtually inaugurated the 63 bridges at an event held at Kyungam, 88 km from Leh.

From Kyungam, Singh inaugurated a 50-metre long bridge constructed on the Leh-Loma Road in Ladakh.

Rajat Singh also inaugurated 62 more bridges, 11 in Ladakh, four in Jammu and Kashmir, three in Himachal Pradesh, six in Uttarakhand, eight in Sikkim, one each in Manipur and Nagaland, and 29 in Arunachal Pradesh. The overall cost of the project is Rs 240 crore.

15. The Financial Action Task Force has placed Malta on a list for increased monitoring. The FATF is _____ based Organisation.

- (a) Rome
- (b) London
- (c) Paris
- (d) Sydney
- (e) California

Answer: C

A watchdog on the lookout for money laundering and terror financing said it has placed the tiny Mediterranean island nation of Malta on a list for increased monitoring.

The Paris-based Financial Action Task Force, or FATF, added the European Union member to its so-called grey list, along with Haiti, the Philippines and South Sudan.

It is exceptional for an EU country to be put on this list, which also includes Pakistan, Zimbabwe and Syria. The move raised concerns in Malta about the potentially damaging impact on the nation's economy

16. The Gelfand Challenge chess title has been won by D. Gukesh. As of now he become _____ youngest Grandmaster of the world.

- (a) Fifth
- (b) Second
- (c) Sixth
- (d) Fourth
- (e) First

Answer: B

The world's second youngest Grandmaster D. Gukesh has won the \$15,000 Gelfand Challenge chess title on June 13, 2021.

With this win, the 15-year-old Gukesh has also secured a 'wild card' for the elite Meltwater Champions Chess Tour.

Chennai-based Gukesh and his compatriot Praggnanandhaa, tied with 14 points in 19 rounds, but Gukesh won the tournament on tiebreak because he had won the direct encounter against Praggnanandhaa in 17th round.

17. The Andhra Pradesh CM has formally re-launched the YSR Bima scheme with new guidelines. What is the fund allocated for the scheme for the year 2021-22?

- (a) ₹700 Crore
- (b) ₹600 Crore
- (c) ₹550 Crore
- (d) ₹650 Crore
- (e) ₹750 Crore

Answer: E

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy formally re-launched the YSR Bima scheme with new guidelines, where the government itself will directly pay the insurance amount to the family of the deceased to make the insurance claims easier. The State government has allocated ₹750 crore for the scheme for the year 2021-22.

In the last two years, the state government had spent ₹1,307 crore for the scheme.

18. The President Ram Nath Kovind has laid the foundation stone for Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Memorial and Cultural Centre at _____ in Lucknow.

- (a) Mehdiganj
- (b) Talkatora
- (c) Alambagh
- (d) Aishbagh
- (e) Tikaitganj

Answer: D

President Ram Nath Kovind laid the foundation stone for Bharat Ratna Dr Ambedkar Memorial and Cultural Centre here.

The President laid the foundation stone for the centre, to come up in Aishbagh, at an event in Lok Bhawan here. The event was also attended by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, chief minister Yogi Adityanath, Deputy CMs Keshav Prasad Maurya and Dinesh Sharma.

Kovind, who is in Lucknow on a two-day visit to the state capital, arrived here from Kanpur and leave for Delhi.

19. According to Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021 by Startup Blink, What is the rank of India in Transportation Technology globally?

- (a) 10th
- (b) 13th
- (c) 8th
- (d) 5th
- (e) 8th

Answer: A

India has jumped from 23 to 20th rank on the Global StartUp Ecosystem Index 2021 out of 100 countries. Three Indian cities, New Delhi, Bengaluru, and Mumbai feature in the top 20 cities.

According to Global Startup Ecosystem Index 2021 by Startup Blink, India is the 5th highest ranked ecosystem in the Asia-Pacific region, ranking 8th globally in Education and 10th in Transportation Technology.

Bangalore, India's top city has increased 4 spots to 10th and is now a global top 10 startup ecosystem. Bangalore is ranked 4th in Transportation Technology, 6th in Education Technology, and 9th in Marketing & Sales Technology.

New Delhi is ranked 2nd in India and has jumped 1 spot globally to 14th. New Delhi also ranks 7th globally in both Transportation Technology and in Social & Leisure Technology. Mumbai, ranked 3rd in India, and has jumped 6 spots globally to 16th, entering the top 20.

India now has 3 cities in the top 20, an achievement only surpassed by the United States, showing the

vast growth potential of the Indian startup ecosystem (something not even China has achieved).

20. The World Bank has extended \$8 billion more for Covid-19 vaccines for developing countries.

What is the total fund allotted by the World bank?

- (a) \$16 billion
- (b) \$12 billion
- (c) \$20 billion
- (d) \$26 billion
- (e) \$22 billion

Answer: C

The World Bank has added \$8 billion more for Covid-19 vaccines, totalling \$20 billion, for developing countries. Earlier it had announced \$12 billion. The funding will be available through 2022.

"In view of the surging demand for World Bank vaccine finance, I am pleased to announce today that the World Bank is expanding its financing available for Covid-19 vaccine financing to \$20 billion over the next 18 months, adding \$8 billion to the previously announced \$12 billion.

21. Which among the following country has been declared as malaria free by the World Health Organization?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Oman
- (c) India
- (d) France
- (e) China

Answer: E

The World Health Organization (WHO) today declared China malaria-free, following a decades-long effort that reduced an estimated yearly toll of 30 million cases in the 1940s to zero in 2017, including 300,000 deaths.

China created new monitoring tactics, treatments, and technology along the path to break the malaria parasite transmission cycle between Anopheles mosquitoes and humans.

22. As per the survey by Germany-based wellness brand Vaay, Which among the following city has found to be the world's least stressful city?

- (a) Helsinki
- (b) Reykjavik
- (c) Edinburgh
- (d) Bern
- (e) Baghdad

Answer: B

A global survey across 100 cities has found Mumbai to be the "most stressful" city to live in, ranking last on the list. Delhi is also among the bottom five, ranking 97 among 100.

Conducted by Germany-based wellness brand Vaay, the result of the survey was released.

Reykjavik in Iceland, was found to be the world's least stressful city, followed by Bern in Switzerland and Helsinki in Finland.

The top 100 cities for the survey were chosen based on their size and global significance, as well as the availability of reliable and comparable data.

23. Which among the following bank has launched a comprehensive banking solution for doctors, called Salute Doctors?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) Bank of India
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer: D

ICICI Bank announced the launch of a comprehensive banking solution for doctors, called Salute Doctors. It provides customized banking as well as value-added services for every doctor, beginning from a medical student to a senior medical consultant to an owner of a hospital or a clinic.

The solutions, which are mostly digital and instant, are designed to take care of the professional, business, lifestyle and wealth banking requirements of doctors and their families. The initiative is powered by ICICI STACK, a digital banking platform with nearly 500 services that helps customers of the bank to avail the services digitally and seamlessly.

24. Which among the following company has signed an MOU with the Indian Navy to develop a joint Technology Incubation Forum?

- (a) BEL
- (b) HAL
- (c) BEML

(d) NTPC

(e) BHEL

Answer: A

Indian state-owned aerospace and defence public sector unit Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy.

The partnership is intended to develop a joint Technology Incubation Forum (TIF). This new setting will allow the parties to work jointly on the development of emerging technologies.

The agreement was signed at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence (Navy) in New Delhi.

25. The ArunJaitley National Institute of Financial Management has signed an MOU with which among the following IT giant to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence at AJNIFM?

- (a) IBM
- (b) Dell
- (c) Microsoft
- (d) Infosys
- (e) Wipro

Answer: C

The ArunJaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM) and Microsoft signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a strategic partnership to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence at AJNIFM. The collaboration seeks to explore the role of cloud, AI and emerging technologies for transforming and

shaping the future of public finance management in India.

26. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has partnered with LoanTap to provide loan options to the salaried segment of customers. What is the maximum loan amount offer by the Bank?

- (a) Rs 20 Lakh
- (b) Rs 10 Lakh
- (c) Rs 25 Lakh
- (d) Rs 10 Lakh
- (e) Rs 15 Lakh

Answer: B

:Ujjivan, a Finance Bank has tied-up with LoanTap – a digital lender providing loan options to the salaried segment of customers. This is part of Ujjivan SFB's API banking initiative, through which over 150 APIs are available offering fast and secure tie-ups for digital lending and digital liabilities, payments etc. to FinTechs. This collaboration aims to extend the bank's services to its customers via LoanTap's fast and convenient platform.

Ujjivan SFB offers personal loans ranging from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 10 lakh with a maximum tenure of 48 months on the LoanTap platform.

27. Donald Rumsfeld of US has recently passed away. He is _____ secretary.

- (a) Finance Secretary
- (b) Highway Secretary
- (c) Revenue Secretary
- (d) Labour Secretary

(e) Defence secretary

Answer: E

Donald Rumsfeld, the two-time defence secretary and one-time presidential candidate whose reputation as a skilled bureaucrat and visionary of a modern U.S. military was unravelled by the long and costly Iraq war, died. He was 88.

Rumsfeld is the only person to serve twice as Pentagon chief. The first time, in 1975-77, he was the youngest ever. The next time, in 2001-06, he was the oldest.

28. Vivek Ram Chaudhari has recently appointed as the new Vice Chief of which among the following organisation?

- (a) IAF
- (b) CRPF
- (c) Indian Navy
- (d) CAPF
- (e) Indian Coast Guard

Answer: A

Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari took charge as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF), officials said.

Prior to taking charge as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal Chaudhari was serving as the commander-in-chief of the IAF's Western Air Command that looks after the security of the country's air space in the sensitive Ladakh sector as well as various other parts of north India.

29. A New Species of Spider 'IciusTukarami' has been recently discovered by the Police Assistant Sub-Inspector, TukaramOmble in which among the following State?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: D

Scientists have discovered two new species of spiders in Maharashtra and named one of them after TukaramOmble, the Mumbai Police Assistant Sub-Inspector who was killed during the 26/11 terror attacks in the city.

They have named the new species 'IciusTukarami', which first appeared in a research paper.

ParveenKaswan, Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer, posted a picture with the spider on the left and the officer it has been named after on the right.

30. The Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the new Centre of National Horticulture Board in which among the following place of Madhya Pradesh?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Gwalior
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) Jabalpur
- (e) Ujjain

Answer: B

Taking forward the activities and programmes of National Horticulture Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India opened centre in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare inaugurated the new Centre of National Horticulture Board (NHB) at Gwalior.

31. KarstenWarholm has broken the world record at the Bislett Games in which among the following category?

- (a) 400 metres hurdles
- (b) 200 metres hurdles
- (c) 300 metres hurdles
- (d) 100 metres hurdles
- (e) 500 metres hurdles

Answer: A

Norwegian star KarstenWarholm clocked 46.70 seconds in men's 400 metres hurdles to smash Kevin Young's long standing world record of 46.78 secs at the Bislett Games, which is also the fourth Diamond League, here on late night.

Young's world record was set at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

32. The Government has decided to bring retail and wholesale trade under which among the following Priority sector lending?

- (a) Social Infrastructure
- (b) Export Credit
- (c) Housing
- (d) MSME

(e) Agriculture

Answer: D

The Government has decided to bring retail and wholesale trade under the ambit of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME). It has issued revised guidelines to include retail and wholesale trade as MSME and extending to them the benefit of priority sector lending under RBI guidelines.

In a series of tweets, MSME Minister, Nitin Gadkari said, the decision will benefit 2.5 crore retail and wholesale traders. He said, the Government is committed to strengthening of MSME and making them engines for economic growth. With the revised guidelines the retail and wholesale trades will now be allowed to register on Udyam Registration Portal.

33. Which among the following federation has gets Government recognition as National Sports Federation?

- (a) Cycling Federation of India
- (b) All India Football Federation
- (c) Rowing Federation Of India
- (d) All India Chess Federation
- (e) WAKO India Kickboxing Federation

Answer: E

WAKO India Kickboxing Federation is affiliated to World Association of Kickboxing Organizations (WAKO), which is the International Federation for the sport of Kickboxing. International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board at its meeting on 10th June 2021 has approved the recommendation

for WAKO to become fully recognized member of the Olympic family of sport.

WAKO have been provisionally recognized member of the IOC Since 30 November 2018. The full recognition of WAKO will be finally decided by the IOC Session in Tokyo in July 2021.

34. The International Plastic Bag Free Day has been observed every year on which among the following date?

- (a) July 2
- (b) July 4
- (c) July 3
- (d) July 5
- (e) July 1

Answer: C

The International Plastic Bag Free Day is observed on July 3 annually. The day is observed to raise awareness about the grave issues of plastic pollution and the serious threat that it poses to the natural environment ranging from land to marine life. The campaign started by Zero Waste Europe's Bag Free World became a global initiative to aware people around the world. The day, July 3 has been designated as the International Plastic Bag Free Day to promote the use of eco-friendly items such as paper bags or cloth bags instead of plastic bags and get rid of the single-use plastic bags.

35. Atul Keshap has been appointed as the new envoy to India from which among the following country?

- (a) Japan
- (b) US
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) Pakistan
- (e) Afghanistan

Answer: B

Atul Keshap took charge as United States' new envoy to India. He most recently served as the Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives.

The US state department said, appointment of the Indian-American career diplomat, an old India-hand at the US state department will help reinforce the close US partnership with the Government and people of India.

Mr Keshap said, it is his honour to serve as Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Mission in India. He said as a proud Indian-American, it is his privilege to work to further strengthen the warm and dynamic US-India partnership.

36. The World Bank has approved a loan of _____ million dollars to transform foundational learning in government schools of Andhra Pradesh.

- (a) \$200 Mn
- (b) \$100 Mn
- (c) \$350 Mn
- (d) \$250 Mn
- (e) \$150 Mn

Answer: D

Andhra Pradesh has started a programme to transform foundational learning in government

schools for which the World Bank has approved a loan of 250 million dollars.

The main objectives of the programme called Supporting Andhra's Learning Transformation (SALT) are strengthening foundation schools and providing training and skill development to teachers.

37. India and majority of the members of OECD/G20 has adopted a high-level Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting for which among the following?

- (a) Tax Deal
- (b) Export Deal
- (c) Vaccines Deal
- (d) Trade Deal
- (e) None of these

Answer: A

India and majority of the members OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting adopted a high-level statement containing an outline of a consensus solution to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalisation of the economy. The proposed solution consists of two components- Pillar One which is about reallocation of additional share of profit to the market jurisdictions and Pillar Two consisting of minimum tax and subject to tax rules.

38. The Minister of State for Culture and Tourism, Prahlaad Singh Patel has hosted BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting virtually. This is _____ edition.

- (a) 9th

- (b) 4th
- (c) 6th
- (d) 8th
- (e) 2nd

Answer: C

The Minister of State (I/C) for Culture and Tourism, Shri Prahlaad Singh Patel hosted 6th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting through video conference. The delegates from Culture Ministries of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa participated in the meeting.

39. What is the theme of the International Day of Cooperatives commemorated every year on July 3?

- (a) COOPS 4 CLIMATE ACTION
- (b) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8
- (c) Co-operatives: The power to act for a sustainable future
- (d) Sustainable societies through cooperation
- (e) Rebuild Better Together

Answer: E

The International Day of Cooperatives also commonly known as #CoopsDay will be commemorated on July 3 with the theme "Rebuild Better Together." Cooperatives from all around the globe will demonstrate how they are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic catastrophe with solidarity and resilience, while also providing communities with a people-centered and ecologically fair recovery.

40. Which among the following organisation has tweaked the norms for interest on the amount left unclaimed with the bank after a term deposit matures?

- (a) IRDAI
- (b) SEBI
- (c) RBI
- (d) EXIM
- (e) SIDBI

Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tweaked the norms for interest on the amount left unclaimed with the bank after a term deposit matures.

Currently, if a term deposit matures and the proceeds are unpaid, the amount left unclaimed with the bank attracts the rate of interest as applicable to savings deposits.

41. What is the highest ever Merchandise export has recorded in India in the first quarter of April to June this year?

- (a) \$ 90 Billion
- (b) \$ 80 Billion
- (c) \$ 75 Billion
- (d) \$ 95 Billion
- (e) \$ 85 Billion

Answer: D

India has recorded the highest ever merchandise export in the first quarter of April to June this year despite the severity of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic. Also, the country has also received

the highest ever Foreign Direct Investment of 81.72 billion US dollars in the last financial year.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal informed this during a press conference in New Delhi yesterday.

The Commerce Minister said, the highest ever Merchandise export of 95 Billion dollar was achieved in the first quarter of this financial year which surpassed the earlier peak of export of 90 Billion dollars in quarter four of 2020-21.

42. Tirath Singh Rawat, the chief Minister of which among the following State has resigned recently?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Tripura
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Bihar
- (e) Nagaland

Answer: A

Barely four months after taking oath as Uttarakhand's new chief minister, Tirath Singh Rawat offered to resign from his post. Tirath Rawat is in Dehradun where he met Governor Baby Rani Maurya and submitted his resignation.

The Bharatiya Janata Party legislature party meeting is scheduled to be held at the party headquarters in Uttarakhand where the BJP MLAs would meet to pick a new leader.

The meeting will be held under the chairmanship of Uttarakhand president Madan Kaushik, according to reports.

Meanwhile, the BJP has named Union Agricultural Minister Narendra Singh Tomar as the central observer for Uttarakhand.

Tirath Rawat took oath as Uttarakhand's CM on 10 March, replacing Trivendra Singh Rawat.

43. Which among the following organisation has signed a MoU with C-DAC to train the manpower of the force in advanced technologies and undertake joint projects?

- (a) ITBP
- (b) CAPF
- (c) IAF
- (d) Indian Army
- (e) CRPF

Answer: E

The Central Reserve Police Force, CRPF has signed a MoU with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing C-DAC to train the manpower of the force in advanced technologies and undertake joint projects.

The MoU aims at augmenting the technical capabilities of CRPF by training its manpower in advanced areas like Internet of Things (IoT), Cyber security, Artificial Intelligence, High-Performance Computing and Big Data Analytics.

The agreement will also provide the expertise of C-DAC in the form of Technology Partner and Knowledge Partner in developing various ICT solutions of CRPF.

44. Which of the following bank has partnered with of e-commerce giant Amazon AWS to accelerate its digital transformation program and meet the growing demand for its digital banking services?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Bank of India
- (e) None of these

Answer: B

Amazon Web Services, (AWS), the cloud computing arm of e-commerce giant Amazon said that Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank, has selected AWS to accelerate its digital transformation program and meet the growing demand for its digital banking services.

As part of a multi-year agreement, Axis Bank will draw on the breadth and depth of AWS services.

45. Indian Overseas Bank has become the second most-valued listed public sector bank with a market capitalisation of over _____ Crore.

- (a) Rs 10,000 crore
- (b) Rs 30,000 crore
- (c) Rs 50,000 crore
- (d) Rs 40,000 crore
- (e) Rs 20,000 crore

Answer: C

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has become the second most-valued listed public sector bank (PSB) with a market capitalisation of over Rs 50,000 crore. As Street discounts privatisation of the state-owned

lender, its shares have appreciated nearly 80 per cent on the BSE in the past one month.

On a closing basis, the bank's market cap was Rs 51,887 crore at the end of trading, surpassing its peers Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bank of Baroda (BOB). While IOB crossed BoB, it beat PNB in market value, and expanded the lead.

46. Satish Agnihotri has been appointed as the Managing Director of which among the following organisation?

- (a) RailTel
- (b) NCRTC
- (c) Rail Vikas Nigam
- (d) IRCTC
- (e) National High Speed Rail Corporation

Answer: E

Shri Satish Agnihotri, Former Chairman and Managing Director, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited has taken over charge as Managing Director, National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd. on 01st July, 2021. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Civil), 1982 and Master of Engineering (Structures), 1984, both from IIT, Roorkee and was conferred the distinguished Alumnus Award in 2013 by IIT, Roorkee.

Shri Agnihotri comes with more than 20 years of experience in implementation of mega rail infrastructure projects. He has worked as Chairman & Managing Director, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), a schedule 'A' CPSE under the Ministry of Railways for close to 9 years. He also held the

position of Chairman, High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (HSRC), a fully owned subsidiary of RVNL since its inception in July 2012 till August 2018.

47. As per the Financial Stability Report by RBI , the gross non-performing assets ratio of banks has risen to 9.8 % by March 2022 from _____% in March 2021.

- (a) 7.4%
- (b) 7.0%
- (c) 7.5%
- (d) 7.7%
- (e) 7.1%

Answer: C

The gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) ratio of banks may rise to 9.8 per cent by March 2022, under a baseline scenario, from 7.48 per cent in March 2021, according to the Financial Stability Report (FSR) released by the Reserve Bank of India.

Under a severe stress scenario, GNPA of banks may increase to 11.22 per cent, the report released .

48. The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 25 lakh on which among the following Bank?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Punjab & Sind Bank
- (d) Bank of India
- (e) ICICI Bank

Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) through its order on July 2, 2021, has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs25 lakh on Punjab & Sind Bank.

“As per the said order, the penalty has been imposed in exercise of the powers conferred under section 47A (I) (c) read with sections 46 (4) (i) and 51 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 on account of the failure of the bank to comply with certain provisions of the directions issued by the RBI in its Circular titled 'Cyber Security Framework in Banks' dated June 2, 2016,” company said in a filing .

49. Who among the following has been appointed as the new Chairman & Managing Director of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd?

- (a) PVSLN Venkat
- (b) PVSLN Suresh
- (c) PVSLN Ajay
- (d) PVSLN Murty
- (e) PVSLN Harish

Answer: D

PVSLN Murty has joined as the new Chairman & Managing Director of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDF).

Murty, a Chief General Manager and Chief Strategy Officer of largest public sector bank State Bank of India NSE 0.77 % (SBI), brings with him 40 years of rich commercial and development banking experience in diverse and varied areas of Financial System.

50. Pushkar Singh Dhami has been appointed as the chief minister of Uttarakhand recently. He is the ____th Chief minister of Uttarakhand.

- (a) 9th
- (b) 11th
- (c) 17th
- (d) 10th
- (e) 7th

Answer: B

Pushkar Singh Dhami took oath as the 11th chief minister of Uttarakhand at a function at the Raj Bhavan .

Three ministers of state were promoted to Cabinet rank. He has retained all the 11 ministers, who were part of the previous Tirath Singh Rawat government, in his cabinet. The retention of all the ministers is a clear indication that the party does not want to create any controversy with the assembly polls being so close.

51. Which among the following e-commerce platform has acquired a messaging application

Wickr?

- (a) Flipkart
- (b) Amazon
- (c) ebay
- (d) Snapdeal
- (e) Alibaba

Answer: B

Amazon Web Services (AWS) has acquired a messaging application Wickr. The messaging

application which was founded in 2012, boasts of emphasis on encryption.

Wickr's app -- like secure messaging competitor Signal -- has been popular with journalists and whistleblowers; it's also been a go-to for criminals, the Verge reported.

52. Sumit Malik has decided to challenge the two-year ban imposed on him by the sport's world governing body for failing a dope test. He associated with which among the following Sports?

- (a) Weightlifting
- (b) Football
- (c) Discus throwing
- (d) Javelin throwing
- (e) Wrestling

Answer: E

Indian wrestler Sumit Malik has decided to challenge the two-year ban imposed on him by the sport's world body for failing a dope test and seek a lesser punishment so that he can compete in next year's Commonwealth Games and defend his title.

The 28-year-old, who had qualified for the Tokyo Games in the 125kg category, admitted that he is responsible for the substance found in his body but since the intention was not to cheat, he will appeal to the UWW that the punishment period is reduced to six months.

53. Darbar move', the 149-year-old biannual tradition of shifting capitals has come to an end in which among the following state/UT?

- (a) Jammu & Kashmir
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Haryana
- (e) None of these

Answer: A

Darbar move', the 149-year-old biannual tradition of shifting capitals between Srinagar and Jammu, has come to an end, with the administration serving notice to employees to vacate their quarters in the twin capital cities within three weeks.

Around 8,000-9,000 employees working in Civil Secretariats have to move along with hundreds of official files physically in trucks on the treacherous Jammu-Srinagar highway twice every year. While Srinagar served as the summer capital, Jammu was the winter capital.

54. The government has extended the superannuation age of IPO-bound LIC Chairman to up to _____ years as per the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Amendment Rules, 2021.

- (a) 60 years
- (b) 59 years
- (c) 65 years
- (d) 62 years
- (e) 69 years

Answer: D

The government has extended the superannuation age of IPO-bound LIC Chairman to up to 62 years

by making amendment to the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations, 1960.

The changes made in the rules will be called the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Staff) Amendment Rules, 2021, according to a government notification dated June 30, 2021.

55. MariyappanThangavelu has been named as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent in the Tokyo Paralympics. He associated with _____ sports.

- (a) Swimming
- (b) Weight Lifting
- (c) High-Jumping
- (d) Wrestling
- (e) Football

Answer: C

Top para high-jumper MariyappanThangavelu was named the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent in the Tokyo Paralympics, which begins on August 24.

Thangavelu, who is defending the T-42 gold he had won in the 2016 Rio Paralympics during the August 24 to September 5 showpiece in Tokyo, was picked for the honour by the executive committee of the national body.

56. Kalyan Narayan Bhattacharjee has been appointed as the new Lokayukta for which among the following state?

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Assam
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Bihar

(e) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: A

Veteran advocate Kalyan Narayan Bhattacharjee has been appointed as the new Lokayukta in Tripura. He has been appointed to the post for three years with effect from July 1.

The Lokayukta Act has been in force in Tripura since 2008. Bhattacharjee is the third Lokayukta in the state and the first to hold the post as a lawyer. In 2012, the first Lokayukta was appointed in Tripura. Former Gujarat and Guwahati High Court judge Pradeep Kumar Sarkar was the first Lokayukta in the state. He had discharged his responsibility till 2018.

57. Which among the following has been awarded the world's most innovative Investment Promotion Agency 2021 by OCO Global?

- (a) AIM
- (b) Digital India
- (c) Start-up India
- (d) YUVA
- (e) Invest India

Answer: E

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar have congratulated Invest India, which has been awarded the world's most innovative Investment Promotion Agency 2021 by OCO Global.

Mr. Goyal said that India continues to make remarkable strides to combat disruptions caused by

COVID-19, identifying innovative areas of investment and bringing in sustainable investors. Mr. Javadekar said that this is a proud moment for every Indian.

58. M Prasannan has passed away recently. He belongs to which among the following sports?

- (a) Swimming
- (b) Hockey
- (c) Football
- (d) Tennis
- (e) Wrestling

Answer: C

Former international footballer M Prasannan passed away in Mumbai. He was 73. A gifted midfielder of the 1970s, he shared the dressing room with stalwarts of Indian football like Inder Singh and Doraiswamy Natraj. He played for Kerala, Maharashtra and Goa in Santosh Trophy National Football Championship.

Prasannan was part of the Indian team coached by PK Banerjee and captained by Inder Singh in the Merdeka Cup in 1973. He scored a goal in the fifth-place playoff which India eventually lost to South Vietnam. Like the Brazilian legend Socrates of a later vintage, the bearded Prasannan sported a characteristic headband whenever he stepped onto the field.

59. Which among the following has given its nod to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education to provide technical assistance for satellite TV

classrooms in the country to bridge the learning gap due to COVID-induced lockdown?

- (a) IBM
- (b) Microsoft
- (c) NASA
- (d) ISRO
- (e) Google

Answer: D

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) gave its nod to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education to provide technical assistance for satellite TV classrooms in the country to bridge the learning gap due to COVID-induced lockdown.

ISRO scientists have appeared before the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Education and made a detailed presentation about the proposed satellite TV classroom for students.

60. Which among the following has launched a TV Channel Selector web portal for consumers who could not access its mobile phone app through smartphones?

- (a) Reliance Jio
- (b) TRAI
- (c) Department of Telecommunications
- (d) TDSAT
- (e) BSNL

Answer: B

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has launched a TV Channel Selector web portal for consumers who could not access its mobile phone app through smartphones.

With the help of this portal subscribers can choose a preferred channel of interest and remove the unwarranted. The portal also allows the subscriber to modify existing subscriptions. This portal will help the subscriber to check their own subscription status and view all the channels provided by the DTH and Cable operators.

61. Which among the following e-commerce platform has launched Shopsy, an app to help individuals start online businesses without any investment?

- (a) Shopclues
- (b) ebay
- (c) Flipkart
- (d) Amazon
- (e) Snapdeal

Answer: C

Walmart-owned Flipkart has launched Shopsy, an app to help individuals start online businesses without any investment, and also deepen e-commerce penetration, particularly in non-metros. After registering on the app, Shopsy users will be able to share catalogues of 15 crore products offered by Flipkart sellers, ranging across categories such as fashion, beauty, mobiles, electronics and home, among others with potential customers via popular social media and messaging apps.

62. Siddalingaiah, a kannadian has recently passed away .He was a well-known _____.

- (a) Poet

- (b) Activist
- (c) Actor
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: D

Noted Kannada poet, playwright and Dalit activist Prof Siddalingaiah died of coronavirus-related complications in Bengaluru . He was 67.

Siddalingaiah was admitted to a private hospital in the city and was in ICU. He had tested positive for Covid-19 on May 2 and was admitted to Manipal Hospital on May 5, according to relatives.

63. The Central Board of Secondary Education has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India to introduce a financial literacy curriculum for the students of which class?

- (a) Class VI
- (b) Class V
- (c) Class VIII
- (d) Class IV
- (e) Class VII

Answer: A

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to introduce a financial literacy curriculum for students of Class VI.

The Financial Literacy Textbook is launched as a part of a new elective 'financial literacy' subject that will enable students to have an understanding of basic financial concepts at a preliminary stage of their education.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 called for inclusion of multidisciplinary education in schools itself.

64. The Indian Railways has set up first movable fresh water aquatic in which among the following railway station?

- (a) Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus
- (b) New Delhi Railway Station
- (c) Southern Maharashtra Railway station
- (d) Mumbai Railway station
- (e) Bengaluru Railway station

Answer: E

In a first, an aquatic kingdom has been set up at a Bengaluru Railway station. From rare species of fishes to exotic marine plants, the facility promises to give a visual treat to passengers for an entry fee of just ₹25. Currently, 25 visitors can visit the aquarium at a time in the view of the pandemic.

The one-of-its-kind aquatic park at Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station has been developed by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd (IRSDC) in collaboration with HNi Aquatic Kingdom.

65. Tata Consultancy Services has expanded its strategic partnership with Virgin Atlantic to help the latter embark on a "new phase of recovery and growth". Virgin Atlantic is _____based Airlines.

- (a) Japan
- (b) UK
- (c) Russia

(d) China

(e) US

Answer: B

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) announced that it has expanded its strategic partnership with Virgin Atlantic, one of the UK's leading airlines, to help the latter embark on a "new phase of recovery and growth".

The enhanced partnership builds on a 17-year relationship between the two organisations and will see TCS take exclusive responsibility for end-to-end operational management and digital transformation, the information technology services major said in a statement.

66. What is the rank of India in the World Giving Index 2021 as per Charities Aid Foundation's?

(a) 14th

(b) 10th

(c) 16th

(d) 17th

(e) 11th

Answer: A

The Covid-19 pandemic has upended giving trends across the world as per Charities Aid Foundation's (CAF) World Giving Index (WGI) 2021. Several Western economies have slipped down the Index due to Covid-related lockdowns. Despite the state-level restrictions India ranked 14th which is several notches up from its 10-year average rank of 82 -- published in a special 10-year anniversary edition in 2019.

According to WGI 2021, India has consistently been working its way up from 2017, when it was ranked 124. In the years 2018 and 2019, India ranked 51 and 19 respectively.

67. Grene Robotics has been designed and developed India's first indigenous drone defence dome called "Indrajaal". Grene Robotics is _____ based R&D firm.

(a) Cochin

(b) Kolkata

(c) Hyderabad

(d) Bangalore

(e) Chennai

Answer: C

Hyderabad-based technology R&D firm Grene Robotics has designed and developed India's first indigenous drone defence dome called "Indrajaal". As per the company, the drone defence dome has the capability to autonomously protect an area of 1000-2000 sq km against the aerial threats by assessing and acting on aerial threats such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), loitering munitions, and Low- Radar Cross Section (RCS) targets.

"For the first time in India and many times, globally rogue forces have adopted cutting-edge technologies such as UAVs, Smart Swarms, etc. Jammu Air Base on June 27th was attacked by such technologies to drop explosives next to the Mi-17 hangar," Grene Robotics stated in a press release.

68. The 7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium has been hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion. Which country had hosted the 6th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium?

- (a) India
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Australia
- (d) Bangladesh
- (e) Iran

Answer: E

The 7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), a biennial event, was hosted by the French Navy at La Réunion from 28 June to 01 July 2021. Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff, Indian Navy, participated virtually in the inaugural session of the event and provided his congratulatory remarks to the Outgoing and Incoming Chairman. The chairmanship of IONS has been held by India (2008-10), UAE (2010-12), South Africa (2012-14), Australia (2014-16), Bangladesh (2016-18) and Islamic Republic of Iran (2018-21). France has assumed the Chairmanship on 29 Jun 21 for a two-year tenure.

69. Which among the following bank has partnered with wealth-tech company Fisdome to offer a comprehensive suite of wealth management products to the bank's customers?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank
- (c) Canara Bank
- (d) Indian Bank

(e) Bank of India

Answer: D

Indian Bank, the seventh largest public sector bank, has partnered wealth-tech company Fisdome to offer a comprehensive suite of wealth management products and services to the bank's 10 crore customers.

The partnership will focus on enabling large-scale facilitation and distribution of wealth products and services through Indian Bank's network of about 6,000 branches and its digital properties including the mobile banking application and internet banking portal.

70. MP Jabir, an Ace athlete of the Indian Navy has been qualified for the Tokyo Olympics in 400m hurdles. What is his rank in the World Athletics' Road to Olympics rankings?

- (a) 36th
- (b) 34th
- (c) 31st
- (d) 33rd
- (e) 40th

Answer: B

Ace athlete of the Indian Navy, MP Jabir, has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics in 400m hurdles after he clocked 49.78s to win gold at the recently concluded Inter-State Athletics Championships in Ratnagiri.

Jabir qualified through the World ranking quota where there are 14 spots available. The 25-year-old Naval sailor hails from Malappuram, Kerala. He is

currently ranked 34th in the World Athletics' Road to Olympics rankings where 40 athletes qualify.

71. Which organisation has approved the licence of manufacturing and marketing Covid-19 treatment drug 2-Deoxy-D-Glucose by Laurus Labs?

- (a) SII
- (b) ICMR
- (c) DRDO
- (d) CSIR
- (e) Bharat Biotech

Answer: C

Drug firm Laurus Labs said it has received the licence from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to manufacture and market Covid-19 treatment drug 2-Deoxy-D-Glucose (2DG). "2DG has been given emergency approval by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for use on COVID-19 patients in the country.

On June 28, pharma major Dr Reddy's announced the commercial launch of 2DG at a maximum retail price of ₹990 per sachet. DRL will supply to major government as well as private hospitals across India. In the initial weeks, the Company will make the drug available in hospitals across metros and Tier 1 cities, and subsequently expand coverage to the rest of India, Dr Reddy's had said.

72. "NathuramGodse: The True Story of Gandhi's Assassin" would be published by Pan Macmillan India in 2022. It has written by whom among the following?

- (a) Mulk Raj Anand
- (b) Khuswant Singh
- (c) George Orwell
- (d) Naipaul
- (e) DhavalKulkarni

Answer: E

A biography of NathuramGodse, Mahatma Gandhi's infamous assassin, situates the man and his most defining act in the larger context of modern Indian history and contemporary society and politics. "NathuramGodse: The True Story of Gandhi's Assassin" by Mumbai-based journalist DhavalKulkarni will be published by Pan Macmillan India in 2022.

The publisher said this investigative account will bring to light hitherto unknown aspects of Godse's life and times, his ideologies and motivations while revealing the complex factors that led to an assassination that would permanently alter the course of India's history.

The book was acquired at auction by TeestaGuhaSarkar, editorial head at Pan Macmillan India, from AnishChandy, founder of Labyrinth literary agency.

73. The DRDO has developed the first production of 12 SSBS has been inducted into Indian Army by Chief of the Army Staff General MM Naravane during a ceremony held at Cariappa Parade Ground, Delhi Cantt. What does B mean in SSBS?

- (a) Bridging
- (b) Building

- (c) Biasing
- (d) Balancing
- (e) Binding

Answer: A

The first production lot of 12 Short Span Bridging System (SSBS)-10 m, designed and developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has been inducted into Indian Army by Chief of the Army Staff General MM Naravane during a ceremony held at Cariappa Parade Ground, Delhi Cantt. on July 02, 2021. Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy was present on the occasion. The SSBS-10 m plays a crucial role of bridging the gaps up to 9.5 m as a single span providing a 4 m wide, fully decked roadway, ensuring faster movement of the troops. Research & Development Establishment (Engrs) Pune, a premier engineering laboratory of DRDO, has designed and developed the system in association with M/s L&T Ltd. The 12 bridges are part of 102 SSBS-10 m from M/s L&T Ltd, which is the production agency.

74. Which among the following airport has rolled out 'Operation Pravaah' a multifaceted infrastructure programme scoping to integrate flood mitigation projects?

- (a) SardarVallabhBhai Patel International Airport
- (b) Cochin International Airport
- (c) Guru Ram DassJee International Airport
- (d) Chennai International Airport
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport

Answer: B

The Cochin International Airport Limited rolled out 'Operation Pravaah', a multifaceted infrastructure programme scoping to integrate flood mitigation projects already initiated by CIAL with District Administration and various local self-governments. CIAL Managing Director S Suhas IAS announced the programme while attending a review meeting held at Kochi Airport. CIAL is spending around Rs 130 crores for comprehensive flood mitigation activities.

75. Mithali Raj overtook who among the following as the leading run-scorer in women's cricket, across all three formats during the rain-curtailed third and final ODI?

- (a) Stafanie Taylor
- (b) Meg Lanning
- (c) Natalie Sciver
- (d) Charlotte Edwards
- (e) Edwards Suzie

Answer: D

Mithali Raj overtook Charlotte Edwards as the leading run-scorer in women's cricket, across all three formats, during the rain-curtailed third and final ODI.

She reached the landmark with a boundary off Natalie Sciver. Raj went past Edwards's 10,273. Suzie Bates of New Zealand is third with 7849 runs. Stafanie Taylor (7832) and Meg Lanning (7024) round up the top five.

In 2020, Raj was named to the ICC's ODI team of the decade, a fitting honour for her consistency in the sport. She is also the most capped player in the history of the women's game, having featured in 11 Tests, 216 ODIs and 89 Twenty20 Internationals so far.

76. Which among the following small finance bank has waived the non-maintenance charges across CASA accounts, making it one of the first private sector banks to launch the initiative aimed at benefiting small businesses hit by COVID-19?

- (a) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (b) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- (c) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- (d) Capital Small Finance Bank
- (e) Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

Answer: A

Equitas Small Finance Bank said it has waived the non-maintenance charges across CASA accounts, making it one of the first private sector banks to launch the initiative aimed at benefiting small businesses hit by COVID-19.

Equitas SFB would be one among the first private sector banks to waive off NMC across CASA (current account, savings account), thereby making banking simple and limitless', the city-based bank said in a statement.

77. The Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched by NIPUN Bharat for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily

attains foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of grade 3, by 2026-27. What does P in NIPUN Bharat?

- (a) Probability
- (b) Predictability
- (c) Positively
- (d) Profitability
- (e) Proficiency

Answer: E

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched the National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy (NIPUN Bharat) for ensuring that every child in the country necessarily attains foundational literacy and numeracy by the end of grade 3, by 2026-27.

The mission planned as per the new National Education Policy (NEP) has been launched under the aegis of the centrally sponsored scheme of SamagraShiksha.

78. In which among the following places the government has decided to set up additional Central Drug laboratories to facilitate expedited testing of the Covid-19 pandemic?

- (a) Kolkata & Hyderabad
- (b) Cochin & Bangalore
- (c) Pune & Hyderabad
- (d) Bangalore & Hyderabad
- (e) Pune & Kolkata

Answer: C

In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, and considering the enhanced production of vaccines, the government has decided to set up additional laboratories to facilitate expedited testing, along with the pre-release certification of the vaccines.

The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, has set up two vaccine testing facilities at its Autonomous Research Institutes National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, and National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, (NIAB) Hyderabad, as Central Drug Laboratories (CDL), for batch testing and quality control of vaccines.

79. Who among the following would be the flag bearer at the opening ceremony of the Tokyo Olympics along with Mary Kom?

- (a) Babita Kumari
- (b) Manpreet Singh
- (c) Bajrang Punia
- (d) Deepak Punia
- (e) Vinesh Phogat

Answer: B

Indian Olympic Association have announced that 6-time world champion boxer M C Mary Kom and men's hockey team skipper Manpreet Singh will be India's flag bearers at the opening ceremony of the Tokyo Olympics.

IOA also revealed that wrestler Bajrang Punia will be the flag bearer at the closing ceremony of the Tokyo Games on August 8. "The flagbearers for the Indian

contingent of Tokyo 2020 for the opening ceremony on July 23rd are Mary Kom and Manpreet Singh.

80. Which of the digital payment services has launched Postpaid Mini, small ticket loans to access loans in partnership with Aditya Birla Finance Ltd?

- (a) Paypal
- (b) Amazon Pay
- (c) Phonepe
- (d) Paytm
- (e) Google Pay

Answer: D

Digital payments and financial services platform Paytm announced the launch of Postpaid Mini, small ticket loans that will give users flexibility to access loans ranging from Rs 250 - Rs 1,000, in partnership with Aditya Birla Finance Ltd.

The product is an extension of its Buy Now, Pay Later service, driving affordability amongst those new to credit. These small ticket instant loans will give flexibility to users and also help manage their household expenses to maintain liquidity during the ongoing Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

81. The World Zoonoses Day has been observed every year on which among the following day?

- (a) July 6
- (b) July 8
- (c) July 5
- (d) July 9
- (e) July 7

Answer: A

World Zoonoses Day is observed every year on July 6 to commemorate the first vaccination administered against a zoonotic disease like Ebola, Avian influenza, and West Nile virus. Zoonosis is an infectious disease that spread from non-human animals to humans.

Zoonotic pathogens can be bacterial, viral, or parasitic which can spread to humans through direct contact or through food, water, or the environment. For example, Coronavirus spread from bats to humans, and we already have witnessed how it can create a major public health problem around the world.

82. Max Verstappen has recently won the Austrian Grand Prix. He associated with which among the following company?

- (a) Mercedes
- (b) AlphaTauri
- (c) Red Bull
- (d) Ferrari
- (e) McLaren

Answer: C

Red Bull's Max Verstappen reeled off his third win in a row from pole in the Austrian Grand Prix to consolidate his world championship lead over Lewis Hamilton who finished fourth.

Hamilton's Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas took second with McLaren's Lando Norris in third.

Verstappen's latest step towards ending Hamilton's hold on the drivers' title triggered a carnival atmosphere in Formula One's first capacity crowd

since the coronavirus pandemic struck with most of the 100,000 in attendance decked out in his Dutch orange colours.

83. The Telangana government would provide old-age pensions to people aged above _____ years from August from existing 65 years.

- (a) 55 Years
- (b) 59 Years
- (c) 54 Years
- (d) 60 Years
- (e) 57 Years

Answer: E

The Telangana government will provide old-age pensions to people aged above 57 years from August, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao announced. In remarks after inaugurating various development works in Rajanna Sircilla district, he said the decision to reduce the eligibility age limit for old-age pensions from 65 years to 57 years will be implemented from next month.

84. Who among the following has addressed the CoWIN Global Conclave as India offers CoWIN as a digital public good to the world to combat COVID19?

- (a) Ram Nath Kovind
- (b) Harshavardan
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Amit Shah
- (e) Narendra Modi

Answer: E

Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be sharing his thoughts on CoWIN Global Conclave tomorrow as India offers CoWIN as a digital public good to the world to combat COVID19, the Centre said.

The virtual meet will start at 3 pm tomorrow and will see participation from health and technology experts representing countries across the globe.

"The Conclave aims to share India's experience with regards to Universal Vaccination to fight Covid-19 through Co-WIN platform," as per the NHA website.

85. Maana Patel has become the first female and only the third swimmer from the country to qualified for Tokyo Olympics 2021. She hails from which city?

- (a) Kolkata
- (b) Allahabad
- (c) Varanasi
- (d) Ahmedabad
- (e) Dispur

Answer: D

India's Maana Patel became the first female and only the third swimmer from the country to punch her Tokyo Olympics 2021 ticket. Patel, a backstroke swimmer from Ahmedabad, joins Srihari Nataraj and Sajjan Prakash to have qualified for the event and secured a direct entry. The development was confirmed by Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju.

86. How much crore share sale by the government in National Mineral Development Corporation Pvt Ltd has managed to be fully subscribed?

- (a) Rs 3,100 Crore

- (b) Rs 3,600 Crore
- (c) Rs 3,400 Crore
- (d) Rs 3,500 Crore
- (e) Rs 3,200 Crore

Answer: B

The Rs 3,600-crore share sale by the government in NMDC (National Mineral Development Corporation Pvt Ltd) has managed to garner full subscription. A total of 219.5 million shares have been put on the block by the government. The offer for sale (OFS) has garnered bids for 220.45 million shares from institutional investors 1.15 times the shares on offer to them.

About 21.95 million shares reserved from retail investors will be auctioned. Shares of NMDC closed at Rs 169.65, down 3.22 per cent.

87. India and its neighbours have together lost 90% of their original natural vegetation. Among that which hotspot has damaged worse, reporting to a loss of nearly 95% of natural vegetation?

- (a) Indo-Tibet
- (b) Indo-Bangladesh
- (c) Indo-China
- (d) Indo-Nepal
- (e) Indo-Burma

Answer: E

India and its neighbours have together lost 90% of their original natural vegetation under their four common biodiversity hotspots with the biggest one — Indo-Burma hotspot — being the worst hit,

reporting loss of nearly 95% of natural vegetation from originally estimated area of 2.3 million sq km. The biodiversity loss figures were highlighted by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) in its latest annual statistical compendium on the state of India's environment, released on World Environment Day .

88. How many member advisory council has been created to design and accelerate adoption of open network for digital commerce with Nandan Nilekani from Infosys also an advisor?

- (a) 3 Members
- (b) 7 Members
- (c) 9 Members
- (d) 2 Members
- (e) 5 Members

Answer: C

The government has set up a nine-member advisory council, including Nandan Nilekani from Infosys and National Health Authority CEO R S Sharma, on steps required to design and accelerate adoption of open network for digital commerce (ONDC).

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in an order said it has initiated a project on ONDC and the task has been assigned to Quality Council of India.

89. According to the IEA's latest report, the global gas demand would rise to _____% by 2024.

- (a) 7.0%
- (b) 7.7%

(c) 7.3%

(d) 7.5%

(e) 7.2%

Answer: A

India's natural gas consumption will rise 4.5% while global demand will rebound by 3.6% in 2021, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has forecast. By 2024, the global gas demand is forecast to be up 7% from 2019's pre-Covid levels, according to the IEA's latest report. Global demand dropped by 1.9% in 2020 due to an exceptionally mild winter in the northern hemisphere and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

90. Who among the following Governor has transferred to Jharkhand in a major reshuffle by President Ram Nath Kovind?

- (a) Bandaru Dattatraya
- (b) P.S. Sreedharan Pillai
- (c) Chhaganbhai Patel
- (d) Ramesh Bais
- (e) Satyadev Narayan Arya

Answer: D

In a major reshuffle, President Ram Nath Kovind appointed eight new governors giving them charge of administration of new states. While many were transferred, others were new appointments.

P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, Governor of Mizoram, was transferred and appointed as Governor of Goa; Satyadev Narayan Arya, Governor of Haryana is transferred and appointed as Governor of Tripura; Ramesh Bais, Governor of Tripura is transferred and

appointed as Governor of Jharkhand;

BandaruDattatraya, Governor of Himachal Pradesh is transferred and appointed as Governor of Haryana.

ThaawarchandGehlot, who currently serves as Cabinet Minister, has been appointed as Governor of Karnataka.

Besides, Member of parliament to the 16th Lok Sabha from Visakhapatnam

HariBabuKambhampati has been appointed as Governor of Mizoram. Gujarat BharatiyaJanata Party (BJP) leader MangubhaiChhaganbhai Patel as Governor of Madhya Pradesh and former Speaker of Goa RajendraVishwanathArlekar as Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

91. The 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India would be decided to held in which among the following state?

- (a) Goa
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Maharashtra

Answer: A

The 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be held in Goa November 20, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry announced. The Directorate of Film Festivals will organise the mega event in a hybrid format -- virtual and physical -- in collaboration with the Goa government and the Indian Film Industry, it said.

On the occasion of the birth centenary of the maestro of Indian cinema Satyajit Ray, the ministry said the Directorate of Films Festivals will pay tribute to him through a "Special Retrospective" at the IFFI this time.

92. The Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Giriraj Singh has launched a mobile app 'MatsyaSetu' to disseminate the latest freshwater aquaculture technologies. Which among the following has funded this App?

- (a) CIFA
- (b) CIFR
- (c) MPEDA
- (d) KUFOS
- (e) NFDB

Answer: E

Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Giriraj Singh launched a mobile app 'MatsyaSetu' to disseminate the latest freshwater aquaculture technologies to the country's aqua farmers.

The app has been developed by the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with the funding support of the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad.

93. Which among the following variety of cherries has been exported from the Kashmir valley to Dubai from Srinagar?

- (a) Maraschino

- (b) Mishri
- (c) Rainier
- (d) Bing
- (e) Chelan

Answer: B

In a step towards boosting horticultural exports, the first commercial shipment of Mishri variety of cherries from the Kashmir valley has been exported to Dubai from Srinagar.

Prior to this shipment, a sample consignment was sent in the middle of June from Srinagar to Dubai through the air which was transhipped from Mumbai. Following an encouraging response from the consumers in Dubai, the first commercial shipment of the Mishri variety of cherries was exported to Dubai.

Mishri variety of cherries not only taste delicious but also contain vitamins, minerals and plant compounds with health benefits.

The Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir produces more than 95% of the total country's production of commercial varieties of cherries. It produces four varieties of cherry — Double, Makhmali, Mishri and Italy

94. The Indian Army has inaugurated a war memorial in memory of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri in which among the following city?

- (a) Srinagar
- (b) Manali
- (c) Mussoorie
- (d) Gulmarg

- (e) Nanital

Answer: D

On the occasion of the birthday of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri, who died during the operation "Birsamunda" in 1999, the Indian Army inaugurated a war memorial in memory of Captain in Gulmarg near the Line of Control (LOC).

Lieutenant Colonel (Col), TejPrakash Singh Suri (Retd), father of Captain Gurjinder Singh Suri, MVC (Posthumous) was also present on the occasion.

95. N Venudhar Reddy has been appointed as the Director General of which among the following organisation?

- (a) PrasarBharati
- (b) Doordarshan
- (c) All India Radio
- (d) Radio Mirchi
- (e) VividhBharati

Answer: C

N Venudhar Reddy, an Indian Information service, IIS Officer of 1988 batch today took charge as Director General of All India Radio.

Currently Working as Principal DG of News Services Division, All India Radio, he was given additional charge of AIR, upon the approval of the Appointments committee of the cabinet.

Mr Reddy earlier served as Joint Secretary in the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management under the Finance Ministry.

96. As per the Coursera's latest Global Skills report, what is the rank of India in high skills proficiency in Machine Learning and Maths?

- (a) 67th
- (b) 61st
- (c) 65th
- (d) 68th
- (e) 70th

Answer: A

Despite high skills proficiency in Machine Learning (ML) and Maths, India trailed in data skills as it ranked 67th overall globally, a report said.

Coursera's latest Global Skills report reveals that, overall, India ranks 67th globally, with 38 per cent proficiency, with mid-rankings in each domain, 55th in business and 66th in both technology and data science.

In Asia, India ranks low, placed at 16th, ahead of countries such as the Philippines and Thailand, but below others like Singapore and Japan.

97. Which among the following company has signed a pact with National Institute of Wind Energy to develop solar and wind energy projects?

- (a) NHPC
- (b) Power Grid
- (c) NLC
- (d) SJVN
- (e) NTPC

Answer: D

State-owned SJVN Ltd has signed a pact with National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) to develop

solar and wind energy projects. SJVN has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Institute for 'technical consultancy services' for development of solar, wind, hybrid (wind and solar) and hybrid (wind, solar and battery storage) energy projects of SJVN, according to a statement.

NIWE will support SJVN to assess the feasibility and techno-commercial aspects of the projects and preparation of detailed project reports, estimates and bid documents covering all relevant aspects from the concept to the commissioning of these projects.

98. Name the new ministry which has been formed by the Union government to provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening India?

- (a) Ministry of Visualization
- (b) Ministry of Cooperation
- (c) Ministry of Termination
- (d) Ministry of Coordination
- (e) Ministry of Administration

Answer: B

The Union government created a new ministry of cooperation to provide a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for strengthening the cooperative movement in India.

The announcement came a day before a possible cabinet expansion, the first since Prime Minister Narendra Modi returned to power in 2019 with an increased majority.

99. Who among the following has been recently appointed as the head of the Ministry of Cooperation?

- (a) Harshvardhan
- (b) NiramalaSitharaman
- (c) Jitendra Singh
- (d) MansukhMandaviya
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer: E

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the NarendraModi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn. Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation.

Meanwhile, MansukhMandaviya, Minister-in-charge of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Chemicals and Fertilizers, has been given the additional charge of the crucial health ministry as part of the cabinet reshuffle.

100. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, Anurag Singh Thakur has been appointed as the head of which among the following Ministry in addition to Youth Affairs and Sports ministry?

- (a) Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry
- (b) Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ministry
- (c) Information and Broadcasting Ministry
- (d) Rural Development Ministry
- (e) Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry

Answer: C

Anurag Singh Thakur has been given charge of Information and Broadcasting. He would also handle the Youth Affairs and Sports ministry. Forty-three new ministers were sworn-in today as the Prime Minister revamped his administration. The new Modi 2.0 cabinet is the youngest ever in the country's history.

101.Which among following state has set to receive its third international cricket stadium with 25,000-seat facility?

- (a) Jharkhand
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Goa
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: A

:The Indian state of Jharkhand is set to receive its third international cricket stadium after an agreement was reached to develop a 25,000-seat facility.

Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) has agreed a deal with Bokaro Steel Plant, an arm of the Steel Authority of India (SAIL), for the transfer of 20 acres of land for the stadium on the outskirts of the city of Bokaro.

Jharkhand already features the 45,000-capacity JSCA International Stadium Complex (pictured) in Ranchi, as well as the 19,000-capacity Keenan Stadium, which is owned by Tata Steel in Jamshedpur. The Bokaro stadium would make

JSCA the first cricket body in the eastern region of India to have three international-standard stadium.

102. Which among the following country has agreed for a Free Trade Agreement: Enhancing the Partnership and achieving Self-Reliance' in India?

- (a) US
- (b) France
- (c) Japan
- (d) UK
- (e) Russia

Answer: D

The UK India Business Council has launched its report 'Road to a UK-India Free Trade Agreement: Enhancing the Partnership and achieving Self-Reliance'.

The report has been launched at the time, when Prime Minister Modi's Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India campaign) is driving economic reform, and when the UK and Indian Governments have not only agreed an Enhanced Trade Partnership but have committed to start FTA negotiations by the end of 2021 with the goal of doubling trade by 2030.

103. According to the report by Colliers titled 'Growth Engines of Innovation: How Asia Pacific Technology Hubs are Reshaping Regional Real Estate, which among the following city of India has emerged as the top five technology centres in the APAC region?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Bengaluru

- (d) Kolkata
- (e) Chennai

Answer: C

South Indian markets lead the pack in terms of office-leasing demand for the technology sector in the APAC region. Bengaluru has emerged as the top five technology centres in the APAC region while Hyderabad is ranked in the Top 10 list, a report by Colliers titled 'Growth Engines of Innovation: How Asia Pacific Technology Hubs are Reshaping Regional Real Estate' has said.

The report ranks the most attractive technology submarkets within major APAC cities, which should serve as a navigation tool for technology groups, as they plan their expansion.

Beijing, Shanghai, Bengaluru, Shenzhen and Singapore currently rank as the top five technology centres in APAC; they offer a compelling balance of infrastructure and talent for occupiers, and are well positioned to deliver future growth and investment opportunities for owners, the report said.

104. What is the deadline directed by the Supreme Court to implement the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme in all states and Union territories?

- (a) July 15
- (b) July 30
- (c) July 01
- (d) July 16
- (e) July 31

Answer: E

Solution: The Supreme Court directed all states and Union territories to implement the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme by July 31. The top court has also issued a slew of directions, asking the central government to distribute dry ration among migrant workers free of charge until the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) situation subsides.

The Supreme Court bench comprising Justice Ashok Bhushan and Justice MR Shah issued the directions to the central government in relation to the welfare of unorganised sector workers who were one of the groups worst-hit by the second wave of Covid-19.

105. Which among the following company has partnered with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company to develop a new petrochemical joint venture to produce chlor-alkali, ethylene dichloride and polyvinyl chloride production facility in Ruwais?

- (a) Tata Groups
- (b) Reliance Industries Limited
- (c) ITC Ltd
- (d) L&T
- (e) Adani Groups

Answer: B

Reliance Industries Limited and UAE's state-run oil giant Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) announced that they will develop a new petrochemical joint venture to produce chlor-alkali, ethylene dichloride and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) production facility at Ta'ziz Industrial Complex in Ruwais.

The new unit will annually produce 1.1 million tonnes of ethylene dichloride, 940 thousand tonnes of chlor-alkali, and 360 thousand tonnes of PVC (polyvinyl chloride).

106. The Jal Shakti Ministry has released a glacial lake atlas of which among the following river basin for carrying out climate change impact analysis and disaster mitigations?

- (a) Indus River
- (b) Cauvery River
- (c) Krishna River
- (d) Ganga River
- (e) Brahmaputra River

Answer: D

The Jal Shakti Ministry released a glacial lake atlas of the Ganga river basin which can be used for carrying out climate change impact analysis and disaster mitigation planning by analysing changes in water bodies in the Himalayan region over time.

The present glacial lake atlas is based on the inventoried glacial lakes in part of Ganga river basin from its origin to foothills of Himalayas, covering a catchment area of 2,47,109 sq km.

A total of 4,707 glacial lakes have been mapped in the Ganga river basin with a total lake water spread area of 20,685 hectares.

107. As per the Startup Blink Index, What is the rank of Mumbai in the top 1000 globally, in terms of City-wise ranking?

- (a) 16th

- (b) 11th
- (c) 13th
- (d) 10th
- (e) 14th

Answer: A

As per the Index, India has been given 20th place among the top 100 countries by Startup Blink. India has moved up three spots this year Index.

Apart from this, 43 Indian cities are listed in the top 1000 globally in terms of City-wise ranking.

In which Bengaluru was in 10th place and has been emerged as the highest-ranked Indian city on the list. moreover, New Delhi (14) and Mumbai (16) are also listed in the Index.

108. Indian ambassador to China has presented 10 Translated classic works of modern literature to SCOSecretary General Vladimir Norov, written by prominent Indian authors in different languages.

Who is the Indian Ambassador to China?

- (a) D. B. Venkatesh Varma
- (b) Jawed Ashraf
- (c) Ajay Bisaria
- (d) T.S.Tirumurti
- (e) Vikram Misri

Answer: E

India presented English, Russian and Chinese translations of 10 classic works of modern literature written by prominent Indian authors in different languages to the headquarters of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

Indian Ambassador to China Vikram Misri presented the books to SCO Secretary General Vladimir Norov at the SCO secretariat here.

109. An Indian Navy warship, INS Kiltan has carried out a military exercise with which among the following Country in the East China Sea?

- (a) Russia
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Japan
- (d) US
- (e) China

Answer: B

An Indian Navy warship carried out a military exercise with a South Korean vessel in the East China Sea amid China's growing assertiveness in the region, officials said.

"Indian Navy's indigenous ASW Corvette INS Kiltan deployed in the Far East undertook Navy Partnership Exercise in East China Sea with Republic of Korea Navy Ship--ROKS Gyeongnam, a Daegu-class frigate, on June 28," a spokesperson of the Indian Navy said.

The Navy partnership exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability and facilitating exchange of best practices with partner navies in the maritime domain.

110. The Science and Engineering Research Board has partnered with which among the following company has launched a first-of-its-kind initiative that

would enable Indians to pursue industry-relevant research in the areas of deep technologies?

- (a) Dell
- (b) Qualcomm
- (c) Intel India
- (d) Nvidia
- (e) Apple

Answer: C

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and Intel India launched a first-of-its-kind initiative that will enable Indians to pursue industry-relevant research in the areas of deep technologies. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) said the initiative, called 'Fund for Industrial Research Engagement' (FIRE), will help increase research opportunities in the space of Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML), platform systems, circuits and architecture, Internet of Things (IoT), materials and devices, security, and so on from edge to cloud.

111. As per the RBI data, Credit Growth of which sector has remained in the negative territory during 2020-21?

- (a) Educational
- (b) Banking
- (c) Trade
- (d) Agricultural
- (e) Industrial

Answer: E

Credit growth to the industrial sector remained in the negative territory during 2020-21, mainly due to the

COVID-19 pandemic and resultant lockdowns, RBI data showed.

However, "personal loans continued to grow at robust pace and recorded 13.5 per cent growth (Y-oY) in March 2021; industrial loan growth, on the other hand, remained negative during all quarters of 2020-21."The data further revealed that private sector banks recorded higher loan growth when compared to public sector lenders.

112. According to this year's Mercer Cost of Living Survey, Ashgabat has become the world's most expensive city for foreign workers. Which among the following Indian has become the most expensive city with 78th rank?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Chennai
- (e) New Delhi

Answer: B

Turkmenistan's capital city Ashgabat has become the world's most expensive city for foreign workers, according to this year's Mercer Cost of Living Survey. List of top 10 expensive cities mostly features global financial hubs like Hong Kong, which was the priciest last year, Tokyo, Shanghai, Zurich and Singapore. Mercer has cited Turkmenistan's ongoing financial crisis as the reason for Ashgabat's high cost of living.

Another outlier on the list is third-ranked Beirut which climbed 42 positions up the ranking due to a

severe and extensive economic depression owing to several crises, including coronavirus disease (Covid-19) and the Port of Beirut explosion in 2020.

Mumbai remains India's most expensive city at 78th rank but has dropped 18 places in this year's ranking "due to a relatively weak Indian rupee in comparison with other cities in the ranking." Other Indian cities on the list are New Delhi (117), Chennai (158), Bengaluru (170), and Kolkata (181).

The survey used New York City, ranked 14 on the list, as the base city and currency movements were measured against the US dollar.

113. A Zen Garden and Kaizen Academy has been inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which among the following District of Gujarat?

- (a) Surat
- (b) Rajkot
- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Vadodara
- (e) Gandhinagar

Answer: C

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will go to Gujarat to inaugurate a Zen Garden and Kaizen Academy at Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA), Ahmedabad.

27th June will inaugurate a Zen Garden and Kaizen Academy at AMA, Ahmedabad. This is yet another instance showcasing the close bond between India and Japan.

114. Who among the following has released a comprehensive study on the 'not-for-profit' hospital model in the country?

- (a) Rakesh Sarwal
- (b) Amitabh Kant
- (c) Rajiv Kumar
- (d) VK Paul
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

NITI Aayog released a comprehensive study on the 'not-for-profit' hospital model in the country, in a step towards closing the information gap on such institutions and facilitating robust policymaking in this area. VK Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog said that the report on the not-for-profit sector is a small step in that direction. The report was released by Mr Paul, in the presence of CEO Amitabh Kant, Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

The not-for-profit hospital sector provides not only curative but also preventive healthcare. It links healthcare with social reform, community engagement, and education. It uses government resources and grants to provide cost-effective healthcare to people without being concerned about profits. However, over the years, this sector has remained understudied.

115. Which among the following department has given an approval for the extension of Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant for one-year?

- (a) Department of Personnel and Training
- (b) Department of Economic Affairs

- (c) Department of Revenue
- (d) Department of Consumer Affairs
- (e) Department of Military Affairs

Answer: A

Niti Aayog Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Amitabh Kant has been given one-year extension till June 2022, according to an order by the Department of Personnel and Training issued.

The 1980-batch IAS officer was a key driver of the "Make in India", Start-up India, "Incredible India" and "God's Own Country" initiatives.

In 2019, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) had approved the extension of tenure of Amitabh Kant as CEO, NITI Aayog for a further period of two years beyond June 30, 2019 up to June 30, 2021.

116. The leaders of WHO ,WTO along with which among the following organisation has announced a joint platform to help countries plug the gaps in accessing Covid-19 vaccines, treatments and technologies?

- (a) WMO
- (b) UNIDO
- (c) IAEA
- (d) WIPO
- (e) OECD

Answer: D

The heads of the global health, IP and trade agencies announced a joint platform to help countries plug the gaps in accessing Covid-19 vaccines, treatments and technologies.

The leaders of the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) said countries would be able to access expertise in places where the three fields cross over in battling the pandemic.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyes WIPO head Daren Tang and WTO director-general Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala met on June 15 ,when they agreed to work together more closely to support access to medical technologies to tackle the coronavirus crisis.

117. The Office of Principal Scientific Adviser has launched the Atmanirbhar Krishi app under the KisanMitr initiative. Which among the following company has designed this App?

- (a) Tech Mahindra
- (b) Adani Group
- (c) L&T
- (d) Reliance Industries
- (e) Tata Group

Answer: A

The Office of Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India launched the Atmanirbhar Krishi app under the KisanMitr initiative. The app aims to equip farmers with actionable agricultural insights and provide early weather alerts

A component of KisanMitr, a national digital platform that caters to farmers, focuses on filling this gap by combining data from various government ministries/departments like Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Space Research

Organization (ISRO), National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC), and others and making it available to the farmers through the Atmanirbhar Krishi app. It has been designed and built by the Tech Mahindra Makers Lab team, the Research & Development arm of Tech Mahindra.

118. Russian company Rosatom has started the construction of nuclear power unit at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. This is the _____ Power unit of Russia in Tamil Nadu.

- (a) 11th
- (b) 5th
- (c) 9th
- (d) 6th
- (e) 13th

Answer: B

Russia began construction of the fifth nuclear power unit at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu, a development hailed by Russian ambassador to India Nikolay Kudashev as a "significant" milestone in bilateral nuclear cooperation.

Russian company Rosatom is providing the technology for the construction of the Kudankulam plant which is to have six units of 1,000 MW generation capacity each. It is India's first light water reactor.

119. Kaif Ali has been awarded with The Diana Award 2021 for his exceptional contribution in 'Covid-19 Innovation Space Era'. His design is now implemented in which among the following country?

- (a) Egypt
- (b) US
- (c) Italy
- (d) Malaysia
- (e) Nigeria

Answer: E

Kaif Ali, a 4th-year student of the Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) has been awarded the prestigious The Diana Award 2021 for his exceptional contribution in changing the world with his Covid - 19 innovation— 'Covid-19 Innovation Space Era'.

Established in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Award is given out by the charity of the same name and has the support of both her sons, The Duke of Cambridge and The Duke of Sussex. It is one of the most prestigious accolades a young person can receive for their social action or humanitarian work.

According to Kaif, his design is now being implemented in Lagos, Nigeria, appreciated by the Government of India, the Commonwealth of Nations, and the United Nations under the top 11 emerging Innovation start-ups solving climate action.

120. How much crore worth the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme for power DISCOMs has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs?

- (a) 6 Lakh Crore
- (b) 9 Lakh Crore
- (c) 3 Lakh Crore

- (d) 5 Lakh Crore
(e) 4 Lakh Crore

Answer: C

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved a Reforms-based and Results-linked, Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme.

The Scheme seeks to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of all DISCOMs and Power Departments excluding Private Sector DISCOMs by providing conditional financial assistance to them for strengthening of supply infrastructure.

The assistance will be based on meeting pre-qualifying criteria as well as upon achievement of basic minimum benchmarks by the DISCOM evaluated on the basis of agreed evaluation framework tied to financial improvements.

Addressing media, Minister of Power R K Singh said that the Scheme will have an outlay of over 3 lakh crore rupees with an estimated Gross Budgetary Support of 97 thousand 631 crore rupees by the Central government.

121. The venue for ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 has been shifted to the United Arab Emirates and Oman by ICC. Where it was earlier scheduled to hold?

- (a) Pakistan
(b) Sri Lanka
(c) England
(d) Malaysia
(e) India

Answer: E

The venue for ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 has been shifted to the United Arab Emirates and Oman, announced International Cricket Council. The tournament is scheduled to be held from October 17 to November 14.

"The tournament was originally set to be staged in India, but had to be shifted, given the consequences of the second wave of Covid-19 on the country.

122. Which among the following minister has announced the extension of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana till 31st March 2022?

- (a) Amit Shah
(b) Nirmala Sitharaman
(c) Ramnath Kovind
(d) Narendra Modi
(e) Rajnath Singh

Answer: B

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced extension of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojana (ABRY) till 31st March 2022. Since October 2020, she said, about 21.42 lakh beneficiaries of 79,577 establishments have already been benefitted from the scheme. The scheme, launched in October last year, incentivizes employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during the pandemic.

123. July 1 of every year has been observed as Chartered Accountants Day. This year tends to _____ Chartered Accountants day.

- (a) 70th
- (b) 75th
- (c) 71st
- (d) 73rd
- (e) 77th

Answer: D

India celebrates Chartered Accountants Day every year on July 1 to commemorate the findings of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) by Parliament in 1949. The only licensing and regulatory body for the financial audit and accounting profession in India will celebrate the 73rd Chartered Accountants day this year.

124. As per the Global Cybersecurity Index 2020 by ITU, Which among the following country has ranked as the tenth best country in the world on key cybersafety parameters?

- (a) India
- (b) US
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Bangladesh
- (e) China

Answer: A

India has made it to the top 10 in Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020 by ITU, moving up 37 places to rank as the tenth best country in the world on key cybersafety parameters.

The affirmation by the UN body of India's efforts on cybersecurity, comes just ahead of the sixth anniversary of Digital India on July 1. India is emerging as a global IT superpower, asserting its digital sovereignty with firm measures to safeguard data privacy and online rights of citizens

125. What is the fund allotted under Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Sectors by Prime Minister to provide financial guarantee cover for brownfield expansion and greenfield projects related to health/ medical infrastructure?

- (a)Rs. 10,000 Crore
- (b)Rs. 80,000 Crore
- (c)Rs.70,000 Crore
- (d)Rs.50,000 Crore
- (e)Rs.30,000 Crore

Answer: D

On account of the disruptions caused by the second wave of COVID 19 specially on healthcare sector, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Sectors (LGSCAS) enabling funding to the tune of Rs. 50,000 crore to provide financial guarantee cover for brownfield expansion and greenfield projects related to health/ medical infrastructure.

The Cabinet has also approved introduction of a scheme for other sectors/lenders including those allied to better healthcare. Detailed modalities would be finalized in due course depending upon the evolving situation.

In addition, the Cabinet has also approved additional funding up to Rs. 1,50,000 crore under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS).

126. Which among the following organisation has released its first global report on AI in health and presents six principles to ensure AI works for the public interest in all countries?

- (a) WHO
- (b) UNIDO
- (c) UNICEF
- (d) UNESCO
- (e) WTO

Answer: A

AI holds great promise for improving the delivery of healthcare and medicine worldwide, but only if ethics and human rights are put at the heart of its design, deployment, and use, according to new WHO guidance published today. It is WHO's first global report on AI in health and presents six principles to ensure AI works for the public interest in all countries.

The report, Ethics and governance of artificial intelligence for health, is the result of 2 years of consultations held by a panel of international experts appointed by WHO. Jeroen van den Hoven is a member of this expert group. TPM researcher Juan Duran is one of the reviewers.

127. Which among the company has raised \$20 million from Abu Dhabi Investment Authority at over \$700 million valuation?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) Freecharge
- (c) Phonepe
- (d) Mobikwik
- (e) Jio

Answer: D

Mobikwik has closed a \$20 million (Rs 150 crore) funding round from Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), regulatory filings showed, valuing the digital payments startup at more than \$700 million ahead of its public listing slated for later this year.

The Series G round comes just months after it raised \$5 million from a clutch of investors.

The new funding has seen Mobikwik's valuation jump by nearly 50% within three months.

128. The Ministry of Health and Sports of Myanmar has signed an MOU with which among the following organisation of India in health research?

- (a) IISc
- (b) ICMR
- (c) Department of Biotechnology
- (d) IIT
- (e) CSIR

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Department of Medical Research (DMR), Ministry of Health and Sports of Myanmar signed in February last year.

The main objectives of MoU include elimination of infectious diseases, development of network platform of emerging and viral infections, training and capacity building in research methodology management, clinical trials and ethics and harmonization of regulatory mechanism.

129. Which among the following state/UT has launched a scheme “HAUSLA- inspiring her growth”, a comprehensive programme for promoting women entrepreneurship?

- (a) Ladakh
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Gujarat
- (e) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: E

In an effort at empowering the women of the valley, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha launched a scheme “HAUSLA- inspiring her growth”, a comprehensive programme which aims at promoting women entrepreneurship in the UT.

The objective of the scheme is to build a comprehensive programme for women entrepreneurs of the region which can serve as a guide for achieving success in their business and to widen the reach of their business products and services. According to the LG, the programme has been made in a very scientific way, creating a channel for educated women to explore their potential and subsequently channelize their business acumen, helping them overcome

challenges related to finances, legal, societal biases by focusing on their innate potential.

130. According to an UNCTAD report, Which among the following sector has cause a loss of more than four trillion dollars to the global GDP for the years 2020 and 2021?

- (a) Trade
- (b) Agriculture
- (c) Tourism
- (d) Business
- (e) Industrial

Answer: C

The crash in international tourism due to coronavirus pandemic can cause a loss of more than four trillion dollars to the global GDP for the years 2020 and 2021, according to an UNCTAD report.

The estimated loss has been caused by the pandemic's direct impact on tourism and its ripple effect on other sectors closely linked to it.

The report, jointly presented with the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), says international tourism and its closely linked sectors suffered an estimated loss of 2.4 trillion dollars in 2020 due to direct and indirect impacts of a steep drop in international tourist arrivals.

131. Which among the following organisation has approved a USD 500 million loan programme to support India's informal working class to overcome the current pandemic distress?

- (a) World Bank

- (b) IBRD
- (c) AIIB
- (d) RBI
- (e) ADB

Answer: A

World Bank said it has approved a USD 500 million (about Rs 3,717.28 crore) loan programme to support India's informal working class to overcome the current pandemic distress.

Of the USD 500 million commitment, USD 112.50 million will be financed by its concessionary lending arm International Development Association and USD 387.50 million will be a loan from International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

The loan has a maturity period of 18.5 years including a grace period of five years.

World Bank said its total funding towards strengthening India's social protection programmes to help the poor and vulnerable households since the start of the pandemic stands at USD 1.65 billion (about Rs 12,264.54 crore).

132. The Finance Ministry has announced, the rate of interest for several small savings schemes have been left unchanged for second quarter of financial year 2021-22. What is the interest rate for -year Senior Citizens Savings Scheme Account?

- (a) 6.8%
- (b) 7.1%
- (c) 6.6%
- (d) 7.4 %
- (e) 7.7%

Answer: D

The rate of interest for several small savings schemes have been left unchanged for second quarter of financial year 2021-22, the Finance Ministry announced .

Instruments under the small savings category include Public Provident Fund (PPF), Senior Citizens Saving Scheme (SCSS), National Saving Certificate (NSC), Monthly Income Scheme (MIS) and others. They offer varying rates of interest ranging from 4 to 7.6 percent. The annual interest rate on NSC was unchanged at 6.8 percent and interest rate of PPF too unchanged at 7.1 percent. The interest rate on the 5-year Senior Citizens Savings Scheme Account (SCSS) also retained at 7.4 percent

133. India has recently signed an MOU with Nepal for which among the following Field?

- (a) Tourism
- (b) Defence
- (c) Agriculture
- (d) Water Resources
- (e) Health Sector

Answer: E

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), India and the Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC), Nepal in 17 November 2020 and 4 January 2021 respectively.

The objectives of this MOU are collaboration on joint research activities of mutual interest such as cross-border health issues, Ayurveda/traditional medicine and medicinal plants, climate change and health, non-communicable diseases, mental Health, Population based cancer registry, tropical diseases (Vector borne diseases such as Dengue, Chikungunya, malaria, JE etc.), Influenza, Clinical Trial Registry, health research ethics, Capacity building through exchange of knowledge, skills tools and fellows and Collaboration for adoption of tools, guidelines, protocols and best practices related to health research.

134. Adani Green Energy has acquired a 100 per cent stake in SB Energy India for USD 3.5 billion with the purchase agreement with SoftBank Group and _____.

- (a) Tata Motors
- (b) Mahindra & Mahindra
- (c) Bharti Group
- (d) HUL
- (e) Bajaj Group

Answer: C

Fair trade regulator CCI approved acquisition of entire shareholding in SB Energy by Adani Green Energy Ltd.

In May, Adani Green Energy had said it has inked share purchase agreements with SoftBank Group and Bharti Group for acquisition of 100 per cent stake in SB Energy India for USD 3.5 billion.

The transaction would be the largest acquisition in the renewable energy sector in the country. With this acquisition, AGEL will achieve total renewable capacity of 24.3 GW and operating renewable capacity of 4.9 GW.

135. 'Demand Side Management-AC Scheme', a first of kind scheme for the domestic consumers of urban and rural areas to promote energy conservation has been launched by which among the following State?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Chhattisgarh
- (e) Nagaland

Answer: B

Haryana power minister Ranjit Singh Chautala launched first of its kind 'Demand Side Management-AC Scheme' for the domestic consumers of urban and rural areas to promote energy conservation.

Under this scheme, 1.05 lakh air conditioners will be made available at a discount of up to 59% of the Minimum Retail Price (MRP) to the people of the state, for which those interested will have to apply by 24 August 2021.

The minister said that the Power Department has tied up with three well-known companies, including Deccan, Blue Star and Voltas, which will provide electricity cost saving split ACs of 1.5 ton capacity at low cost.

136. Which among the following organisation has released the new report on Indigenous Peoples Food Systems along with Biodiversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture?

- (a) WEP
- (b) FCI
- (c) FASSAI
- (d) FAO
- (e) WEF

Answer: D

A new report on Indigenous Peoples Food Systems has been launched by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Biodiversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

The report analyses the food systems of eight Indigenous communities in very diverse regions of the world, including the Amazon, Sahel, Pacific Islands and Arctic.

Hundreds of different plant and animal species are studied. The report found that Indigenous Peoples have some of the most self-reliant and different food systems in the world.

The systems generate 50 to 80% of the food needs of their communities, from cultivation to consumption.

137. As per the Reserve Bank of India, India has reported a current account surplus of ____% of GDP in the pandemic hit FY21.

- (a) 0.9%

- (b) 0.5%

- (c) 0.8%

- (d) 0.7%

- (e) 0.4%

Answer: A

India reported a current account surplus of 0.9% of GDP in the pandemic hit FY21, compared to a shortfall of 0.9% in FY20, as per the data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The Reserve Bank of India said the current account balance turned into surplus territory due to a sharp contraction in the trade deficit to \$102.2 billion from \$157.5 billion in 2019-20.

Despite the pandemic, net Foreign Direct Investment of \$44 billion in FY21 was up from \$43.0 billion in 2019-20. In addition, net Foreign Portfolio Investment increased by \$36.1 billion in FY21 from \$1.4 billion a year ago.

138. The date 1st July has been designated by the Central Government as 'GST Day'. This year marks the _____ GST day.

- (a) Fifth
- (b) Seventh
- (c) Second
- (d) Fourth
- (e) Sixth

Answer: D

India marks the fourth anniversary of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), July 1, 2021. The date 1st July has been designated by the Central Government as 'GST Day', which is celebrated every year to mark

the roll-out of the historic tax reform. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that on GST Day this year, the Union Finance Ministry will issue appreciation letters to over 54,000 GST payers for timely filing of returns and a cash payment of tax.

139. The Ministry of Defence has announced the first-of-its-kind the virtual museum of the country's Gallantry award winners. The project was developed by Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers along with _____.

- (a) NASSCOM
- (b) CII
- (c) QCI
- (d) ASSOCHAM
- (e) FICCI

Answer: B

A project has been initiated by the Ministry of Defence to build an interactive virtual museum of the country's Gallantry award winners to honour the bravehearts of India.

Ministry of Defence (MoD) gave its nod to a unique interactive virtual museum of the country's Gallantry award winners. Said to be the first-of-its-kind, the virtual museum will be hosted by the Gallantry awards portal.

The project, expected to be completed soon, will be implemented by the MoD in partnership with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII).

140. Fiercely Female: The Dutee Chand Story', a book has narrated the Chand's journey with a detailed narrative of the gender-identity controversy that made her an iconic figure in Indian sport. The book is authored by whom?

- (a) Ruskin Bond
- (b) Ajay Goel
- (c) Sundeep Mishra
- (d) Kuldip Chopra
- (e) Chetan Bhagat

Answer: C

Dutee Chand, the first openly homosexual athlete from India, scripted history in 2019 when she became the first Indian to win a gold in a 100 metre event at the World Universiade in Naples.

Journalist Sundeep Mishra's book titled 'Fiercely Female: The Dutee Chand Story' chronicles Chand's journey with a detailed narrative of the gender-identity controversy that made her an iconic figure in Indian sport.

Published by Westland Books, the book will be released on 'SoftCover' —ThePrint's e-venue to launch select non-fiction books.

141. Who among the following minister would on a two-nation visit of Greece and Italy to attend a meeting of foreign ministers of G20 countries?

- (a) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (b) Jaishankar
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Ramnath Kovind
- (e) Venkaiah Naidu

Answer: B

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will begin a two-nation visit of Greece and Italy.

In Italy, Jaishankar will attend a meeting of foreign ministers of G20 countries as well as another one of development ministers of the bloc, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

142. Central Mine Planning & Design Institute has signed an MOA with which among the following company for development of Solar Power Projects?

- (a) Coal India
- (b) NTPC Ltd
- (c) SAIL
- (d) GAIL
- (e) Central Coalfields

Answer: E

MoA was signed between Central Mine Planning & Design Institute (CMPDI) and Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL), Ranchi on July 1 for development of Solar Power Projects. This MoA will open a new path for CIL in becoming a Net Zero Energy company.

The MoA was signed by A. K. Singh, General Manager (E&M), CMPDI and V.K. Singh, General Manager (E&M), CCL.

This occasion was graced with the presence of S K Gomasta, Director (T/CRD/ES), CMPDI and Sri Manoj Kumar, Regional Director, RI-III, CMPDI.

143. According to the International Energy Agency which among the following country has expected to

country to add 26,000 MW of hydropower projects by 2030?

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) US
- (c) India
- (d) Russia
- (e) China

Answer: C

The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects the India to add 26,000 megawatt (MW) of hydropower projects by 2030. Currently, the installed capacity of the 207 hydropower projects running in the country is 46,209 MW. More than 9,000 MW of large hydro projects are under construction at present.

The present installed capacity includes the 4,785 MW of pumped storage hydro projects, which are used devices for storing electricity. Another 1,500 MW of pumped storage hydro projects are under construction. The IEA forecasts pumped storage hydro fleet almost tripling by 2030 to accommodate growing solar capacity.

144. The Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has released the report on UDISE 2019-20 for School Education in India. What does U mean in UDISE?

- (a) United
- (b) University
- (c) Update
- (d) Uniform
- (e) Unique

Answer: A

Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' released the Report on United Information System for Education Plus (UDISE) 2019-20 for School Education in India. As per the report, Gross Enrolment Ratio at all levels of school education has improved in 2019-20 compared to 2018-19. Pupil-Teacher Ratio has also improved at all levels of school education.

Enrolment of girls from primary to higher secondary has increased substantially by over 14 lakh in 2019-20 as compared to 2018-19. Between 2012-13 and 2019-20, the Gender Parity Index at both Secondary and Higher Secondary levels have improved. Enrolment of Divyang students has increased by over 6.5 per cent over 2018-19.

145. The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Prakash Javdekar has inaugurated Asia's longest high-speed test track in which among the following state?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Madhya Pradesh
- (e) Rajasthan

Answer: D

Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Prakash Javdekar inaugurated Asia's longest high-speed test track located in Pithampur, Indore. The National Automotive Test Tracks (NATRAX) facility measures 11.3 km in length and will facilitate automotive and component testing for automobile

companies. The track will also be used for measuring the maximum speed capabilities of high-end cars and other categories of vehicles.

Javdekar also termed this as a proud moment for India and a key initiative in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

146. As per the report by the United Nations International Labour Organisation, the number of international migrant workers has risen globally to _____ million, an increase of three per cent since 2017.

- (a) 161 Million
- (b) 169 Million
- (c) 160 Million
- (d) 174 Million
- (e) 170 Million

Answer: B

A new report by the United Nations (UN)-body International Labour Organisation (ILO) has highlighted that the number of international migrant workers has risen globally to 169 million, an increase of three per cent since 2017.

The 2019 estimate of the report indicates an increase of five million migrant workers from the 2017 estimate of 164 million migrant workers and an increase of 12.7 per cent from the 2013 estimate of 150 million migrant workers.

147. Which among the organisation has signed an MOU with logistics service provider Aramex India to

support micro, small and medium enterprise exporters in India?

- (a) FICCI
- (b) ASSOCHAM
- (c) CII
- (d) ITPO
- (e) FIEO

Answer: E

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) said it has inked a memorandum of understanding with logistics service provider Aramex India to support micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) exporters in India. As part of the MoU, it said Aramex will provide preferential pricing to FIEO members, as well as access to online services for cross-border express shipments

The partnership would help MSMEs capture global market opportunities by providing access to cost-efficient, seamless and reliable logistics solutions, said Percy Avari, General Manager of Aramex India.

148. Digital India, the government's flagship programme to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, has completed _____ years as of July 1 2021.

- (a) Seven
- (b) Four
- (c) Six
- (d) Three
- (e) Five

Answer: C

The government's flagship programme- Digital India has completed six years. The vision of Digital India programme is to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched this ambitious programme on 1st July, 2015. On the occasion, Mr Modi will today interact with beneficiaries of 'Digital India' via video conferencing. The programme is being organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad will also be present on the occasion. AIR correspondent reports, 'Digital India' has turned out to be one of the biggest success story of New India. It has enabled services, brought Government closer to citizens, promoted citizen engagement and empowered people.

149. The Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management has partnered with which among the following company to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence?

- (a) Microsoft
- (b) IBM
- (c) Accenture
- (d) Google
- (e) Infosys

Answer: A

The Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM) and Microsoft have formed a strategic partnership to build an AI and emerging technologies Centre of Excellence.

The collaboration seeks to explore role of cloud, AI and emerging technologies for transforming and shaping the future of public finance management in India.

The centre will serve as a central body for research, AI scenario envisioning and tech led innovation. AJNIFM and Microsoft will jointly explore use cases of emerging technologies in finance and related areas across central and state ministries besides public sector enterprises.

150. Who among the following minister has revised the guidelines for MSMEs with inclusion of retail and wholesale trades as MSMEs?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Nitin Gadkari
- (e) Ramnath Kovind

Answer: D

Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) and Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari announced revised guidelines for MSMEs with inclusion of retail and wholesale trades as MSMEs. Gadkari said that the revised guidelines will benefit 2.5 crore retail and wholesale traders.

With the revised guidelines the retail and wholesale trades will be now be allowed to register on Udyam Registration Portal.

Earlier this week, while announcing several relief measures, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman increased the limit under the Emergency Credit Line

Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) by 50% to ₹4.5 lakh crore to help small businesses get credit at concessional rate.

151. Eroute Technologies Private Limited has launched India's First Omni-channel Pre-paid Card, OmniCard for whom among the following?

- (a) MSME
- (b) Farmers
- (c) Construction Workers
- (d) Self Help Group
- (e) Young Generation

Answer: E

Eroute Technologies Private Limited, a card-based payment company launched its maiden product offering OmniCard - India's First Omni-channel Pre-paid Card exclusively for YOUNG Generation that aims to step up their lives by making them independent power-packed with an innovative mobile app in the emerging Indian payment industry. The launch event was well attended by various Banking & Payment leaders including AK Purwar-Ex SBI Chairman, HR Khan - former Deputy Governor, RBI, Vijay Chhibber- Ex Union Secretary, NPCI, Japan Communications, Soft Bank, CTBC, FIS to name a few.

152. As per the FIH rankings, what is the rank of Indian women's Hockey team?

- (a) Tenth
- (b) Fourth
- (c) Seventh

(d) Third

(e) Fifth

Answer: A

The Indian men's and women's hockey teams remained unchanged at fourth and 10th spot respectively in the FIH rankings released. Australia moved to the top of the men's world rankings with 2513.67 points after a string of victories over New Zealand, both in the FIH Hockey Pro League and an FIH sanctioned test series.

The Kookaburras dethroned Belgium (2449.67 points) from the top spot with the European side dropping to second position after taking the bronze medal in the EuroHockey Championships in Amstelveen.

India remain fourth (2223.45), with fifth placed Germany (2163.57) having closed the gap on them thanks to a fine silver medal winning performance at the Euros.

153. Under the 'Interest Equalisation Scheme for pre and post-shipment Rupee Export Credit', the RBI has provided interest subsidy of whom among the following?

- (a) Farmers
- (b) Traders
- (c) Vendors
- (d) Exporters
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

The Reserve Bank said a scheme providing interest subsidy for post and pre-shipment export credit has been extended by three months till September, a move that would provide relief to exporters.

Exporters get the subsidy under the 'Interest Equalisation Scheme for pre and post-shipment Rupee Export Credit'. Earlier in April, the scheme was extended till June 30.

"Government of India has approved the extension of Interest Equalization Scheme for Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit, with the same scope and coverage, for a further period of three months, i.e., up to September 30, 2021," the RBI said in a circular.

154. The World Sports Journalists Day has been observed every year on which among the following date?

- (a) July 3
- (b) July 5
- (c) July 2
- (d) July 4
- (e) July 6

Answer: C

World Sports Journalists Day is a global observance held on July 2 of every year. Sports journalists help millions of people in the world to receive information on various sports.

It was found all over the world and united by the International Sports Press Association. This day marks the establishment of the International Sports Press Association in the 1924 Paris Olympics. World

Sports Journalist Day was declared in 1994, and it is celebrated since then.

155. Gita Gopinath along with Kamlesh Lulla have honoured by a prestigious American foundation among 34 immigrants. Gita Gopinath is the Chief Economist of _____.

- (a) EU
- (b) IMF
- (c) World Bank
- (d) ADB
- (e) AIIB

Answer: B

IMF Chief Economist Gita Gopinath and NASA scientist Kamlesh Lulla are among the 34 immigrants honoured by a prestigious American foundation ahead of the US Independence Day "who have enriched and strengthened" the US society and democracy through their contributions and actions. Gopinath and Lulla are among the '2021 Great Immigrants' honourees named by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, a non-profit organisation.

156. The Varadia amboliensis, a new species has been named after herpetologist Dr Varad Giri was discovered in Western Ghats. The species belongs to _____.

- (a) Butterfly
- (b) Snake
- (c) Turtle
- (d) Snail

(e) Moth

Answer: D

The Varadia amboliensis is among 21 new species that have been discovered in Amboli since 2005, including snakes, amphibians, crabs, spiders and scorpions. Amboli village is home to Shistura Hiranyakeshi biodiversity heritage site and falls under the Amboli-Dodamarg Conservation Reserve. Researchers have identified a new genus and species of land mollusc in the northern Western Ghats, from Amboli village in Sindhudurg district. The new genus, Varadia, has been named after herpetologist Dr Varad Giri, while the species has been christened as Varadia amboliensis, in reference to the location where it was first discovered in 2017. The findings were published in the European Journal of Taxonomy after five years of research.

157. GIFT City has collaborated with the BIL Ryerson Technology Startups Incubator Foundation to accelerate fintech innovation. BRTSIF is a joint venture among _____ Ryerson University and Simon Fraser University

- (a) BSE Institute
- (b) IIT
- (c) IIM
- (d) NSE Institute
- (e) IISc

Answer: A

Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) said it has collaborated with the BIL Ryerson

Technology Startups Incubator Foundation (BRTSIF) to accelerate fintech innovation. GIFT City is India's first smart city and international financial services centre (IFSC), and BRTSIF is a joint venture among BSE Institute Mumbai, Ryerson University and Simon Fraser University, Canada. As part of the collaboration, Zone Startups India, a part of BRTSIF, would explore avenues to set up and promote a fintech hub in GIFT SEZ, according to a statement by GIFT City.

158. Who among the following Chief Minister has released the book "Janaksuta Sut Shaurya" written by Dr. Gauri Shankar Sharma "Gaurish"?

- (a) Ashok Ghelot
- (b) Mamta Banerjee
- (c) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- (d) Jai Ram Thakur
- (e) Yogi Adityanath

Answer: C

Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan released the book "Janaksuta Sut Shaurya" written by Dr. Gauri Shankar Sharma "Gaurish" at his residence today. In the book, the subject related to Uttar Ramayana has been presented in a poetic form in a simple and easy way. Senior litterateurs Shri Mahesh Saxena, Dr P.D. Mishra along with Anil Ajmera and Gokul Soni were present on the occasion.

159. Which among the following organisation has instructed LICScheme to launch New Saral Pension?

- (a) RBI
- (b) SEBI
- (c) EXIM
- (d) SIDBI
- (e) IRDAI

Answer: E

LIC has launched New Saral Pension Scheme on 1st July. And it has a single premium. non-participating, non-linked, and individual annuity plan. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has the power to instruct. In a timely, they gave advice to insurance companies for the betterment of the public. As each company has described their policy plans better than others. So the public faces difficulty to find a beneficial scheme for them.

160. How many satellitesshave been launched OneWebfrom the Soyuz launch complex in Vostochny Cosmodrome in ST33 Flight?

- (a) 38
- (b) 36
- (c) 29
- (d) 25
- (e) 33

Answer: B

OneWeb has launched 36 satellites . Named Flight ST33, the launch took place from the Soyuz launch complex in Vostochny Cosmodrome, a Russian

spaceport. Arianespace will be operating this launch on OneWeb's behalf, and this will be its fifth launch of 2021. The duration of the mission (from liftoff to separation of the satellites) will take about three hours and 51 minutes.

161. The District Crop Insurance Awareness Campaign has been launched in which of the state as part of the Crop Insurance Week?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Bihar
- (e) Manipur

Answer: E

District Crop Insurance Awareness Campaign for Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana which was launched on July 1 at DC Chandel Office as part of the Crop Insurance Week (July 1-7), concluded at Japhou Village, Chandel, Manipur.

As part of the Crop Insurance Week, District Agriculture Department, Chandel had conducted awareness campaign at various villages.

162. Which among the following country has joined the G20-OECD inclusive framework deal that seeks to reform international tax rules?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) India
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) China
- (e) US

Answer: B

India joined the G20-OECD inclusive framework deal that seeks to reform international tax rules and ensure that multinational enterprises pay their fair share wherever they operate, the finance ministry. However, India will have to roll back the equalisation levy that it imposes on companies such as Google, Amazon and Facebook when the global tax regime is implemented.

163. The International Plastic Bag Free Day has been observed every year on which among the following date?

- (a) July 2
- (b) July 4
- (c) July 5
- (d) July 3
- (e) July 1

Answer: D

The International Plastic Bag Free Day (July 3) is a unique opportunity to spread the word that a plastic bag free world is possible and that sound environmental alternatives to single use plastic bags are available.

For this Plastic Bag Free Day, scores of organisations and hundreds of citizens around the world will take action to raise awareness on the environmental impact and hazards of single-use plastic bags, and promote more sustainable solutions.

164. The World Bank has increased its Covid-19 vaccine fund for developing countries by _____billion from 12 billion.

- (a) \$8 billion
- (b) \$6 billion
- (c) \$9 billion
- (d) \$5 billion
- (e) \$7 billion

Answer: A

The World Bank announced it has increased its Covid-19 vaccine fund for developing countries by \$8 billion from \$12 billion totalling \$20 billion.

In addition, the bank's private financing arm secured a 600 million euro package for a South African vaccine manufacturer to ramp up production, the institution announced.

The \$20 billion is available through 2022 to finance vaccine distribution as well as cold chains and training health workers.

165. As per the Directory of Extramural Research & Development Project 2018-19 report by DST, the percentage of women in leading research projects has increased by _____%

- (a) 5%
- (b) 2%
- (c) 4%
- (d) 9%
- (e) 6%

Answer: C

The percentage of women leading research projects has increased by 4% over two years, central

government said. Department of Science and Technology (DST) citing a Directory of Extramural Research & Development (R&D) Project 2018-19 report said that women Principal Investigators (PIs) participation in research that received Extramural Research (EMR) support (support through peer-reviewed competitive grant mechanism) was 28% during 2018-19, as compared to 24% during 2016-17,

166. Hyderabad-based technology R&D firm Grene Robotics has designed, India's first indigenous drone defence dome called "Indrajaal. It is capable to protect upto _____Sq Km against aerial threats.

- (a) 2000
- (b) 500
- (c) 2500
- (d) 1000
- (e) 1500

Answer: A

Hyderabad-based technology R&D firm Grene Robotics has designed and developed India's first indigenous drone defence dome called "Indrajaal". Indrajaal' is capable of autonomously protecting an area of 1000-2000 sq km against aerial threats. As per the company, the drone defence dome has the capability to autonomously protect an area of 1000-2000 sq km against the aerial threats by assessing and acting on aerial threats such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), loitering munitions, and Low- Radar Cross Section (RCS) targets.

167. The 17th World Congress for Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy has been addressed by Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Harsh Vardhan. Who has inaugurated the Congress?

- (a) Ramnath Kovind
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Jitendra Singh
- (d) Venkaiah Naidu
- (e) Narendra Modi

Answer: D

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare addressed an audience of eminent doctors, professors of medical science and stalwarts of medical fraternity specializing in Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy through video-conference at the inaugural session of the 17th World Congress for Cervical Pathology and Colposcopy.

The event organised by Indian Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu.

168. Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. has raised its stake in Edelweiss Gallagher Insurance Brokers to ____% from 30%.

- (a) 60%
- (b) 100%
- (c) 95%
- (d) 85%
- (e) 75%

Answer: B

Edelweiss Financial Services added 3.12% to Rs 74.35 after the company announced the divestment of its stake in Edelweiss Gallagher Insurance Brokers (EGIBL).

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. ("AJG"), who previously held 30% in EGIBL, will now be acquiring all the remaining shares, taking its stake to 100%. The transaction is subject to approvals by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

169. Which among the following organisation has sanctioned Rs 388 crore under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund for four drinking water and rural road projects in Odisha?

- (a) ADB
- (b) World Bank
- (c) IBRD
- (d) AIIB
- (e) NABARD

Answer: E

NABARD has sanctioned Rs 388 crore under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for four drinking water and 20 rural road projects in the Odisha. The RIDF assistance is for setting up of four mega piped drinking water supply projects, one each in Boipariguda block of Koraput district, Nilgiri block of Balasore district and two in Malkangiri district.

170. 'India ToThe Rescue' an adventure-mystery style book on journalist Sushant Singh's Operation

Cactus: Mission Impossible in the Maldives has authored by whom?

- (a) Devaki Gupta
- (b) Narashima
- (c) Shruthi Rao
- (d) Aditya Gaur
- (e) Harsha Singh

Answer: C

:A new children's book, India To The Rescue, an adventure-mystery style, it is full of twists and turns, taking young readers, aged seven and above, on secret flights, and a ride on a tiny boat through the inky darkness.

It is based on journalist Sushant Singh's Operation Cactus: Mission Impossible in the Maldives, which uses reports and testimonies to reconstruct India's largely forgotten intervention to avert a coup in the island country in November 1988.

The book, co-authored by children's writer Shruthi Rao and published by Juggernaut Books, hails the operation as one of the country's quickest, boldest and most successful missions.

171. Which among the following minister among has released a compendium on best practices to address DAY-NRLM gender issues through Social Action Committees of SHG federations?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Jitendra Singh
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (e) Narendra Singh Tomar

Answer: E

Union Minister of Rural Development, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Panchayati Raj and Food Processing Industries, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar released a compendium on best practices gathered from all over India on how DAY-NRLM is addressing gender issues through Social Action Committees of SHG federations.

The compendium was released at a virtual event organised to share insights and stories from Village Organisation Social Action Committees, who have been at the forefront of providing support to women and girls. The compendium on best practices was released in the presence of Minister of State Smt. Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti and senior officials from the Ministry of Rural Development, State Governments and members of Village Organisations and Cluster Level federations from all states through an online event.

172. RK Sabharwal has been honoured with the highest civilian award "The Order of Polar Star" from which among the following country?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Mongolia
- (c) France
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Sudan

Answer: B

Shri RK Sabharwal, CMD, Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) has been honoured with the highest civilian award of Mongolia "The Order of Polar Star" by His

Excellency, the President of Mongolia to recognize the outstanding contribution made by him towards the establishment of first ever oil Refinery in Mongolia. This award was presented, on behalf of the Government of Mongolia, by His Excellency, the Ambassador of Mongolia to India, Mr. Gonching Ganbold, at a ceremony organized at the Embassy of Mongolia, India on 24th June, 2021.

173. National Postal Workers Day has been observed every year on July 1. In which among the following year it was observed first?

- (a) 1991
- (b) 1995
- (c) 1997
- (d) 1999
- (e) 1996

Answer: C

National Postal Workers Day is celebrated annually on July 1 to show appreciation for the postal workers' hard work that they put in to deliver our mail and deliveries on time. Postal workers walk or travel miles a day to deliver letters and packages to our doorsteps.

July 1 was declared National Postal Worker Day in 1997 by a Seattle-area postal carrier to honour fellow employees and since then it is celebrated every year on this day.

174. The Department of Space has come out with its draft National Space Transportation Policy for working on green fuel by which organisation?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) NASA
- (c) DRDO
- (d) JAXA
- (e) SpaceX

Answer: A

The Indian government, while encouraging the private players to play a good part in the space sector with policy reforms, will continue to focus on research and development (R&D) on green fuel, robotic space exploration and reusable rockets, states the draft National Space Transportation Policy.

The Department of Space (DOS) under Government of India has recently come out with its draft National Space Transportation Policy.

Its space arm -- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)-- is working on green fuel (for rockets and satellites), human space missions and others. Similarly, private rocket makers are also for green fuel.

175. Shambhu Nath Srivastava has been appointed as the chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations. He was a former judge of which among the following High Court?

- (a) Odisha High Court
- (b) Madras High Court
- (c) Chhattisgarh High Court
- (d) Allahabad High Court
- (e) Maharashtra High Court

Answer: D

A former judge of the Allahabad High Court has been appointed chairman of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations, a non-profit organisation to promote objectives of the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

Justice (Retd.) Shambhu Nath Srivastava, a former judge of Allahabad High Court and former chief Lokayukta of Chhattisgarh, has been appointed the chairman of IFUNA.

He succeeds Mukul Sangma, a former chief minister of Meghalaya.

176. Which among the following has requested the RBI to allow incumbent MDs of UCBs to complete their tenure and make its directions on appointment of MD/WTD applicable only to fresh appointments?

- (a) NAFCUB
- (b) EPFO
- (c) NABARD
- (d) IRDAI
- (e) SIDBI

Answer: A

Hundreds of urban co-operative banks (UCBs) may have to change their Managing Directors by August 25, 2021, if the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not give them leeway on its directions on the appointment of Managing Director (MD) and Whole-Time Director (WTD), according to an apex body of co-operatives.

The National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies (NAFCUB) has requested the RBI to allow incumbent MDs of UCBs

to complete their tenure and make its directions on appointment of MD/WTD applicable only to fresh appointments.

177. As per the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, India has recorded the highest ever merchandise exports in the history of India of \$ _____ billion.

- (a) 95
- (b) 80
- (c) 75
- (d) 85
- (e) 90

Answer: A

The quarter one of 2021-22 has seen merchandise exports of USD 95 billion, which is the highest ever in the history of India. This is 85 per cent higher than exports of Q1 of 2020-21 and 18 per cent higher than the exports of Q1 of 2019-20 and is higher than the earlier peak of exports in Q4 of 2020-21 (USD 90 billion).

Addressing a press conference (2 July), Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal showcased the achievements of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Q1 (April - June) of 2021-22. He mentioned how an ambitious target of USD 400 billion exports had been set for 2021-22.

178. What is the theme of the International Co-operative Day, observed every year on the first Saturday of July?

- (a) Cooperatives for Climate Action

- (b) Coops 4 decent work
- (c) Sustainable Societies through Cooperation
- (d) Rebuild Better Together
- (e) Sustainable Consumption and Production of Goods and Services

Answer: D

International Co-operative Day is an annual celebration of the co-operative movement observed on the first Saturday in July since 1923 by the International Co-operative Alliance.

Theme of International Co-operative Day 2021 is: 'Rebuild Better Together'. The aim of this celebration is to increase awareness of cooperatives, highlight the complementary goals and objectives of the United Nations and the international cooperative movement, underscore the contributions of the movement to the resolution of the major problems addressed by the United Nations and strengthen and extend partnerships between the international cooperative movement and other actors.

179. The State Disaster Response Force has inaugurated the 'Sukoon', the first 24x7 counselling helpline number to provide mental health counselling in which among the following State/UT?

- (a) Goa
- (b) Ladakh
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Jammu & Kashmir
- (e) New Delhi

Answer:D

As part of efforts to improve the mental well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir amid COVID-19, the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) inaugurated the 'Sukoon', the union territory's first 24x7 counselling helpline number to provide mental health counselling.

The name of the program literally translates to 'relief' and its main goal is to provide guidance to people dealing with anxiety, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), substance abuse, panic attacks and several other mental issues

180. Which among the following organisation has imposed penalties of totalling more than Rs 32 crore on IL&FS Securities Services , Allied Financial Services and three individuals for lapses in connection with alleged fraudulent transfer of mutual fund units of three companies?

- (a) IRDAI
- (b) RBI
- (c) SEBI
- (d) NABARD
- (e) SIDBI

Answer: C

SEBI has imposed penalties totalling more than Rs 32 crore on IL&FS Securities Services (ISSL), Allied Financial Services (AFSPL) and three individuals for lapses in connection with alleged fraudulent transfer of mutual fund units of three companies. Besides, the watchdog has passed various directions against them.

The regulator has passed two separate orders, dated July 2, against ISSL, and AFSPL and its three directors after it carried out a detailed investigation into the matter for the period from February 20, 2017 till February 8, 2019.

ISSL is a clearing member while AFSPL is a depository participant.

181. Which among the following aviation industry has won the most prestigious honors Airline of the Year, in Air Transport World's 2021?

- (a) Delta Airlines
- (b) Japan Airlines
- (c) Philippine Airlines
- (d) Singapore Airlines
- (e) Korean Air

Answer: E

Korean Air has been announced the winner of one of the most prestigious honors in the aviation industry: Air Transport World's (ATW) 2021 Airline of the Year.

Launched in 1974, ATW's annual Airline Industry Achievement Awards are compared to the Academy Awards of the airline industry. This year's awards ceremony will be held in Boston, U.S., on October 5, 2021.

182. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has launched BOLD, planting 5,000 saplings in Rajasthan. What does B mean in BOLD?

- (a) Bamboo
- (b) Banyan

- (c) Banana
- (d) Bonsai
- (e) Beech

Answer: A

To reduce land desertification and provide livelihood, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) initiated a project by planting 5,000 saplings of special bamboo species in Rajasthan.

The KVIC in a statement said the project named "Bamboo Oasis on Lands in Drought" (BOLD) was launched from the tribal village Nichla Mandwa in Udaipur, Rajasthan, by KVIC Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena in presence of local MP Arjun Lal Meena and over 2000 local villagers.

Under the project, 5,000 saplings of special bamboo species – Bambusa Tulda and Bambusa Polymorpha brought from Assam – have been planted over 25 bigha (16 acres) of vacant arid Gram Panchayat land.

183. Which among the following has partnered with WooCommerce to enable WooCommerce merchants with digital payments infrastructure, and end-to-end digitalization of business processes?

- (a) Paypal
- (b) Paytm
- (c) PayU
- (d) Google Pay
- (e) Phonepe

Answer: C

PayU, India's leading online payment solutions provider, has partnered with WooCommerce, an

open-source, customizable e-commerce platform, to enable WooCommerce merchants with digital payments infrastructure, and end-to-end digitalization of business processes.

The partnership will offer merchants exclusive pricing on transactions, no hidden charges, and contactless payment solutions to scale growth and profitability.

184. The Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu has chaired ___ th Meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Council Of World Affairs.

- (a) 19th
- (b) 23rd
- (c) 25th
- (d) 20th
- (e) 11th

Answer: D

Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu termed the Covid-19 pandemic as the most serious challenge that has faced humanity in living memory and wanted the Indian strategic and academic community to focus on the world after Covid and its implications for India.

The Vice President, Shri Naidu, also the ex-officio President of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), made these remarks while addressing the 19th meeting of the Governing Council of the ICWA in virtual mode from Hyderabad today. Earlier in the day, he had chaired the 20th Meeting of the Governing Body of the ICWA.

Addressing the meetings, Shri Naidu noted with satisfaction that the analysis of the global impact of the pandemic has been a cross-cutting theme at ICWA in all its deliberations and areas of research.

185. PhonePe has partnered with which among the following e-commerce platform to digitise cash-on-delivery services of the e-commerce firm?

- (a) Snapdeal
- (b) Flipkart
- (c) Shopclues
- (d) ebay
- (e) Amazon

Answer: B

PhonePe has partnered with Walmart Inc.'s Flipkart to digitise cash-on-delivery services of the e-commerce firm, the digital payments platform said. PhonePe's dynamic QR code solution will enable customers who earlier opted for "cash on delivery" to pay digitally through any UPI app at the time of delivery, according to a statement. This will help reduce personal contact while ensuring safety and drive contactless payments for customers who are traditionally more comfortable with cash on delivery.

186. The book, Operation Khukri, has been titled after the successful operation in which among following country?

- (a) Sierra Leone
- (b) Eswatini
- (c) Ghana
- (d) Liberia

(e) Senegal

Answer: A

Bihar governor Phagu Chauhan and his West Bengal counterpart Jagdeep Dhankhar jointly released in Patna a book on the Indian Army's peacekeeping mission in the jungles of Africa. Authored by Major General Rajpal Punia, general officer commanding of Jharkhand and Bihar Sub Area at Raj Bhavan in Patna, the book, Operation Khukri, is titled after the successful operation in Sierra Leone.

187. In which among the following city of Rajasthan the world's largest cricket stadiums with a seating capacity of 75,000 worth Rs350 crore would soon come up?

- (a) Udaipur
- (b) Jaisalmer
- (c) Jodhpur
- (d) Kota
- (e) Jaipur

Answer: E

One of the world's largest cricket stadiums with a seating capacity of 75,000 and costing a whopping Rs350 crore will soon come up on the outskirts of Jaipur.

Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) secretary Mahendra Sharma said the stadium will be spread over 100 acres. He said the land has been finalised in Chonp village, 25 km from Jaipur on the Jaipur-Delhi highway. He said construction is expected to begin in the next four months.

188. The NTPC has partnered with which among the following to boost the development of offshore wind energy in India?

- (a) OIL
- (b) Reliance petroleum Ltd
- (c) ONGC
- (d) IOC
- (e) HPCL

Answer: C

State-run power giant NTPC and upstream oil firm ONGC have planned to boost the development of offshore wind energy in India, which is blessed with a coastline of about 7,600 km surrounded by water on three sides and has good prospects of harnessing this clean source.

Earlier in May last year, NTPC and ONGC had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to accelerate their footprint in the renewable energy space.

The pact also provided that they shall also explore opportunities in the fields of sustainability, storage, E-mobility and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) compliant projects.

189. Rahi Sarnobat has won the first gold medal in the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup in the Croatian city of Osijek under which category?

- (a) 15m Rifle
- (b) 25m Pistol
- (c) 50m Rifle

(d) 25m Rifle

(e) 50m Pistol

Answer: B

Asian Games champion Rahi Sarnobat, demolished a finals field which included reigning Olympic Champion Anna Korakaki of Greece, to strike gold in the Women's 25M Pistol, giving India her first yellow metal of the ongoing International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun stage in the Croatian city of Osijek. India now has one gold, one-silver, and two bronze medals from the competition so far.

Rahi was so good on the day that she missed the finals world record score of 40 by one hit. If she was run closer in the final, chances are she would have broken it. The Indian ace shot 39 hits out of a possible 50, including four perfect series of 5/5 hits in a row, to leave silver medal-winning Frenchwoman Mathilde Lamollle way behind on 31 hits. In the Women's Sport Pistol as it is called, a score of 10.2 or above is considered a hit.

190. The 2nd India-Ghana Foreign Office

Consultations has recently held in which city of Ghana?

(a) Cape Coast

(b) Takoradi

(c) Kumasi

(d) Accra

(e) Tema

Answer: D

The Second India-Ghana Foreign Office

Consultations were held in Ghana's capital Accra .

Both sides undertook a comprehensive review of the entire gamut of bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Rahul Chhabra, Secretary (Economic Relations) in the Ministry of External Affairs from Indian side and Kwaku Ampratwum Sarpong, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from the Ghanaian side co-chaired the meeting.

The co-chairs took stock of exchange of bilateral visits, holding of Joint Commission Meeting, bilateral trade and investment, development partnership, capacity building, defence cooperation, security related issues, among other things.

191. The government has launched ____ technology innovation platforms that would focus on the development of technologies for globally competitive manufacturing in India.

(a) Six

(b) Three

(c) Four

(d) Two

(e) Five

Answer: A

The government launched six technology innovation platforms that will focus on the development of technologies for globally competitive manufacturing in India.

Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Prakash Javadekar said that these platforms will

help in bringing all India's technical resources and the concerned industry on to one platform to kick start and facilitate identification of technology problems faced by domestic Industry and crowdsource solutions for the same.

This will facilitate the development of the key 'mother' manufacturing technologies' indigenously through grand challenges on the platforms.

192. SIDBI has entered into a MOU with Global Alliance for Mass World MSME day Entrepreneurship to help MSMEs address COVID-19-induced challenges as a part of World MSME day. The World MSME day has observed on which among the following date?

- (a) June 30
- (b) June 29
- (c) July 3
- (d) July 1
- (e) June 27

Answer: E

SIDBI said it has entered into a memorandum of understanding with Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship to help MSMEs address COVID-19-induced challenges.

Under this, it will expand credit access, enhance formalisation, build competitive clusters and improve the legal framework for ease of doing business for the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

This is part of SIDBI's host of developmental measures rolled out to commemorate the World MSME day on June 27 as a Developmental Week.

Among others, it has set up a Swavalamban chair in Government Engineering College, Thrissur, done profiling of 11 states for entrepreneurial opportunities and felicitated COVID-19 responsive entities and associations.

193. The International Fruit Day has been observed every year on 1 July. 'International Year of Fruits and Vegetables' is observed on which year?

- (a) 2023
- (b) 2024
- (c) 2021
- (d) 2025
- (e) 2022

Answer: C

International Fruit Day is observed on 1 July every year. It was first commemorated on July 1st 2007 at the Mauerpark in Berlin, Germany.

United Nations has also announced 2021 as 'International Year of Fruits and Vegetables' to increase more awareness on the nutritional and health benefits as well as lessening losses and wastes in food systems across the globe.

194. Umesh Khose, a Zilla Parishad school teacher has been chosen for the prestigious National ICT Award 2018. He hails from which among the following City of Maharashtra?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Osmanabad
- (c) Nashik
- (d) Pune

(e) Nagpur

Answer: B

AZilla Parishad school teacher from Osmanabad in Maharashtra has been chosen for the prestigious National ICT Award 2018 instituted by the Union government.

Umesh Khose, employed as a primary school teacher in Kad-dora village in Lohara tehsil was chosen for 2018 for using 'Information and Communication Technology' through gadgets like television, tab, mobile, and projectors as well as PDFs to ensure students learn in a better way.

195. Rajendra Kishore Panda has been conferred with the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar for the year 2020. He is a well-known _____ Poet.

- (a) Marathi
- (b) Bengali
- (c) Sanskrit
- (d) Odia
- (e) Assamase

Answer: D

Odia poet Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda would receive the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar for the year 2020. The prestigious award carries a cash award of Rs 5 lakh, a silver medal, and a citation.

A three-member committee consisting of celebrated Kannada poet H S Shivaprakash, former secretary of Central Sahitya Academy Agradhara Krishnamurthy and eminent Bengali author Shyamal Bhattacharya selected Panda for the prestigious award.

The 77 year old poet has published 16 poetry collections and a novel. He was awarded the Gangadhar National Award in 2010, and the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1985.

196. A new book series "EekS", has introduced the world of insects to children comprising of four books by author Arthy Muthanna Singh and Mamta Nainy. The book has been launched by Penguin Random House India along with whom?

- (a) WEF
- (b) UNESCO
- (c) UNICEF
- (d) PETA
- (e) WWF

Answer: E

A new book series from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Penguin Random House India will introduce children to a vast variety of insects including bees, mosquitoes, ants and cockroaches, announced the publishing house.

The series, "EekS", comprising four books by author Arthy Muthanna Singh and Mamta Nainy, will be launched. It will help children discover jaw-dropping facts about insects, it said.

The launch event will also announce the partnership between WWF India and the country's first Green Literature Festival (GLF), to promote the best of environmental literature published in India for children, adults and sustainable businesses.

197. Aeldra Financial Inc., a Silicon-valley based pioneering 'digital neo bank' has offered a unique bank account with a Mastercard Global Debit Card for Indian students. Aeldra Financial Inc is _____ based.

- (a) France
- (b) UAE
- (c) US
- (d) Australia
- (e) Italy

Answer: C

To cater to Indian students gearing up for admissions in the U.S., Aeldra Financial Inc., a Silicon-valley based pioneering 'digital neo bank', is offering a unique U.S. bank account with a Mastercard Global Debit Card that can be opened and operated from India, even before students get an F-1 visa.

Students can fund the account and receive the debit card so that they have a functional U.S. bank account before they leave for the U.S. The no-fee account has enabled thousands of customers to save up to \$500 in miscellaneous bank fees, foreign transaction fees and foreign exchange mark-ups, and forego carrying cash. In addition, the account pays up to 50X interest rates compared to other banks in the U.S.

198. The ministry of environment, forest and climate change has approved the conversion of the Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan as tiger reserve. This marks ___ tiger reserve in the state.

- (a) Fourth
- (b) Fifth
- (c) Second
- (d) Sixth
- (e) Third

Answer: A

The ministry of environment, forest and climate change approved the conversion of the Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan's Bundi district into the fourth tiger reserve in the state.

According to a 2018 tiger census, there are 102 tigers in three reserves -- Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in Sawai Madhopur, Sariska Tiger Reserve in Alwar, and Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve in Kota — in the state.

The proposal for converting the Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary, which is spread across 1,071 square kilometre, into a tiger reserve was recently approved by the National Tiger Conservation Authority's technical committee, a senior forest official said.

199. As per the OECD along with which organisation has announced, Food commodities were likely to become cheaper in the coming decade as productivity grows, but global targets on reducing hunger and emission?

- (a) WFP
- (b) FCI
- (c) UNESCO
- (d) FAO
- (e) FISSAI

Answer: D

Food commodities are likely to become cheaper in the coming decade as productivity grows, but global targets on reducing hunger and emissions are unlikely to be met under current policies, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation and the OECD said.

Agricultural commodity prices have surged since last year due to a boom in Chinese imports and tightening inventories, leading the FAO last month to forecast record costs in 2021 for food importers.

200. The Indian Economic Trade Organization signed an MOU with which among the Business council during the Financial Investment Trade in the field of IT development, Healthcare, MRO support in the aerospace ?

- (a) UK
- (b) Africa
- (c) Italy

- (d) US
- (e) Australia

Answer: B

Indian Economic Trade Organization signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Libyan African Business council in Tunisia during the Financial Investment Trade Africa (FITA 2021) held in Tunis on June 25.

The MOU broadly focuses on deepening engagements between business structures of both countries and will work closely in the field of IT development, Healthcare, MRO support in the aerospace sector, and support the academic institutions by collaborating with the Indian skill sector. The Libyan side suggested hosting The Libya India Trade Forum in November 2021, in Tripoli.

July 2nd week Current Affairs MCQ

1. The International badminton tournament has won by Malvika Bansod after defeating Rachael Darragh of which among the following country?

- (a) Ireland
- (b) England
- (c) US
- (d) France
- (e) Australia

Answer: A

India's Malvika Bansod defeated Rachael Darragh of Ireland in straight games to clinch the women's

singles crown at the RSL Lithuanian International badminton tournament here.

The third seeded Indian beat fourth seed Darragh 21-14 21-11 in the summit clash. Malvika, who reached the quarterfinals of the Austrian Open last month, had earlier defeated France's Anna Tatránova 21-13 21-10 to enter the women's singles final.

2. Which among the following country's President has recently assassinated by armed Gunmen at his residence?

- (a) Honduras
- (b) Puerto Rico
- (c) The Bahamas
- (d) Haiti
- (e) Cuba

Answer: D

A squad of gunmen assassinated Haitian President Jovenel Moïse and wounded his wife in an overnight raid on their home, and police later said they had shot dead four suspects and arrested two others, inflicting more chaos on the poorest country in the Americas.

Three police officers held hostage by the suspected gunmen were freed, said Léon Charles, chief of Haiti's National Police.

3. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, who among the following has been appointed as the Ministry of Textiles?

- (a) Mansukh Mandaviya
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Aswhini Vaishnav
- (d) Smriti Irani
- (e) Hardeep Singh Puri

Answer: B

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government,

as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation. -Mansukh Mandaviya is the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Amit Shah has been given charge of the newly-created Ministry of Co-operation. Shah will also handle the Home Ministry. Dharmendra Pradhan will take charge as Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Aswhini Vaishnav is now Union Minister for Information Technology (IT) and Railways.

Union Minister for Commerce Piyush Goyal is being given additional charge of the Ministry of Textiles.

He also holds additional charge of the ministries of Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution.

Hardeep Singh Puri has been given charge of the ministries of Urban Housing and

Petroleum. Jyotiraditya Scindia has been made Minister of Civil Aviation. Smriti Irani will be the minister in charge of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD).

Anurag Thakur has been given charge of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Development, along with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Bhupender Yadav has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests.

4. Dilip Kumar has been passed away recently. He associated with which among the following field?

- (a) Politics
- (b) Journalism
- (c) Film
- (d) Sports
- (e) None of these

Answer: C

Veteran actor Dilip Kumar has died at the age of 98. He leaves behind a legacy of films that spanned six decades, and gave Hindi cinema some of its most enduring classics.

Born Mohammed Yusuf Khan, Dilip Kumar debuted as an actor in the film Jwar Bhata (1944). In a career spanning over five decades, he worked in over 65 films. He is known for roles in films such as the romantic Andaz (1949), the swashbuckling Aan (1952), the social drama Daag (1952), the dramatic Devdas (1955), the comical Azaad (1955), the epic historical Mughal-e-Azam (1960), the social dacoit crime drama Gunga Jamuna (1961), and the comedy Ram Aur Shyam (1967).

5. The Humboldt Research Award for Economics has been conferred to Kaushik Basu by Professor Dr Hans-Bernd Schäfer of Bucerius Law School of which country?

- (a) Italy
- (b) England
- (c) US
- (d) France
- (e) Germany

Answer: E

Indian economist Kaushik Basu has been awarded the Humboldt Research Award for Economics. The award was conferred on him by Professor Dr Hans-Bernd Schäfer of Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany.

A former chief economist of the World Bank, Basu is currently a professor of Economics at Cornell University. He also served as the Government of India's chief economic advisor from 2009 to 2012. Basu is also a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian award in India.

6. Who among the following minister would be the brand ambassador of Khadi Prakritik Paint to encourage young entrepreneurs to take up the manufacturing of the cow dung paint?

- (a) Nitin Gadkari
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Smiti Irani
- (e) Narendra Modi

Answer: A

Union MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari said he would be the brand ambassador of Khadi Prakritik Paint and would promote it across the country so as to

encourage young entrepreneurs to take up the manufacturing of the cow dung paint.

The new plant has been set up in the campus of Kumarappa National Handmade Paper Institute, Jaipur. Commissioning of the new unit will double the production capacity of the paint.

7. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, Who among the following has been appointed as the Minister of Civil Aviation?

- (a) Aswhini Vaishnav
- (b) Anurag Thakur
- (c) Bhupender Yadav
- (d) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- (e) Pashupati Paras

Answer: D

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation. -Mansukh Mandaviya is the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

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Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food

Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Bhupender Yadav has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests.

8. A new book titled "The Light of Asia" has been authored by Jairam Ramesh. It is a biography of whom among the following?

- (a) Sai Baba
- (b) Buddha
- (c) Dalai Lama
- (d) Bodhi Dharma
- (e) Mahavir

Answer: B

A new book titled "The Light of Asia" authored by Jairam Ramesh is a biography of an epic bio-poem on the Buddha. Ramesh, the author, Member of Parliament, former Union Minister, and Congress leader, digs deep in his new book to bring out the fascinating story behind the epic 1879 poem, "The Light of Asia" by Sir Edwin Arnold, that took the world by storm and in some ways, brought the Buddha's story to the world at the turn of the last century.

9. Which among the following organisation has confirmed that Antarctica has logged temperatures up to 18.3 degrees Celsius, a new maximum temperature record for the region?

- (a) UNEP
- (b) IPCC
- (c) WMO
- (d) IMO
- (e) UNESCO

Answer: C

Antarctica logged temperatures up to 18.3 degrees Celsius (64.9 degrees Fahrenheit), a new maximum temperature record for the region, on February 6 earlier this year, the United Nations World Meteorological Organization (UN WMO) has confirmed.

With this, Antarctica has now become one of the fastest-warming regions in the world -- registering a rise of almost three degrees Celsius in the last 50 years, WMO secretary-general Petteri Taalas.

10. Keshav Datt has passed away recently. He belonged to which among the following sports?

- (a) Football
- (b) Golf
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Wrestling
- (e) Hockey

Answer: E

Two-time Olympic gold medallist in hockey, Keshav Datt, died due to age-related ailments. Datt was 95. The former centre halfback died around 12.30 am at his residence in Santoshpur, Kolkata.

Datt had donned the national jersey in the 1948 London Games, where India won the first gold post-Independence, and the former centre halfback won his second Olympic gold in Helsinki 1952.

11. Ngulkhom Jathom Gangte has been appointed as the High Commissioner of India to which among the following country?

- (a) Zambia
- (b) Angola
- (c) Republic of Tunisia
- (d) Tanzania
- (e) Malawi

Answer: C

Shri Ngulkhom Jathom Gangte (IFS:1994), presently High Commissioner of India to Zambia, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Tunisia.

He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

12. Which Metro Railway Corporation has launched a FASTag/UPI-based cashless parking facility at Kashmere Gate metro station?

- (a) Delhi Metro Railway Corporation
- (b) Chennai Metro Railway Corporation
- (c) Kolkata Metro Railway Corporation
- (d) Mumbai Metro Railway Corporation
- (e) Bangalore Metro Railway Corporation

Answer:A

The Delhi Metro Railway Corporation launched a FASTag/UPI-based cashless parking facility at Kashmere Gate metro station in the national capital.

The parking facility is the nation's first to accept payment via the UPI (Unified Payments Interface) mode. This system is part of DMRC's multimodal integration of transport services initiative.

The parking facility located at gate 6 of the metro station is exclusively cashless. It can accommodate 55 four-wheelers and 174 two-wheelers. Two wheelers can use their DMRC card with parking.

The DMRC said that only vehicles bearing FASTag will be allowed to park at this facility.

13. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, Who among the following has been appointed as the Labour Minister?

- (a) Anurag Thakur
- (b) Mansukh Mandaviya
- (c) Santhosh Gangwar

(d) Hardeep Singh Puri

(e) Bhupender Yadav

Answer: E

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation. -Mansukh Mandaviya is the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Amit Shah has been given charge of the newly-created Ministry of Co-operation. Shah will also handle the Home Ministry. Dharmendra Pradhan will take charge as Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Aswhini Vaishnaw is now Union Minister for Information Technology (IT) and Railways.

Union Minister for Commerce Piyush Goyal is being given additional charge of the Ministry of Textiles.

He also holds additional charge of the ministries of Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution.

Hardeep Singh Puri has been given charge of the ministries of Urban Housing and Petroleum.

Jyotiraditya Scindia has been made Minister of Civil Aviation.

Smriti Irani will be the minister in charge of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD).

Anurag Thakur has been given charge of the

Ministry of Sports and Youth Development, along with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the Ministry of Rural Development.

Bhupender Yadav has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests.

14. Sirisha Bandla has become the second Indian-born woman to go to space after Kalpana Chawla. She hails from which state?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Karnataka
- (e) Telangana

Answer: B

Sirisha Bandla, vice president of government affairs and research operations at Virgin Galactic, will be the second Indian-born woman to go to space after Kalpana Chawla. The 34-year-old will hop on a Virgin Galactic winged rocket ship that will take off from New Mexico tomorrow with six people on board.

Virgin Galactic will launch its rocket ship from an aircraft, reaching an altitude of roughly 55 miles (88 kilometers). Billionaire Richard Branson and founder of the Virgin Group will also be on board the rocket ship.

Born in Andhra Pradesh's Guntur district, Bandla was raised in Houston, United States. She is an American astronaut and she has an MBA from George Washington University.

15. Which among the following aviation has signed a first purchase agreement by GIFT City with Airbus Helicopters?

- (a) Supreme Aviation
- (b) AVA Jet Aviation
- (c) Aerospace technical services
- (d) Vman Aviation
- (e) Cambata Aviation

Answer: D

The first aircraft purchase order was signed by Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT), a city-based leasing company under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

The purchase agreement was inked between Vman Aviation, GIFT City, Gandhinagar and Airbus Helicopters SAS (Marignane, France).

This is a new business segment coming to India.

The government of India would continue to provide all possible help to promote leasing activities in India under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Under Atman Nirbhar Abhiyan, GIFT IFSC, with various incentives from the government of India and low set up costs, has become attractive for lessors.

16. Kanchan Ugursandi has completed the world's first solo motorcycle expedition covering 18 passes

of Himalayas in New Delhi. Who among the following has flagged off the motorcycle expedition?

- (a) Rajnath Singh
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Anurag Thakur
- (d) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer: A

Mountain biker Kanchan Ugursandi finished in New Delhi the world's first solo motorcycle expedition covering 18 treacherous passes of northern Himalayan mountain ranges.

"The month-long expedition witnessed many firsts by a solo woman rider. Miss Ugursandi has become the first solo woman biker to scale the Umlingla Pass, the first woman to cover the 18 passes and also the first woman to traverse a distance of 3,187 kilometre from New Delhi-Manali-Leh-Umlingla-Delhi in one go.

Her expedition was flagged off by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on June 11 from New Delhi, it said.

17. "Lady Doctors: The Untold Stories of India's First Women in Medicine" has been authored by Kavitha Rao. Who is the India's First Women in Medicine?

- (a) Chandramukhi Basu
- (b) Meera Kosambi
- (c) Anandi Gopal Joshi
- (d) Rukhmabai Raut
- (e) Tarabai Shinde

Answer: D

Author Kavitha Rao's new book titled Lady Doctors: The Untold Stories of India's First Women in Medicine, will release on July 12, 2021. In this excerpt from Kavitha Rao's 'Lady Doctors: The Untold Stories of India's First Women in Medicine, the story of Rukhmabai Raut.

18. How many members committee has been set up by the government for the development council for cement industry to eliminate waste, obtain maximum production, improve quality, reduce costs and promote standardization of products?

- (a) 22 Members
- (b) 25 Members
- (c) 21 Members
- (d) 20 Members
- (e) 17 Members

Answer: B

The government has set up a 25-member development council for cement industry under Dalmia Bharat Group CMD Puneet Dalmia which will suggest ways to eliminate waste, obtain maximum production, improve quality, reduce costs and promote standardization of products.

19. The Karnataka government has set to develop 46 Heritage places of Kempegowda era at a cost of _____ Crore.

- (a) Rs 222 Crore
- (b) Rs 225 Crore
- (c) Rs 221 Crore

(d) Rs 220 Crore

(e) Rs 223 Crore

Answer: E

Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa directed that 46 heritage places belonging to the Kempegowda era, which have been identified in three circuits, must be developed keeping tourism potential in view.

In this regard, an action plan of Rs 223 crore was prepared.

During a review meeting of the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Development Board, the Chief Minister said a conceptual plan report has been prepared to develop historical places in Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Ramanagar, Chikballapur and Tumakur districts.

20. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, Aswhini Vaishnaw has been appointed as the minister of which among the following Ministry?

(a) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers

(b) Ministry of Information Technology

(c) Ministry of Railways

(d) Both A & C

(e) Both B & C

Answer: E

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation. -Mansukh Mandaviya is the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Amit Shah has been given charge of the newly-created Ministry of Co-operation. Shah will also handle the Home Ministry. Dharmendra Pradhan will take charge as Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

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Smriti Irani will be the minister in charge of the Ministry of Women and Child Development

(WCD). Anurag Thakur has been given charge of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Development, along with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food

Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the

Ministry of Rural Development. Bhupender Yadav

has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and

Ministry of Environment and Forests.

21. Which among the following film of Amir Khan has been added to the collection of the National Film Archives of India?

- (a) Thugs of Hindostan
- (b) Dhoom 3
- (c) PK
- (d) Secret Superstar
- (e) Dangal

Answer: C

The Amir Khan starrer controversial movie 'PK', which released in 2014 and got mired in controversy over hurting religious sentiments of Hindus, has been added to the collection of the National Film Archives of India (NFAI).

The original camera negative of Rajkumar Hirani directed film has been added by the NFAI in its collection.

Hirani handed over the the original camera negative of PK to NFAI director Prakash Magdum in Mumbai on (6 July), according to a Ministry of Information and Broadcasting release.

22. Amazon India has announced the launch of its first Digital Kendra in which among the following city of India?

- (a) Surat
- (b) Vadodara
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) Nagpur

Answer: A

Amazon India announced the launch of its first Digital Kendra in Surat, Gujarat. As physical resource centers, these kendras will offer MSMEs the opportunity to learn more on e-commerce and avail services such as shipping and logistics support, digital marketing services, GST and taxation support to kickstart their journey as digital entrepreneurs.

Last year at the inaugural Smbhav Summit, Amazon had announced three important commitments - to digitally enable 10 million MSMEs, enable ecommerce exports worth \$10 billion and create one million additional jobs in India between 2020 and 2025. The company has already digitised 2.5 million MSMEs, enabled cumulative exports worth \$3 billion and helped create nearly a million jobs in India till date including 300,000 direct and indirect jobs since January 2020.

23. The government has merged which among the following Department with the Finance Ministry to give it a better control over state-owned firms and facilitate its ambitious privatisation programme?

- (a) Department of Water and Sanitation
- (b) Department of Science and Innovation
- (c) Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
- (d) Department of Higher Education and Training
- (e) Department of Public Enterprises

Answer: E

The government has merged the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) with the Finance Ministry to give it a better control over state-owned firms and facilitate its ambitious privatisation programme.

Finance Ministry will now have six departments while DPE's hereto parent ministry, the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises will now be called the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

Previously, the Disinvestment Ministry - created under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government was merged with the Finance Ministry and is now a department under it.

24. P. Sainath has awarded with Japan's top award Fukuoka Grand Prize 2021. He is a _____ by his Profession.

- (a) Teacher
- (b) Journalist
- (c) Doctor
- (d) Author
- (e) Activist

Answer: B

Renowned journalist P. Sainath was the recipients of the Fukuoka Grand Prize 2021, one of Japan's top awards open to people from all Asian countries for "investigate[ing] impoverished farming villages in India, listen[ing] to voices from the rural population". The Fukuoka Prize has three categories, Academic Prize, Culture Prize and the Grand Prize. Sainath was the recipient of the Grand Prize. Previous Indian winners of the prize include Professor Romila

Thapar (Academic Prize), Ustad Amjad Ali Khan (Culture) and A.R. Rahman (Grand Prize).

25. How many portals have been launched by the Union minister of Ayush Kiran Rijiju containing data related to Ayurveda recently?

- (a) Three
- (b) Four
- (c) Six
- (d) Five
- (e) Two

Answer: D

Union minister of Ayush Kiran Rijiju launched five portals containing data related to Ayurveda. He also released four publications at an online event, while emphasising that Ayush is going to play a big role in the National Digital Health Mission to provide health security to the people.

The five portals include the Chemical Trials Registry of India (CTRI) portals pertain to Ayurveda dataset, besides Ayush manuscripts, Research management information, Showcase of Ayurveda historical imprints and electronic Medical Heritage Accession. The four publications are related to the traditional Indian system of medicine. The minister lauded the collaborative efforts of ICMR and Archaeological Survey of India for these initiatives.

26. Tata Motors has collaborated with which among the following Bank to provide the 'Step Up' scheme

where the customers could choose and buy from its range of passenger cars?

- (a) IndusInd Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) Punjab National Bank

Answer: A

Tata Motors has rolled out finance offers for its passenger vehicle customers in collaboration with IndusInd Bank. As part of this partnership, the auto major will provide the 'Step Up' scheme where the customers can choose and buy from its range of passenger cars in the country, with a special low EMI option scheme for the first 3-6 months.

27. The Reserve Bank has extended the interest subsidy scheme for exporters to September 30, 2021. What was its previous deadline?

- (a) June 15
- (b) June 1
- (c) July 30
- (d) July 15
- (e) June 30

Answer: E

The Reserve Bank said a scheme providing interest subsidy for post and pre-shipment export credit has been extended by three months till September, a move that will provide relief to exporters.

Exporters get the subsidy under the Interest Equalisation Scheme for pre and post-shipment

Rupee Export Credit'. Earlier in April, the scheme was extended till June 30.

"Government of India has approved the extension of Interest Equalization Scheme for Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit, with the same scope and coverage, for a further period of three months, i.e., up to September 30, 2021," the RBI said in a circular.

The extension takes effect from July 1, 2021, and ends on September 30, 2021, covering three months. Consequently, the extant operational instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India will continue to remain in force up to September 30, 2021.

28. Pawan Singh, the Joint Secretary General of NRAI, has been selected as the first ever Indian juror for the upcoming Tokyo Olympic Games. The Jury consists of _____ members.

- (a) 20 Members
- (b) 22 Members
- (c) 26 Members
- (d) 29 Members
- (e) 25 Members

Answer: C

Pawan Singh, the Joint Secretary General of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), has been selected as the first ever Indian juror for the upcoming Tokyo Olympic Games. A resident of Pune in Maharashtra, Mr. Singh is the founder-

director of the Gun for Glory Shooting Academy in Balewadi.

A total of 26 jury members will officiate at the Olympics, of which six will be from Japan and the rest from other countries. Singh was the competition manager of the recent International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup in New Delhi and his work was appreciated by the ISSF. He has also worked as a Result Timing Score (RTS) Jury in different World Cups.

29. The Cabinet has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation between Japan Fair Trade Commission and which among the following organisation to promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy?

- (a) RAW
- (b) Planning Commission
- (c) ESIC
- (d) CCI
- (e) ECI

Answer: D

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation (MoC) between Competition Commission of India (CCI) and Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) to promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy.

The approved MoC, through the exchange of information, will enable CCI to emulate and learn

from the experiences and lessons of its counterpart competition agency in Japan which would enhance efficiency. The same will help improve enforcement of the Competition Act, 2002 by CCI. The resultant outcomes will benefit consumers at large and will promote equity and inclusiveness.

30. Virbhadr Singh passed away recently. He was a six time Chief Minister of which among the following state?

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Punjab
- (e) Gujarat

Answer: B

Six-time Himachal Pradesh chief minister Virbhadr Singh, who crafted a distinguished political career spanning fifty years before getting embroiled in financial irregularity charges in his final term, died in Shimla. He was 87.

Singh began his political career at 27 with the Lok Sabha elections in 1962. He went on to serve as a member of Parliament for four more terms, in 1967, 1971, 1980 and 2009.

His first stint as chief minister came in 1983 when the previous Congress government, helmed by Ram Lal Thakur, was mired in controversy.

31. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, Bhupender Yadav has been appointed as the minister of which among the following Ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Labour
- (b) Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Environment and Forests
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: E

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

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Smriti Irani will be the minister in charge of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD). Anurag Thakur has been given charge of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Development, along with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the Ministry of Rural Development. Bhupender Yadav has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests.

32. The Cabinet has approved the MOU between the Institute of Cost Accountants of India and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

ACCA is a _____ based Association.

- (a) France
- (b) UK
- (c) England
- (d) Germany
- (e) US

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICoAI) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), United Kingdom (UK). It will provide mutual advanced entry to the members of both the Institutes through exemptions

from appearing in the majority of papers to acquire the qualification of the other professional body and undertake joint research by continuing professional development activities.

33. Stefan Lofven has been re-elected as the prime minister by parliament of which among the following country?

- (a) Denmark
- (b) Norway
- (c) Poland
- (d) Sweden
- (e) Germany

Answer: D

Swedish Social Democrat leader Stefan Lofven was narrowly re-elected as prime minister by parliament after leading the country in a caretaking capacity since his resignation .

Lofven needed to avoid a majority voting against him in the Swedish Riksdag. He avoided rejection by two votes in the 349-seat parliament, with one parliamentarian breaking party ranks to support him.

34. The term period of Shyam Srinivasan, MD and CEO of which of the following Bank has been extended for three years?

- (a) Federal Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) South Indian Bank
- (e) ICIC Bank

Answer: A

Private sector Federal Bank said it has received approval from the RBI to re-appoint Shyam Srinivasan as its MD and CEO for three years. Srinivasan took charge as MD and CEO of the lender on September 23, 2010.

Srinivasan is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, and Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirapally.

35. Omchery N N Pillai has been selected for the Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam Literary Award for 2021. His contribution in which language has made him for this Award?

- (a) Tamil
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Malayalam
- (d) Telangana
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: C

Journalist and playwright Omchery N N Pillai has been selected for the Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS)'s Literary Award for 2021. BKS president P V Radhakrishna Pillai, general secretary Varghese Karackal and literary wing secretary Firoz Thiruvathra announced the award, in a joint press note. The Jury was headed by the novelist M Mukundan. Literary critic Dr K S Ravikumar, writer and Kerala Chief Secretary Dr V P Joy, and Radhakrishna Pillai were part of the jury.

The award constitutes a cash prize of `50,000 and a citation acknowledging the achievement. The award ceremony will be held later in Delhi. "His enormous contributions as a whole to Malayalam language and literature are remarkable, which ultimately led to this award.

36. The Young Indian Grandmaster Nihal Sarin has emerged as the champion in the Masters' section of the Serbia Open Chess Championship. He hails from which among the following State?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Goa
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Kerala

Answer: E

Young Indian Grandmaster Nihal Sarin emerged champion in the Masters' section of the Serbia Open Chess Championship.

This is the second consecutive tournament victory for sixteen-year old Sarin after he claimed the title in Silver Lake Open.

The GM from Thrissur, Kerala, played out a draw with GM Vladimir Fedoseev of Russia to finish with 7.5 points out of a possible nine to finish clear first in the 289-player field in the nine-round tourney.

37. Which among the following ministry has implemented SPARSH, an integrated system for

automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pension?

- (a) Finance Ministry
- (b) Home Ministry
- (c) Defence Ministry
- (d) External Affairs Ministry
- (e) Public and Personnel Grievances Ministry

Answer: C

The Defence Ministry has implemented SPARSH, an integrated system for automation of sanction and disbursement of defence pension. This web-based system processes pension claims and credits pension directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners without relying on any external intermediary.

SPARSH envisages establishment of Service Centres to provide last mile connectivity to pensioners who may be unable to directly access the SPARSH portal for any reason..

38. The Bank of Baroda has signed an MOU with Software Technology Parks of India and AICTE Initiatives to support startups across India under its Baroda Startup Banking program. How many branches are operational under this dedicated startup?

- (a) 15
- (b) 10
- (c) 5
- (d) 25
- (e) 20

Answer: A

Bank of Baroda, one of the country's largest public sector banks, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and AIC STPINEXT Initiatives to support startups across India under its Baroda Startup Banking program.

Under this program, 15 dedicated startup branches are operational across the major startup hubs viz. Gurugram, Delhi, Noida, Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Pune, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Kolkata, Indore and Kochi.

39. The Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has participated virtually in the G20 High-Level Tax Symposium on tax policy and Climate Change.

Which among the following country has organised the Symposium?

- (a) South Africa
- (b) Canada
- (c) Turkey
- (d) Italy
- (e) Mexico

Answer: D

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman participated virtually in the G20 High-Level Tax Symposium on tax policy and Climate Change. The Symposium was organised by G20 Italy, ahead of the 3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms Sitharaman highlighted that in India, fiscal policy options are used for better environmental outcomes and concessional tax rates are in place to promote use of renewables. She shared India's innovative policy mix for better environmental outcomes such as new energy map of India, digital innovation and emerging fuels, solar alliance for enabling clean energy, promotion of energy efficiency and afforestation. The Minister emphasised on the role of technology in fighting Climate Change and called for international cooperation to increase supply of alternative sources of energy and technologies for adaptation.

40. According to China, Which among the following animal have no longer endangered in the wild, but they were still vulnerable with a population outside captivity of 1,800?

- (a) White Tiger
- (b) Giant Panda
- (c) Amur Leopards
- (d) White Elephant
- (e) Crested Ibis

Answer: B

Giant pandas are no longer endangered in the wild, but they are still vulnerable with a population outside captivity of 1,800, Chinese officials have said after years of conservation efforts.

The head of the environment ministry's department of nature and ecology conservation, Cui Shuhong,

said the reclassification was the result of “improved living conditions and China’s efforts in keeping their habitats integrated”.

41. Who among the following has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Ethiopia?

- (a) Jawar Mohammed
- (b) Meles Zenawi
- (c) Abiy Ahmed
- (d) Lemma Megersa
- (e) Zinash Tayachew

Answer: C

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's Prosperity Party won the most seats in Ethiopia's parliamentary election, the election board said, a victory that assures him another term in office.

Abiy hailed the June 21 vote as the country's first free and fair election after decades of repressive rule. However, an opposition boycott, war in the northern region of Tigray, ethnic violence and logistical challenges in some areas overshadowed the election. Voting did not take place in three of Ethiopia's 10 regions.

42. What is the theme of the World Population Day ,observed every year on July 11?

- (a) How to safeguard the health and rights of women and girls now
- (b) Rights and Choices are the Answer
- (c) Family Planning is a Human Right
- (d) Investing in teenage girls

(e) Vulnerable Populations in Emergencies

Answer: B

World Population Day is observed every year on July 11. The main purpose of this day is to draw attention towards the issues arising out of rising population across the globe. India has the world's second-largest populace after China.

This year, the theme of World Population Day 2021 is “Rights and choices are the answer: Whether baby boom or bust, the solution to shifting fertility rates lies in prioritizing the reproductive health and rights of all people.” The World Population Day was established by the United Nations in 1989, buoyed by the interest the Five Billion Day celebrated in 1987.

43. P K Warriar has passed away recently. He was associated with which among the following Medical field?

- (a) Unani
- (b) Naturopathy
- (c) Homeopathy
- (d) Siddha
- (e) Ayurveda

Answer: E

Dr P K Warriar, who popularised Ayurveda, died in Kerala's Kottakal a month after celebrating his 100th birthday on June 8, his family said. Decorated with the country's third and fourth highest civilian awards -Padma Bhushan in 2010 and Padma Shri in 1999 - Warriar was also a freedom fighter.

He was known as a connoisseur of arts, an author and a teacher. He became a trustee of the Aryavaidya Sala, founded by his uncle in 1902, at 24.

44. In the recent appointment of 43 Ministers, who among the following has been appointed as the Ministry of Education?

- (a) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Giriraj Singh
- (e) Anurag Thakur

Answer: A

In the biggest revamp of the Union Cabinet during the second term of the Narendra Modi government, as many as 43 members, including old and new ministers, were sworn.

Senior BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah is now the new head of the newly formed Ministry of Cooperation. -Mansukh Mandaviya is the Health Ministry and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Amit Shah has been given charge of the newly-created Ministry of Co-operation. Shah will also handle the Home Ministry. Dharmendra Pradhan will take charge as Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Aswhini Vaishnaw is now Union Minister for Information Technology (IT) and Railways.

Union Minister for Commerce Piyush Goyal is being given additional charge of the Ministry of Textiles.

He also holds additional charge of the ministries of Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution.

Hardeep Singh Puri has been given charge of the ministries of Urban Housing and Petroleum.

Jyotiraditya Scindia has been made Minister of Civil Aviation.

Smriti Irani will be the minister in charge of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD).

Anurag Thakur has been given charge of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Development, along with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Pashupati Paras is now Minister for Food Processing. Giriraj Singh will take charge of the Ministry of Rural Development. Bhupender Yadav has been given charge of the Labour Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests.

45. Vinay Prakash has been appointed as the Resident Grievance Officer of which among the following Social Media?

- (a) Facebook
- (b) Instagram
- (c) Youtube
- (d) Twitter
- (e) Whatsapp

Answer: D

Twitter has named Vinay Prakash as its Resident Grievance Officer for India, according to the company's website.

The US-based company has been in the eye of a storm over its alleged failure to comply with the new IT rules in India, which mandates, among other requirements, the appointment of three key personnel -- chief compliance officer, nodal officer and grievance officer by social media platforms with over 50 lakh users. All the three personnel have to be residents in India.

As per the information updated on Twitter's website, Vinay Prakash is the Resident Grievance Officer (RGO). Users can contact him using an email ID listed on the page.

46. The National Fish Farmers Day has been observed every year on July 10. This year marks _____ National Fish Farmers Day.

- (a) 18th
- (b) 15th
- (c) 19th
- (d) 11th
- (e) 20th

Answer: B

The National Fisheries Development Board celebrated the National Fish Farmers Day virtually. This annual event is celebrated to commemorate Professor Dr. Hiralal Chaudhury and his colleague Dr. Alikunhi for their contribution in achieving the successful induced breeding of major carps on 10th July, 1957 at Angul in Odisha for the first time in the country.

The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), under the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying virtually celebrated the 21st National Fish Farmers' Day. The day is also observed as the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) Foundation Day. 2021 marks the 15th foundation day.

47. The Scripps National Spelling Bee has won by Zaila Avant by correctly spelling Murraya. What is Murraya?

- (a) A genus of Birds
- (b) A genus of Reptiles
- (c) A genus of Insects
- (d) A genus of Animals
- (e) A genus of Plants

Answer: E

Zaila Avant from New Orleans, Louisiana, -garde, 14, won the Scripps National Spelling Bee by correctly spelling Murraya, a genus of plants, becoming the first African American to win the 90-year-old competition, which was cancelled last year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Also an accomplished basketball player who holds several Guinness World Records for dribbling multiple basketballs at a time, Avant-garde, from New Orleans, is the first Black contestant to win since Jody-Anne Maxwell of Jamaica in 1998. Maxwell was also the first winner from outside the United States.

48. Which among the following actor has recently unveiled her new book Khan's Pregnancy Bible?

- (a) Kareena Kapoor
- (b) Hina Khan
- (c) Sonam Kapoor
- (d) Karishma Kapoor
- (e) Gauri Khan

Answer: A

Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan announced her new book titled Kareena Kapoor Khan's Pregnancy Bible. She has called it her 'third child'.

Kareena also shared her experience while writing the book. She was seen wearing a red slip dress as she kept her hair loose parting it in the middle. She was seen bare feet standing near the kitchen countertop.

49. Ashleigh Barty has won maiden Wimbledon women's singles title by defeating whom among the following?

- (a) Martina Navratilova
- (b) Angelique Kerber
- (c) Serena Williams
- (d) Karolina Pliskova
- (e) Simona Halep

Answer: D

Ashleigh Barty claimed her second Grand Slam title as she defeated Karolina Pliskova 6-3, 6-7, 6-3 to win her maiden Wimbledon women's singles title.

The 25-year-old Australian last won a Grand Slam in 2018 but has continued to dominate the tennis

circuit in 2021. Both players failed to hold onto their serve in the first set but Barty was more consistently able to win on her first serve.

Barty became the first Australian woman since Evonne Goolagong in 1980 to win the Wimbledon title.

50. Max Bupa Health Insurance has signed a bancassurance partnership with which among the following Bank to provide comprehensive health insurance solutions to employees and customers?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) Indian Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) Indusland Bank

Answer: C

Max Bupa Health Insurance, a standalone health insurer, has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Axis Bank, the country's third largest private sector bank. This partnership will help provide comprehensive health insurance solutions to Axis Bank's employees and customers.

The tie-up will enable millions of Axis Bank customers across 4,500 plus branches to gain access to quality healthcare solutions through a range of health insurance products offered by Max Bupa.

51. The European Championship trophy has won by Italy by defeating England at which among the following stadium of London?

- (a) Emirates Stadium
- (b) London Stadium
- (c) Madejski Stadium
- (d) Matchroom Stadium
- (e) Wembley Stadium

Answer: E

Italy lifted their second European Championship trophy after they defeated England 3-2 in penalty shoot-out in the Euro 2020 final at Wembley Stadium in London. The match had ended 1-1 after extra time. Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho, and Bukayo Saka missed for the Three Lions as Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma saved two penalties in a row to take his team to the title. This is the first major international trophy that Italy have won since their 2006 FIFA World Cup win. The Azzurri had last won the continental title back in 1968. Italy had reached the final in Euro 2000 and Euro 2012, as well, but had lost to France, and Spain, respectively.

52. The government has approved to sale _____% stake of LIC after its disinvestment from IDBI Bank.

- (a) 25%
- (b) 100%
- (c) 80%
- (d) 65%

(e) 75%

Answer: B

The government has approved the sale of its entire stake, and that of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, in IDBI bank.

On July 9, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) said the Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given its go-ahead to the government and the LIC to offload 100 percent of their entire stakes in IDBI Bank, along with a transfer of management.

At present, IDBI Bank is classified as a private sector bank by the RBI with the government's shareholding at 45.5 percent, LIC's shareholding at 49.24 percent and the non-promoter shareholding at 5.29 percent.

53. An MOU has signed between ICCR and which among the following University to set up 'Bangabandhu Chair' to foster better understanding of developments in Bangladesh?

- (a) Pune University
- (b) Madras University
- (c) Bombay University
- (d) Delhi University
- (e) Calcutta University

Answer: D

Delhi University will have a 'Bangabandhu Chair' to foster better understanding of developments in Bangladesh. An MoU was signed between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and

Delhi University in Dhaka to set up this Chair at Delhi University.

Speaking on this occasion, the President of ICCR Vinay Sahasrabuddhe said that this chair was the celebration of the commonality of the world view between Indian and Bangladesh as both countries stand for peace, tranquility, equal respect for all belief systems and democracy.

54. The Bharat Dynamics Limited has signed a contract worth about _____ with the Ministry of Defence for the manufacture and supply of Akash missiles to the Indian Air Force.

- (a) Rs 499 Crore
- (b) Rs 299 Crore
- (c) Rs 599 Crore
- (d) Rs 199 Crore
- (e) Rs 399 Crore

Answer: A

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) signed a contract worth about Rs 499 crore with the Ministry of Defence for the manufacture and supply of Akash missiles to the Indian Air Force (IAF).

According to a press release, the contract was signed by Air Commodore Ajay Singhal, Air Commodore, Guided Weapons Maintenance on behalf of Indian Air Force and Commodore T N Kaul (Retd), Executive Director (Marketing) on behalf of BDL in the presence of Radhakrishna, Director (Production).

55. According to NABARD, Which among the following bank has become the best DCCB in South India?

- (a) Srikakulam District Co-operative Credit Bank
- (b) Palanpur Cooperative Credit Bank
- (c) Karimnagar District Cooperative Credit Bank
- (d) Chittoor District Cooperative Credit Bank
- (e) Anantapur District Central Co-operative Bank Credit Bank

Answer: C

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Mumbai, has chosen the Telangana State Cooperative Apex Bank (TSCAB), to be the Best state cooperative bank in the country and the Karimnagar District Cooperative Credit Bank (DCCB) as the best DCCB in South India.

The awards were announced on 40th foundation day celebrations of NABARD by organising a webinar on "Resilience of Indian agriculture amidst pandemic". The programme was graced by Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Thumar, Chief Economic Advisor to Union government Dr Krishnamurthy V Subramanian and NABARD chairman GR Chinthala.

56. The Copa America Final has won by Lionel Messi's Argentina after defeating which among the following country?

- (a) Venezuela
- (b) Brazil
- (c) Bolivia

(d) Chile

(e) Peru

Answer: B

Lionel Messi's Argentina beat Brazil 1-0 in Copa America final to secure the national team's first title in 28 years and the superstar's first major international trophy.

Argentina's winning goal at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro came in the 22nd minute after Rodrigo de Paul made a long pass to Ángel di Maria. The 33-year-old veteran striker counted on some sloppy defending from left-back Renan Lodi to take control and lob it past goalkeeper Ederson.

57. The KVIC has successfully secured the trademark registration of brand "Khadi" globally in which among the following country?

(a) Mexico

(b) UAE

(c) Bhutan

(d) Only B & C

(e) All A, B & C

Answer: E

In a major achievement towards protecting the identity of brand "Khadi" globally – KVIC recently secured trademark registrations in – Bhutan, UAE and Mexico.

KVIC obtained the latest trademark registration in Bhutan on 9th July, while the same was granted in UAE on 28th June this year.

Up until now, KVIC had Trademark registrations in certain classes for the word mark "KHADI" in 6 countries namely Germany, UK, Australia, Russia, China and EU.

With this, KVIC has successfully secured trademark registration for the first time in a Gulf country.

Previously, KVIC got the trademark registration for "Khadi" in Mexico in December 2020 and with this recent grant acquired in Bhutan, the number has risen to nine in total.

58. Pankaj Singh from Rajasthan has recently retired from which among the following Sports?

(a) Football

(b) Tennis

(c) Golf

(d) Cricket

(e) Tennis

Answer: D

Rajasthan pace ace Pankaj Singh, who featured in a couple of Tests and a lone ODI for India, has retired from all forms of cricket.

The 36-year-old, who has 633 domestic wickets in his kitty, played for Rajasthan for more than a decade before moving to Puducherry in 2018. He returned to the Rajasthan fold in the 2019 season, but an injury saw him missing out on the season.

59. Which among the following state's school has ranked last in the Gender Parity Index, as per the

Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) report 2019-20?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Gujarat
- (e) West Bengal

Answer: A

Rajasthan schools rank last in the Gender Parity Index (GPI) on the increased secondary stage compared with the remaining of the nation, reveals the Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) report 2019-20, which analyses tendencies in college schooling in the nation. According to the just lately launched 2019-20 report, in Rajasthan, the GPI worth for courses 11-12 is 0.87, a lot decrease than the nationwide common of 1.04 in this class.

60. The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and the Public Service Commission has signed an MOU with which among the following country?

- (a) France
- (b) Senegal
- (c) Gambia
- (d) Zambia
- (e) Fiji

Answer: C

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and the Public Service Commission, Office of the President, Republic of The Gambia signed an MoU on Refurbishing Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms on 8th July, 2021.

The MoU was signed by Shri Sanjay Singh, Secretary on behalf of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and H.E. Mr. Lamin E. Singhateh, Charge d'Affairs on behalf of the Public Service Commission of the Gambia.

The signing ceremony was attended virtually by senior officers of the Gambian Public Service Commission, Ministry of External Affairs and Ambassador, Embassy of India, Senegal, which is accredited to the Gambia.

61. "The Ramayana of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji", a book has written by the late Baljit Kaur Tulsi was recently handed over to whom among the following?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Ramnath Kovind
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Jitendra Singh
- (e) Venkaiah Naidu

Answer: A

Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the first copy of "The Ramayana of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji" which is written by the late Baljit Kaur Tulsi—the

mother of noted lawyer KTS Tulsi. The book is published by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts.

62. The country's First Private Liquefied Natural Gas plant has been inaugurated by Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari in which of the following city?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Surat
- (c) Nagpur
- (d) Puri
- (e) Hyderabad

Answer: C

Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the country's First Private LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) plant in Nagpur. It has also potential of creating ample job opportunities. LNG is the fuel of the future and will revolutionize the transport sector. The Country's first LNG facility plant has been set up by Baidyanath Ayurvedic Group on Kamptee Road near Nagpur Jabalpur Highway. Mr. Gadkari also informed that the Central Government is promoting Ethanol, Electric, CNG, LNG gas as an alternative to conventional fuels. He pointed out that the country produces surplus sugar and rice.

63. Eric Garcetti has been nominated by the US President Joe Biden, as the ambassador to which among the following Country?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Pakistan

- (c) Australia
- (d) India
- (e) Germany

Answer: D

President Joe Biden has nominated Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to serve as ambassador to India, the White House, selecting a high-profile ally to serve in one of the most difficult diplomatic posts.

64. The Wimbledon final title has won by Novak Djokovic after defeating whom among the following?

- (a) Roger Federer
- (b) Matteo Berrettini
- (c) Alexander Zverev
- (d) Rafael Nadal
- (e) Dominic Thiem

Answer: B

Novak Djokovic defeated Matteo Berrettini in the Wimbledon final to win a record-equaling 20th Grand Slam title. Djokovic bounced back from a first-set wobble to win 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4, 6-3. It was Djokovic's sixth Wimbledon title and 20th at a major tournament, putting him tied for first on the all-time list with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

65. A Cryptogamic garden of plants from Jurassic era opens to public has been recently inaugurated by which among the following State's Forest department?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Bihar

- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Assam
- (e) Uttarakhand

Answer: E

Uttarakhand Forest department has dedicated a Cryptogamic garden of ancient plants/organisms, existing since the Jurassic era, that grow without seeds and flowers, to the public .

It was built in the Deoban area of Dehradun district at a height of 2,700 metres. Cryptogam are plants or plant-like organisms that reproduce by spores, without producing flowers or seeds.

66. Who among the following American tennis player of Indian-origin has lifted the Wimbledon boys singles title?

- (a) Tina Payal
- (b) Renu Gupta
- (c) Vijay Singh
- (d) Samir Banerjee
- (e) Ajay Malhotra

Answer: D

American tennis player of Indian-origin Samir Banerjee lifted the Wimbledon boys singles title with a straight set win over compatriot Victor Lilov, here. Playing only his second junior Grand Slam, 17-year-old won 7-5 6-3 in the final that lasted in one hour 22 minutes. Banerjee's parents had moved to America in 1980s.

67. Which among the following country has secured 2nd rank in the latest rankings of top countries in the world where All India Radio Live-streams?

- (a) Fiji
- (b) Germany
- (c) US
- (d) Kuwait
- (e) New Zealand

Answer: A

The US continues to remain in number one position in the latest rankings of top countries in the world where All India Radio Live-streams are most popular. The US is followed by Fiji and Australia. Fiji has jumped from 5th position to 2nd, while Saudi Arabia has made a comeback in top 10. Kuwait and Germany are new entrants, while France and New Zealand are no longer in the top 10.

In what is an important feat, All India Radio's Telugu and Tamil live-stream services are popular in the United States, while AIR Punjabi service is popular in the United Kingdom.

In major changes in rankings of top AIR streams globally, AIR News 24*7 has moved one position up from 7th to 6th Rank, while AIR Tamil has slipped from 6th to 10th spot.

68. Ambuja Cement Foundation has partnered with which among the following organisation for implementation of its employability through skill initiative projects?

- (a) RBI

- (b) NABARD
- (c) SIDBI
- (d) SEBI
- (e) EXIM

Answer: B

Ambuja Cement Foundation has joined hands with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for implementation of its employability through skill initiative project's second phase.

The foundation received grant assistance from NABARD under the Gramya Vikas Nidhi, a fund created for the development of off-farm sector activities.

The project will provide skill training across 19 locations for two years in 12 trades. It has already reached over 4,000 youth despite the pandemic,

69. Srinivasa Murthy has been appointed as Honorary Consul General of which among the following country for Karnataka?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Thailand
- (c) Malaysia
- (d) China
- (e) Vietnam

Answer: E

Srinivasa Murthy based in Bengaluru has been appointed as Honorary Consul General of Vietnam for Karnataka and first in India.

Srinivasa Murthy is the first honorary consul general of Vietnam from India and the 19th across the world. He is the third Consul General to be appointed globally this year. The appointment is for a period of three years.

70. The National Research Centre on Yak has partnered with National Insurance Company Ltd for insuring Himalayan Yak?

- (a) Mizoram
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Manipur
- (e) Nagaland

Answer: C

National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) in West Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh has tied up with the National Insurance Company Ltd. for insuring Himalayan Yak.

The insurance policy would shield the yak owners against the risks posed by weather calamities, diseases, in-transit mishaps, surgical operations and strikes or riots.

The owners of the Yaks would have to get their yaks ear-tagged and provide a proper description in order to get their animals insured.

71. Which state has decided to create a new department to protect the culture and practices of people belonging to tribal and other indigenous communities?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Assam
- (c) Goa
- (d) Telangana
- (e) West Bengal

Answer: B

The Assam cabinet decided to create a new department to protect the culture and practices of people belonging to tribal and other indigenous communities, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

The new department, he noted, would ensure that the state's indigenous population gets to preserve their faith and traditions, while also providing requisite support to them.

72. Which among the following Variety of mango has been exported to Bahrain from West Bengal?

- (a) Kesar
- (b) Chausa
- (c) Dashehari
- (d) Fazil
- (e) Badami

Answer: D

A consignment of GI certified Fazil mango variety sourced from Malda district of West Bengal was exported to Bahrain, the commerce ministry said. The GI tag helps growers get premium price for the product as no other producer can misuse the name to market similar goods.

A geographical indication (GI) tag is used for an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicraft and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory. Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness, which is essentially attributable to the place of its origin.

Darjeeling tea, Tirupathi laddu, Kangra paintings, Nagpur orange and Kashmir pashmina are among the registered GIs in India.

73. C.R. Visswanathan has passed away recently. He was a well-known _____ administrator.

- (a) Volleyball
- (b) Hockey
- (c) Tennis
- (d) Golf
- (e) Football

Answer: E

C.R. Visswanathan, a well-known football administrator in Tamil Nadu, passed away aged 85. CRV, as he was affectionately called, is survived by his wife, daughter and son.

CRV was the president of Tamil Nadu Football Association (TFA) and the vice-president of the All India Football Federation (AIFF). He was also the president of the Chennai District Football Association (1984-2009) and the Coimbatore District Football Association ('72-74).

74. The Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education has released a list of 'One District One Green Champion' Award winners. How many colleges have won this award?

- (a) 400
- (b) 100
- (c) 250
- (d) 375
- (e) 500

Answer: A

The Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE) has released a list of 400 colleges from across India which have actively participated to keep their campuses clean and sanitized. These colleges won the 'One District One Green Champion' Award by MGNCRE, Union Ministry of Education, under Swachhta Action Plan 2020-21.

MGNCRE is awarding institutions who are making progress towards a 'Swachh Bharat'. This is even more relevant now because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The 'One District One Green Champion' Awards are announced by the collector of the district.

75. The Union ministry of Science and Technology has announced that Indian Researchers have spotted an extremely bright supernovae called SLSNe. What does L mean in SLSNe?

- (a) Laser
- (b) Little

- (c) Light
- (d) Lunar
- (e) Luminous

Answer: E

Indian Researchers have spotted an extremely bright, hydrogen deficient, fast-evolving supernova that shines with the energy borrowed from an exotic type of neutron star with an ultra-powerful magnetic field, informed the Union ministry of science and technology.

Such kind of supernovae called Super Luminous Supernova (SLSNe) is very rare. A deep study of such ancient spatial objects can help probe the mysteries of the early Universe.

76. Which among the following state has hold Khelo India Youth Games 2021 and decided to organise the sports show in February 2022?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Haryana
- (d) West Bengal
- (e) Bihar

Answer: C

The Haryana government applied brakes on its earlier decision to hold Khelo India Youth Games- 2021 in November-December and has now decided to organise the sports show in February 2022, in view of the possible third wave of Covid-19 pandemic.

The state government had announced to hold fourth edition of the Youth Games in Panchkula, Ambala, Shahabad, Delhi and Chandigarh from November 21 to December 5. Various sports activities in the under-18 category will be held in the Games.

The government had also announced that BRICS Games-2021 will be organised during Khelo India.

77. The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in which country?

- (a) Georgia
- (b) Kazakhstan
- (c) Italy
- (d) Turkey
- (e) Russia

Answer: A

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Georgia at a prominent park.

During his two-day visit to Georgia, a strategically important country situated at the intersection of Eastern Europe and Western Asia, Jaishankar held talks with the country's top leadership and also handed over the relics of 17th century St. Queen Ketevan to the government and the people of Georgia at a ceremony in Tbilisi.

78. Which among the following have crossed four crore record at Central Depository Services in the month of June?

- (a) Inactive
- (b) FCNR
- (c) NRI
- (d) Dormant
- (e) Demat

Answer: E

Demat accounts at Central Depository Services (CDSL) crossed a record four crore mark in June, underscoring the growing influence of retail investors in equities.

With this, the total number of demat accounts in India held by CDSL and rival National Securities Depository (NSDL) have risen to six crore as on June 30 up from 4.02 crore in February 2020.

79. 'A Kashmiri Century — Portrait Of A Society In Flux', a book has been authored by Khem Lata Wakhlu. Who among the following has published the book?

- (a) Penguin Random House India.
- (b) Harper Collins India
- (c) Rupa Publications
- (d) Jaico Publishing House
- (e) Hachette India

Answer: B

The book 'A Kashmiri Century — Portrait Of A Society In Flux' offers a glimpse into the lives of Kashmiris —Hindus and Muslims alike — and how their existence revolved around the simple pleasures of life.

The book, written by former cabinet minister Khem Lata Wakhlu and published by Harper Collins India, on 'Soft Cover', ThePrint's e-venue to launch select non-fiction books.

80. Which among the following state's Archaeologist has recently discovered several potteries and artefacts, dating back to the later era of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Goa

Answer: C

A Maharashtra archaeologist may have hit a jackpot by discovering several potteries and artefacts, dating back to the later era of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC), at Yawal in Jalgaon district. The finds are mainly big and small pieces of pottery and vessels, depicting Harappan-style pictographical scripts that excited the discovery team led by Bhujang R. Bobade, Director, Heritage Foundation.

81. Syed Osman Azhar Maqsusi has been awarded with top UK award recently. He is a well-known _____ Activist.

- (a) Social Activist
- (b) Environment Activist
- (c) Science Activist

- (d) Hunger Activist
- (e) Economic Activist

Answer: D

Hyderabad's hunger activist Syed Osman Azhar Maqsusi, who has been feeding thousands of people everyday as part of his food drive 'Hunger Has No Religion' was awarded a top UK award recently.

In order to honour Maqsusi's efforts, he was conferred with the Commonwealth Points of Light award for his drive that helps to feed 1,500 people on a daily basis. The award is for those 'outstanding individuals who are making a change in their community.'

82. The Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath has recently unveiled the new population policy 2021-30. What is the target set to the birth rate per thousand population by 2026?

- (a) 2.1%
- (b) 1.9%
- (c) 2.5%
- (d) 1.5%
- (e) 2.9%

Answer: A

Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled the new population policy 2021-30, on the occasion of World Population Day.

In the new Population Policy, a target has been set to bring the birth rate to 2.1 per thousand population by 2026 and to 1.9 by 2030. One of the key points in

the new policy is to make comprehensive arrangements for the care of the elderly, apart from better management of education, health, and nutrition of adolescents between 11 to 19 years. The period of Population Policy 2000-16 of the state has ended and now a new policy is the need of the hour.

83. Which among the following country has signed USD 1.3 billion deal with India for Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam to develop a 679-megawatt hydropower project?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Afghanistan
- (e) Bhutan

Answer: B

Nepal has signed a USD 1.3 billion deal with India's hydro power major Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) to develop a 679-megawatt hydropower project in eastern Nepal, the second mega venture undertaken by India in the neighbouring Himalayan nation.

The single largest foreign investment project, based on the 2017 cost estimates, is located between Sankhuwasabha and Bhojpur districts in eastern Nepal, according to a press release issued by the Investment Board Nepal.

84. Deepak Kabra has become the first Indian to be selected for judging which among the following sports competition of the Olympic Games?

- (a) Karate
- (b) Skating
- (c) Acrobatics
- (d) Swimming
- (e) Gymnastics

Answer: E

Deepak Kabra has become the first Indian to be selected for judging the gymnastics competition of the Olympic Games, a life goal achieved for the man who knew he wouldn't have made it there as an active gymnast because of his not-so-strong fundamentals.

Kabra will be seen officiating the men's artistic gymnasts at the Tokyo Games, which gets underway on July 23.

85. Which among the following organisation has set up the country's first green hydrogen mobility project in Ladakh?

- (a) L&T
- (b) Power Grid Corp Ltd
- (c) NTPC
- (d) Power Finance Corp Ltd
- (e) NHPC

Answer: C

NTPC REL, a 100 per cent subsidiary of NTPC said it has signed a memorandum of understanding

(MoU) with Ladakh to set up the country's first green hydrogen mobility project in the region.

It added that the signing of the MoU also marked the inauguration of NTPC's first solar installations in Leh in the form of solar trees and a solar carport. NTPC will help Ladakh develop a carbon-free economy based on renewable sources and green hydrogen.

86. The Union Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the Center of Excellence for Research & Analysis of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances of the National Forensic Science University in which among the following city?

- (a) Nagpur
- (b) Ahmedabad
- (c) Bangalore
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Vijayawada

Answer: B

The Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the newly built Center of Excellence (CoE) for Research & Analysis of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances of the National Forensic Science University in Ahmedabad.

Amit Shah said that 7 States of the country have expressed their desire to open Colleges and Centers of Excellence affiliated to the National Forensic Science University, Gujarat.

87. The CCI has approved the acquisition of 23.5% stake of ONGC of which state by Summit India?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Jharkhand
- (e) Tripura

Answer: E

Fair trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of 23.5 per cent stake in ONGC Tripura Power Company Ltd by Summit India (Tripura).

The transaction represents a credible business opportunity for Summit India (Tripura) as ONGC Tripura Power Company operates a 726.6 MW, fully operational natural gas based power plant in Palatana, Tripura, supplying power to the region of North-East India, according to a notice filed with the regulator.

Laying down the purpose of proposed transaction, the notice said Summit India (Tripura) is expected to bring in best practices to ONGC Tripura Power Company.

88. Sher Bahadur Deuba has been recently appointed as the Prime Minister of Nepal by succeeding KP Sharma Oli. Sher Bahadur Deuba was a former _____ of Nepal.

- (a) President
- (b) Finance Minister
- (c) Prime Minister
- (d) Speaker of the Parliament
- (e) None of these

Answer: A

Nepal Supreme Court reinstated the dissolved lower house of Parliament and issued a mandamus ordering the appointment of Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba as Prime Minister within two days.

Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba is set to succeed KP Sharma Oli as Prime Minister of Nepal. Nepal President Bidhya Devi Bhandari had refused to allow Deuba to form a new government as per Article 76 (5) and dissolution of the House.

89. Yashpal Sharma has passed away recently. He was associated with which among the following sports?

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Football
- (c) Hockey
- (d) Cricket
- (e) Archery

Answer: D

Former Indian cricketer Yashpal Sharma, a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning squad, passed away due to cardiac arrest. A middle order batsman, Sharma represented India in 37 Test matches and 42 one-day internationals.

He was an important member of Kapil Dev's side that won the World Cup in England in 1983. Sharma was India's second highest scorer behind Kapil Dev in the tournament, piling up 240 runs in 8 innings with two half centuries to his kitty

90. Sophie Ecclestone has recently won the ICC Player of the Month of June in women's category. She hails from which country?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) South Africa
- (c) England
- (d) Australia
- (e) Ireland

Answer: C

New Zealand opener Devon Conway and England spinner Sophie Ecclestone won the ICC Player of the Month for June in the men's and women's category respectively.

The Kiwi batter edged out his teammate Kyle Jamieson and South Africa's Quinton de Kock to bag the award. Ecclestone, on the other hand, won ahead of India's teen batting sensation Shafali Verma and all-rounder Sneha Rana.

91. A tripartite MOU has signed between the Ladakh and Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council with Sikkim State Organic Certification Agency to convert Ladakh into organic by _____.

- (a) 2045
- (b) 2030
- (c) 2025
- (d) 2035
- (e) 2040

Answer: C

A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between the Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh and Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Leh/Kargil with Sikkim State Organic Certification Agency (SSOCA) regarding the implementation of Prampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana and Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI), in Ladakh region with the aim to convert Ladakh into organic by 2025.

The main objective of this MOU is to get the organic certification after a tie-up with the Government of India (GOI).

92. BHIM UPI has been collaborated with Royal Monetary Authority of which among the following country to enable UPI acceptance?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) Bhutan

Answer: E

BHIM UPI has forayed in Bhutan in collaboration with Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan.

The service will be launched by India's Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, Bhutan's Finance Minister, Lyonpo Namgay Tshering, Governor of Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan, Dasho Penjore, Secretary (Department of Financial Services) Shri Debasish Panda, Ambassador of Bhutan to India

General V Namgyel, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Ruchira Kamboj, MD & CEO of NPCI, Dilip Asbe. NPCI's international arm, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) and Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan (RMA) collaboration will help enable UPI acceptance powered by BHIM App in Bhutan.

93. Sanjay Gupta has been elected as the Chairman of Internet and Mobile Association of India. He is currently the Vice president of _____.

- (a) Google India
- (b) Amazon
- (c) Dell
- (d) Apple
- (e) Microsoft

Answer: A

Industry body IMAI said Google India Vice President and Managing Director Sanjay Gupta has been elected as its chairman for the period 2021-23. He succeeds Amazon Senior Vice President and India Country Manager Amit Agarwal.

Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAI) has also named Facebook India Vice President and Managing Director Ajit Mohan as Vice Chairman of the association, succeeding Yatra.com co-founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dhruv Shringi. Razorpay CEO and co-founder Harshil Mathur has been elected as the Treasurer and succeeds Satyan Gajwani, Vice Chairman of Times Internet Ltd.

94. The Karnataka Chief minister BS Yediyurappa has unveiled the Karnataka Electric Bike Taxi scheme-2021 in which among the following city?

- (a) Mangalore
- (b) Kolar
- (c) Mysuru
- (d) Bengaluru
- (e) Shimoga

Answer: D

In a bid to generate employment, bring down pollution and reduce dependence on private vehicles, chief minister BS Yediyurappa unveiled the Karnataka Electric Bike Taxi scheme-2021 in Bengaluru.

Soon after the launch of bike-taxis by cab-aggregators like Ola and Uber in 2016, the transport department cracked down on them, seizing vehicles since there were no provisions in existing laws.

95. The Union Minister of Textiles Piyush Goyal has been appointed the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha by replacing whom among the following?

- (a) Jitendra Singh
- (b) Thawar Chand Gehlot
- (c) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (d) Om Birla
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer: B

Union Minister of Textiles Piyush Goyal has been appointed the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha.

Goyal replaced Thawar Chand Gehlot, who took oath recently as the 19th Governor of Karnataka. Goyal's appointment came ahead of the monsoon session of Parliament, which will begin on 19 July and will conclude on 13 August.

96. Which among the following organisation has declared July 15 as World Youth Skills Day?

- (a) UNESCO
- (b) UNSC
- (c) WTO
- (d) UNICEF
- (e) UNGA

Answer: E

World Youth Skills Day, observed annually on July 15, focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship.

In December 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring July 15 as World Youth Skills Day with the goal of achieving better socio-economic conditions for today's youth as a means to address the challenge of unemployment and underemployment.

97. India has signed an MOU with Denmark for which among the following field?

- (a) Health & Medicine
- (b) Customs & Trade
- (c) Tourism development
- (d) Cyber Security

(e) Defence Sector

Answer: A

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Denmark on cooperation in the field of health and medicine. An official release stated that the bilateral MoU will encourage cooperation between India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Health Ministry of Denmark through joint initiatives and technology development in the health sector.

98. Satyadev Narayan Arya was recently sworn in as the _____ Governor of Tripura.

- (a) 22nd
- (b) 20th
- (c) 15th
- (d) 19th
- (e) 17th

Answer: D

The Chief Justice of Tripura high court, Akil Kureshi administered the oath of office and secrecy to 84-year-old Satyadev Narayan Arya as 19th governor of Tripura at Darbar Hall of historical Puspabanta palace.

Chief minister Biplab Kumar Deb and deputy chief minister Jishnu Dev Varma as well as senior ministers of the state cabinet, the speaker and top officials of the administration attended the ceremony. While introducing the stakeholders, the

governor sought cooperation from everyone concerned to continue the development of Tripura.

99. The NTPC would set up India's single largest solar park in which among the following state with a capacity of 60 Giga Watt by 2032?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Odisha
- (e) West Bengal

Answer: C

National Thermal Power Corporation, NTPC will set up India's single largest solar park at Rann of Kutch in Khavada, Gujarat. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said, NTPC will set up 4750 Mega Watt renewable energy park. As a part of its green energy portfolio augmentation, NTPC Limited, India's largest energy integrated company aims to build 60 Giga Watt renewable energy capacity by 2032.

Recently, NTPC has also commissioned India's largest Floating Solar of 10 Mega Watt on the reservoir of Simhadri Thermal Power Plant, Andhra Pradesh.

100. The International Financial Services Centres Authority has set up an expert committee to recommend the road map for the development of Longevity Finance Hub. The Committee has been co-chaired by whom among the following?

- (a) Kaku Nakhate
- (b) Gopalan Srinivasan
- (c) Mahendran
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both B & C

Answer: D

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) said it has set up an expert committee to recommend the road map for the development of Longevity Finance Hub.

Global estimates suggest that there are one billion people in the silver generation, a global cohort of individuals aged 60 years and older, with a combined spending power of USD 15 trillion and the size is ever expanding,

The expert committee is being co-chaired by Kaku Nakhate, Bank of America, Country Head (India), and Gopalan Srinivasan, Ex-CMD, New India Assurance Company Limited.

101. Which among the following organisation has imposed restrictions on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Private Limited from adding new domestic customers from 22nd July?

- (a) RBI
- (b) NPCI
- (c) Finance Ministry
- (d) SBI
- (e) None of these

Answer: A

The Reserve Bank has imposed restrictions on Mastercard Asia/Pacific Private Limited for adding new domestic customers from 22nd July 2021. RBI said that MasterCard will not be allowed to add customers, be it for debit, credit or pre-paid cards onto its network as the entity has failed to comply with the directions on Storage of Payment System Data.

Stating that this order will not impact existing Mastercard customers, RBI asked the company to inform all card issuing banks and non-banks to conform to these directions.

102. Babar Azam has become the fastest batsman to notch up 14 ODI centuries in terms of innings, surpassing Hashim Amla. Babar Azam hails from which country?

- (a) Afghanistan
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) UAE
- (d) Pakistan
- (e) Malaysia

Answer: D

Pakistan captain Babar Azam became the fastest batsman to notch up 14 ODI centuries in terms of innings, surpassing the likes of Hashim Amla, Indian captain Virat Kohli and Australian batsman David Warner.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam altered the record books with the century he scored against England during the third ODI at Edgbaston. After failing to

score in the first two matches, the dynamic batsman returned to form, scoring 158 runs off 134 balls, including 14 boundaries and 4 maximums

103. Which among the following Hub has partnered with Atal Innovation Mission to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the healthcare sector?

- (a) Z-Hub
- (b) T-Hub
- (c) M -Hub
- (d) L-Hub
- (e) V-Hub

Answer: B

T-Hub, which leads India's pioneering innovation ecosystem, announced its partnership with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the healthcare sectors. As a part of this partnership, T-Hub is running a 3-month cohort-based program AIC T-Hub Foundation, exclusively for the deep tech startups creating new-age solutions in the field of life sciences and healthcare.

The program was officially launched virtually in the presence of Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary, IT & Industries, Telangana, Dr Chintan Vaishnav, Mission Director of AIM, Ravi Narayan, CEO of T-Hub and Chief Innovation Officer of Telangana, and Sashi Reddi, Founder & Managing Partner of SRI Capital.

104. The RBI Retail Direct facility has been introduced by the Reserve Bank of India to facilitate investment in Government Securities, G-Sec by individual investors. Which among the following is not a G-sec?

- (a) Treasury Bills
- (b) Cash Management Bills
- (c) Zero-Coupon Bonds
- (d) Floating Rate Bonds
- (e) None of these

Answer: E

Reserve Bank of India introduced the RBI Retail Direct facility. The facility is a one-stop solution to facilitate investment in Government Securities, G-Sec by individual investors. The RBI said, under this facility, retail investors will have the facility to open and maintain the Retail Direct Gilt, RDG Account with RBI.

The apex bank said, as part of continuing efforts to increase retail participation in government securities, the RBI Retail Direct facility was announced earlier this year for improving ease of access by retail investors through online access to the government securities market along with the facility to open their gilt securities account 'Retail Direct' with the RBI. The RDG account can be opened through an online portal provided for the purpose of the scheme.

105. Which among the following country has unveiled one of the world's biggest floating solar

power farms, covering an area the size of 45 football pitches?

- (a) Denmark
- (b) Vietnam
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Norway
- (e) Sweden

Answer: C

Singapore unveiled one of the world's biggest floating solar power farms, covering an area the size of 45 football pitches, as part of the city-state's push to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The project is the country's most ambitious yet, comprising 122,000 panels on Tengeh Reservoir that will produce enough electricity to run its five water treatment plants. Singapore is among the biggest per capita carbon dioxide emitters in Asia and its land scarcity makes boosting renewable energy sources a challenge.

106. The Trade between India and China grew by what % (approx.) in the first half of the financial year broke all records and became highest among China's biggest trade partners?

- (a) 60%
- (b) 66%
- (c) 61%
- (d) 63%
- (e) 65%

Answer: D

India-China trade in the first half of the financial year broke all records, with the foreign trade growing 62.7 per cent year-on-year, which is the highest among China's biggest trade partners.

The remarkable growth in India-China bilateral trade comes in the backdrop of huge military tensions between both the countries across the Line of Actual Control along the border.

The data released by China's General Administration of Customs (GAC) showed China's imports and exports to India reached \$57.48 billion in the first half of the fiscal year. Both imports and exports grew significantly -- imports 69.6 per cent YoY and exports 60.4 per cent YoY, respectively. This is also higher than pre-Covid levels of \$44.72 billion worth trade during H1 FY20.

India exported goods worth \$14.7 billion to China and imported \$42.6 billion worth of goods from the neighbouring country, the Chinese government data shows.

107. India has signed an agreement with which among the following country for the cooperation on coking coal?

- (a) Germany
- (b) South Africa
- (c) China
- (d) Ukraine
- (e) Russia

Answer: E

The Union Cabinet approved a pact between India and Russia regarding cooperation on coking coal, a key steel making raw material, for which domestic players remain dependent on imports from a select group of countries.

Around 85 per cent of India's coking coal demand is met through imports. The cooperation with Russia will help India reduce its dependence on far-located countries like Australia, South Africa, Canada and the US for sourcing of coking coal.

108. In which among the following year, India has set to host the World Badminton Championships?

- (a) 2023
- (b) 2022
- (c) 2026
- (d) 2024
- (e) 2027

Answer: C

India will host the World Badminton Championships in 2026, the sport's global governing body, BWF.

India were scheduled to organise the Sudirman Cup in 2023 but the Badminton World Federation decided to award the hosting rights of the world mixed team championships to China.

The BWF was forced to shift this year's Sudirman Cup from Suzhou, China to Vantaa, Finland due to the COVID-19 situation in the Asian country.

109. The ISRO has successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test of the liquid propellant of

which among the following rocket engine for its Gaganyaan Programme?

- (a) Vikas
- (b) Molniya
- (c) CE-20
- (d) SCE-200
- (e) Akash

Answer: A

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test of the liquid propellant Vikas Engine as part of the engine qualification requirements for its Gaganyaan Programme.

"On July 14, 2021, ISRO has successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test of the liquid propellant Vikas Engine for the core L110 liquid stage of the human-rated GSLV Mk III vehicle, as part of the engine qualification requirements for the Gaganyaan Programme, ISRO stated in a release.

110. Which among the following country has begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One' at the Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant?

- (a) Japan
- (b) China
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Malaysia

Answer: B

China has officially begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One' at the Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant in the country's Hainan Province, the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC).

The multipurpose small modular reactor (SMR) Linglong One – also called the ACP100 — was the first such SMR which was given green signal by the International Atomic Energy Agency in 2016. The ACP100 comes with a generation capacity of 125,000 kilowatt hours, and once completed, it can climb up to 1 billion kilowatt hours, thereby catering to more than 500,000 households in China

111. Which among the following Payment has partnered with Mastercard to launch its new recurring payment interface, MandateHQ, to help banks implement the RBI new rules on automatic debit and recurring payments?

- (a) Innoviti
- (b) PayU
- (c) Razorpay
- (d) Juspay
- (e) Instamojo

Answer: C

Razorpay has partnered with Mastercard to launch its new recurring payment interface, MandateHQ, to help banks implement the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) new rules on automatic debit and recurring payments.

The new platform will help banks adhere to RBI's new framework for implementing recurring payments while also providing a standardised platform for the industry.

112. The Coal Production in India has declined to 716.084 million tonnes during the last fiscal year. Which among the following state has registered a highest coal production of 158.409 MT during In FY 2020-21?

- (a) Chhattisgarh
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Bihar
- (e) Odisha

Answer: A

India's total coal production registered a marginal decline of 2.02 per cent to 716.084 million tonnes during the last fiscal year. The country had produced 730.874 million tonnes (MT) of coal in FY'20, according provisional statistics of 2020-21 of the coal ministry.

Of the total production of 716.084 MT, 671.297 MT was non-coking coal and the remaining 44.787 MT was coking coal, it said. Of the total output of the nation, a chunk of 685.951 MT was produced by the public sector, and the remaining production of 30.133 MT was from the private sector.

In FY 2020-21, Chhattisgarh registered highest coal production of 158.409 MT, followed by Odisha

154.150 MT, Madhya Pradesh 132.531 MT, and Jharkhand 119.296 MT.

113. Which among the following bank has become the second most-valued listed public sector bank with a market-capitalisation of over Rs 50,000 crore?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (c) IDBI Bank
- (d) Indian Overseas Bank
- (e) State Bank of India

Answer: D

Indian Overseas Bank became the second most-valued listed public sector bank with a market-capitalisation of over Rs 50,000 crore.

As Street discounts privatisation of the state-owned lender, its shares have appreciated over 50 per cent on the BSE in the past one month. Effectively, the bank's m-cap has crossed Rs 50,000 crore-mark, surpassing its peers Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bank of Baroda (BOB) in m-cap ranking.

IOB stood with an m-cap of Rs 51,887 crore, pushing PNB (Rs 46,411 crore) and BOB (Rs 44,112 crore) to third and fourth position, respectively, as per data available on BSE.

114. Who among the following ministers has chaired the Meeting of the 8th BRICS Education Ministers in virtual mode?

- (a) Dharmendra Pradhan

(b) Sanjay Dhotre

(c) Narendra Modi

(d) Ramesh Pokhriyal

(e) Jaishankar Prasad

Answer: B

Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre will chair the Meeting of the 8th BRICS Education Ministers in virtual mode. This meeting is being held as part of the 13th BRICS Summit being hosted by India this year. Education Ministers from the five BRICS member states will attend the meeting along with senior officials.

Earlier, the International Governing Board, IGB of the BRICS Network Universities met on 29th of last month, to take a look at the progress made by member states under this initiative so far and discuss ways to take it further. The IGB stressed upon the need to promote development of mechanisms to enhance academic and research collaborations among BRICS member states.

115. The Chartered Accountants Day has been celebrated every year on which among the following date in order to commemorate the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India?

- (a) July 2
- (b) July 4
- (c) July 3
- (d) July 5
- (e) July 1

Answer: E

Chartered Accountants'(CA) Day is celebrated on July 1 every year to commemorate the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), one of the oldest professional institutes in the country. Established in 1949 by the Parliament of India, ICAI is the second largest accounting and a statutory body in the world and India's national professional accounting body. CA Day is celebrated annually to honour around 2.5 lakh members of ICAI and chartered accountants across the globe. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah extended their greetings on the occasion of World CA Day.

116. Which among the following Insurance Company has entered into a corporate agency agreement with Bank of India to distribute its insurance products?

- (a) Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance
- (b) Bharti AXA General insurance
- (c) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (d) Life Insurance Corporation
- (e) Aditya Birla Health Insurance

Answer: C

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, one of the leading private general insurers in India and Bank of India, one of the largest Public Sector Banks in the country have entered into a corporate agency agreement for the distribution of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance's products through the bank's network of 5084

branches, 80 Retail Business Centers and 60 SME City Centers across the country.

As a part of this agreement, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance will be offering a bouquet of personal lines of products such as motor insurance, health insurance, home insurance, travel insurance along with a commercial line of products like engineering insurance, marine insurance to bank's customers.

117. Kaushik Basu has authored a new book on policymaking titled "Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C. He formerly worked as the Chief Economist of which among the following Bank?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) IMF
- (c) AIIB
- (d) EC
- (e) ADB

Answer: A

Indian economist, Kaushik Basu has authored a new book on policymaking titled "Policymaker's Journal: From New Delhi to Washington D.C." the book will be launched on July 06, 2021.

The book narrates Kaushik Basu's experience of his over 7 years career, first in India as Chief Economic Adviser to the Indian Govt and after that as Chief Economist at the World Bank in Washington DC, USA.

118. A fintech provider, Drip Capital has partnered with which among the following Bank to offer trade financing solutions – customized for small and medium-sized exporters in India?

- (a) HSBC Bank
- (b) DBS Bank
- (c) Standard Chartered Bank.
- (d) Barclays Bank
- (e) SBM Bank India

Answer: E

Drip Capital, a fintech provider of cross-border trade finance has tied up with SBM Bank India to offer trade financing solutions – customized for small and medium-sized exporters in India. Owing to this partnership, MSME exporters will be able to avail collateral-free working capital at competitive rates.

In the past, Drip Capital has partnered with several local and international banks to offer its financing solutions to SMEs in developing markets like India and Mexico as well as the US. Since its inception in 2016, the company has worked with over 1,500 sellers and buyers spread across 80+ countries. Recently, it crossed over US\$ 1Bn in cross-border transactions.

119. Harika Dronavalli has become the first finalist of the FIDE Chess.com Women's Speed Chess Championship by defeating Katerina Lagno of which country?

- (a) Italy
- (b) France

- (c) US
- (d) Russia
- (e) Switzerland

Answer: D

Harika Dronavalli (India) became the first finalist of the FIDE Chess.com Women's Speed Chess Championship after defeating Katerina Lagno (Russia) in a very close nail-biting match 14:13. The opponents were going neck-by-neck after the first 5+1 segment, but in the next 3+1 portion, Harika grabbed the one-point lead, which she extended to three points at the start of the 1+1 section. Katerina did not give up and levelled the score after game 20.

120. The Tourism Ministry has signed an MOU with Yatra to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry. The event has been organised by which among the following?

- (a) Quality Council of India
- (b) Ministry of Tourism
- (c) Planning Commission
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both B & C

Answer: D

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India signs Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Yatra to strengthen the Hospitality & Tourism Industry. The event was organized under the arrangement between Ministry of Tourism and Quality Council of India (QCI) for implementing measures for

strengthening the Indian Hospitality & Tourism Industry.

Signing of MOU was done in the presence of Rakesh Kumar Verma, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism; Sanjay Singh, Deputy Director General (H&R), Ministry of Tourism; Dr. A Raj, Senior Director, QCI; Aditya Gupta, Senior Vice President, Yatra and Akshay Mehta, General Manager, Yatra.

121. The RBI has launched the latest round of its quarterly Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey for providing valuable input for monetary policy formulation. The OBICUS Survey was launched in which year?

- (a) 2008
- (b) 2005
- (c) 2007
- (d) 2006
- (e) 2009

Answer: A

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said it has launched the latest round of its quarterly Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilisation Survey (OBICUS) of the manufacturing sector, results of which are used in monetary policy formulation. The Reserve Bank has been conducting the OBICUS of the manufacturing sector on a quarterly basis since 2008. "The survey provides valuable input for monetary policy formulation," the RBI said

while announcing the launch of 54th round of the survey.

122. Which among the following organisation has sanctioned loan worth ₹ 2891.15 lakh under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund to the Government of Goa for 'Construction of Phase II Building of Goa Dental College and Hospital?'

- (a) World Bank
- (b) RBI
- (c) ADB
- (d) NABARD
- (e) AIIB

Answer: D

NABARD has sanctioned loan worth ₹ 2891.15 lakh under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to the Government of Goa for 'Construction of Phase II Building of Goa Dental College and Hospital, Bambolim, Goa.

The social infrastructure created out of the project sanctioned will be the State of the Art 'Dental Hospital' for major dental treatment and for overall improvement in health standards of the people.

123. The Department of School Education of Jammu and Kashmir has topped on which among the following online platform?

- (a) DIKSHA
- (b) NISHTHA
- (c) NAS-NCERT
- (d) Epathshala

(e) UMANG

Answer: B

The Department of School Education, Jammu and Kashmir, has topped the country with some 80600 elementary teachers trained on the online platform, Nishtha, launched by the Ministry of Education, government of India.

The Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Manoj Sinha, after reviewing the functioning of the School Education Department disclosed this in a meeting held here recently.

“Reviewed School Education Department’s functioning. J&K tops the country under NISHTHA programme; 80600 Elementary Teachers Trained through online mode, July 6.

124. Which of the Commodity Exchange has signed an MOU with European Energy Exchange AG for knowledge sharing and exchanging of expertise on electricity derivative product?

- (a) National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange
- (b) India International Exchange
- (c) Multi Commodity Exchange of India
- (d) National Stock Exchange of India
- (e) Bombay Stock Exchange

Answer: C

Multi Commodity Exchange of India and European Energy Exchange AG (EEX) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with the objective of knowledge sharing and exchanging of expertise on electricity derivative products.

This MoU will facilitate cooperation between the two exchanges in areas such as knowledge sharing, education & training and organizing events in the domain of electricity derivatives.

125. Stoliczka vanhnuailianai, a new species has been found in Mizoram, has named after the local warrior Vanhnuailiana. Stoliczka vanhnuailianai is a _____.

- (a) Butter Fly
- (b) Fish
- (c) Lizard
- (d) Mouse
- (e) Snake

Answer: E

In Mizoram, a new snake species gets named after local warrior Vanhnuailiana The team named it Stoliczka vanhnuailianai, in honour of Vanhnuailiana, a famous Mizo warrior. He was one of the most powerful chiefs of the Lushai Hills (now Mizoram) during the mid-1800s and led many successful campaigns against rival chiefs in the area.

The snake is about 50 cm in length, non-venomous, and has a dark brown shade above with a few dorsal scale rows bright yellow in colour. Though the head scales are uniformly dark brown it has bright pinkish sutures.

126. Which among the following UT has rolled out the Lieutenant Governor’s Sustainable Development

Fellowship (LGSDf) for the engineering, management and other graduates?

- (a) Chandigarh
- (b) Jammu and Kashmir
- (c) Pondicherry
- (d) Ladakh
- (e) New Delhi

Answer: B

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha rolled out the Lieutenant Governor's Sustainable Development Fellowship (LGSDf) for the engineering, management and other graduates of J&K. The initiative is aimed to transform the overall delivery structure of the government programmes and make it more efficient, transparent and quite robust in nature.

The programme, which shall be funded by the J&K Administration and implemented in collaboration with IIT, Jammu, will focus on providing immediate catalytic support to improve government service delivery, removing gaps in policy implementation and generating valuable insights for policymakers and implementing agencies.

127. FREO, a Neobank has partnered with HDB Financial Services to cater to the evolving financial needs of new-age consumers. FREO was formerly known as _____.

- (a) RupeeTap
- (b) DollarTap

- (c) EuroTap
- (d) CurrencyTap
- (e) MoneyTap

Answer: E

FREO, India's Neobank, formerly known as MoneyTap, has partnered with HDB Financial Services (HDBFS) to cater to the evolving financial needs of new-age consumers.

HDBFS in partnership with FREO will offer a credit line that enables consumers to get access to credit anywhere, anytime via a smartphone. The partnership also offers consumers high-ticket personal loans of up to INR 10 lacs, which can be utilized for bigger expenses such as home renovation, buying a vehicle, planning a trip, and so forth.

128. The Women's Asian Cup 2022 has been scheduled to be held in Mumbai and Pune after the Asian Football Confederation withdrew the venue from which cities?

- (a) Guwahati and Kolkata
- (b) Bangalore and Bhubaneswar
- (c) Ahmedabad and Bangalore
- (d) Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad
- (e) Bangalore and Kolkata

Answer: D

Next year's women's Asian Cup in India will be held in Mumbai and Pune after the Asian Football Confederation dropped Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad as venues to minimise the travelling

time for participants and ensure an "optimum environment" for a bio-secure bubble.

The Mumbai Football Arena at the Andheri Sports Complex and the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Balewadi, Pune have been chosen as the new venues.

129. The Reserve Bank of India has made an important announcement regarding the interest on the amount left unclaimed after the maturity of which among the following deposit?

- (a) Term deposit
- (b) Recurring Deposit
- (c) Fixed Deposit
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: E

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), made an important announcement regarding the interest on the amount left unclaimed with the bank after a term deposit (TD)/Fixed Deposit (FD) matures.

According to the new rules, if a fixed deposit is matured, but the proceeds are unpaid and remains unclaimed with the bank, then the amount which is not claimed will attract the rate of interest that is applicable to savings account or the contracted rate of interest on the matured FD, depending on which one is lower.

130. Which among the following bank has partnered with TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited to

launch a fully digital network for facilitating electricity bill payment across the state?

- (a) IndusInd Bank
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Punjab National Bank
- (d) Central Bank of India
- (e) Bank of India

Answer: A

IndusInd Bank announced that it has partnered with TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL), a joint venture between Tata Power and the Government of Odisha to launch a fully digital network for facilitating electricity bill payment across the state.

Through its vast network of 'Bharat Money Stores', a proposition by Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited, which is a 100 per cent subsidiary, the bank will enable nearly 30 lakh customers of TPCODL, who are residing in semi-urban and rural areas of the state to pay their bills seamlessly, the company stated in its press release to the exchanges.

131. According to the Land Ports Authority of India, How many Integrated Check Posts will have by India along its land borders by 2025?

- (a) 30
- (b) 27
- (c) 24
- (d) 33
- (e) 49

Answer: C

India will have 24 Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) along its land borders by 2025, said Aditya Mishra, Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) in what could enable better integration of the region and beyond to SE Asia.

The ICPs are entry and exit points on India's land borders and house various facilities such as customs, immigration, and border security, quarantine, among others, within a single facilitation zone.

132. Which among the following payment bank has launched a new 'pay to contacts' facility that allow customers to initiate a UPI payment by simply selecting the recipient's mobile number from their phonebook?

- (a) Jio Payment Bank
- (b) Paytm Payment Bank
- (c) Fino Payment Bank
- (d) India Post Payment Bank
- (e) Airtel Payment Bank

Answer: E

Airtel Payments Bank has launched a new 'pay to contacts' facility, which will allow customers to initiate a unified payments interface (UPI) payment by simply selecting the recipient's mobile number from their phonebook.

'Pay to contacts' displays the valid UPI ID associated with the selected contact, irrespective of the UPI app used by the receiver. This eliminates

the need to enter the UPI ID or bank account details to process the payment and saves time.

A customer can initiate a payment by clicking on the 'Pay Money to Contacts' option under the BHIM UPI section and then selecting the recipient's contact.

133. The National Institute of Biomedical Genomics has created a first ever database in the world called dbGENVOC. The database has a genomic variation in _____.

- (a) Oral Cancer
- (b) Lung Cancer
- (c) Blood Cancer
- (d) Bone Cancer
- (e) Breast Cancer

Answer: A

The National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG) in West Bengal's Kalyani has created a database of genomic variations in oral cancer, the first-of-its-kind in the world. The NIBMG, an institute under the DBT, has made this database publicly-accessible.

The database dbGENVOC is a browsable online database of genomic variants of oral cancer and is a free resource.

The first release of dbGENVOC contains 24 million somatic and germline variants derived from whole exome sequences of 100 Indian oral cancer patients and whole genome sequences of five oral cancer patients from India.

134. Which among the following bank has signed an MOU with the Indian Army to offer a defence service salary package under its "Power Salute" initiative?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) SBI Bank
- (c) BOB Bank
- (d) Axis Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Answer: D

The country's third-largest private lender Axis Bank signed MOU with the Indian Army offering a defence service salary package under its "Power Salute" initiative. According to the bank, it will offer--

Personal accidental cover of up to ₹56 lakh to all army personnel; additional up to 8 lakh education grant; total Permanent Disability Cover benefit up to 46 lakh; permanent partial disability cover of up to ₹46 lakh; air accident cover of ₹1 crore, and free additional debit card for a family member.

The benefits of the MoU will cover both serving Defence personnel as well Defence pensioners

135. The RBI has recently updated that the benchmark securities and Floating Rate Bonds would be issued using _____ method.

- (a) Pay-as-bid auction
- (b) Uniform price auction
- (c) Sealed-bid auction
- (d) Decreasing-price auction
- (e) Multiple price auction

Answer: B

The Reserve Bank of India, noted in a latest update that on a review of market conditions and market borrowing program of the government, it has been decided that benchmark securities of tenor 2-year, 3-year, 5-year, 10-year, 14-year tenor and Floating Rate Bonds (FRBs) will be, henceforth, issued using uniform price auction method.

For other benchmark securities i.e. 30-year and 40-year, the auction will continue to be multiple price-based auction, as hitherto. The above arrangement will continue till further review, note the bank.

136. According to a report by industry body FICCI, Online commerce is likely to reach \$188 billion by _____ year from \$64 billion in 2020.

- (a) 2030
- (b) 2027
- (c) 2033
- (d) 2035
- (e) 2025

Answer: E

Online commerce is projected to touch \$188 billion by 2025 up from \$64 billion in 2020, as covid accelerates adoption of e-commerce, according to a report by industry body FICCI. In the same period, its contribution to the country's GDP is set to rise too, touching 3.8% of the country's gross domestic product by 2025.

The Indian retail industry is set to touch \$1.1 - \$1.3 trillion in value by 2025.

137. The Web Portal of Electrical Inspection Wing has been launched by which among the following state/UT in view of making the services of the Power Development Department easily accessible?

- (a) Jammu & Kashmir
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Sikkim
- (e) Goa

Answer: A

In view of making the services of the Power Development Department easily accessible to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj launched the Web Portal of Electrical Inspection Wing at Jammu.

Highlighting the key features of the newly launched portal, Sinha said that the initiative would make the electrical inspection process more convenient for the public.

138. Which among the following FinTech start-up has launched “Instant Match” application, housing finance industry’s first AI technology-based selection and recommendation engine for home buyers?

- (a) Katherine Technology Solutions
- (b) Rizark Technologies
- (c) Easiloan Techno Solutions
- (d) Iglobal Test Labs
- (e) Indengin Technology Solutions

Answer: C

Easiloan Techno Solutions, a new age FinTech start-up has launched “Easiloan Instant Match” application, housing finance industry’s first Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology-based selection and recommendation engine for home buyers.

With this launch, Easiloan.com aims to address the inefficiencies in the home loan ecosystem by leveraging technology to streamline the loan processes across buyer, developer/seller and lenders. The application brings developers, direct selling agents (DSAs), customers, banks and NBFCs on a single platform for end-to-end digital processing of home loans. The proprietary AI based feature allows customers to compare and choose from shortlisted options based on their profile.

139. The Fourth Lion: Essays for Gopalkrishna Gandhi, a book by Venu Madhav Govindu & Srinath Raghavan consists of _____ essays.

- (a) 30
- (b) 21
- (c) 15
- (d) 26
- (e) 33

Answer: D

Gopalkrishna Gandhi has been an administrator, diplomat, author, and public intellectual of distinction for over four decades.

The Fourth Lion :Essays for Gopalkrishna Gandhi, a festschrift in honour of Gopalkrishna Gandhi by Venu Madhav Govindu & Srinath Raghavan,

consists of twenty-six essays contributed by individuals drawn from various walks of life and from across the globe. Organized into thematic sections—Literature and Culture, History, Environment, Politics and Public Affairs, and Memoirs—the essays speak to concerns, interests and sensibilities that animate our lives.

140. The Rating agency Fitch has lowered India's GDP growth to 10% in FY22. What was its earlier estimation?

- (a) 11.8%
- (b) 12.8%
- (c) 13.8%
- (d) 14.8%
- (e) 15.8%

Answer: B

Global rating agency Fitch slashed its India GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal to 10% from 12.8% expected earlier, stating that renewed restrictions in the wake of the second Covid wave have slowed recovery efforts.

"Fitch believes that rapid vaccination could support a sustainable revival in business and consumer confidence; however, without it, economic recovery would remain vulnerable to further waves and lockdowns," it said.

141. Which among the following General Insurance has launched a comprehensive health insurance plan named 'Arogya Supreme'?

- (a) Life Insurance Corporation
- (b) United India Insurance
- (c) Aditya Birla Health Insurance
- (d) SBI General Insurance
- (e) Max Life Insurance

Answer: D

SBI General Insurance, one of India's leading general insurers, announced the launch of a comprehensive health insurance plan named 'Arogya Supreme'. This specific plan is designed to ensure that customers can have full health insurance coverage, including 20 basic covers and 8 optional covers.

The policy provides a wide range of sum insured options up to ₹5 crore, wherein customers can choose from 3 options viz Pro, Plus and Premium based on the sum insured and coverage features. Among other customer-friendly coverages like Sum Insured Refill, Recovery Benefit, Compassionate Visit, etc. customers also have a facility to choose the policy tenure ranging from 1 to 3 years.

142. Which among the following organisation has found that about 22 million jobs disappeared by the end of 2020 in industrial nations?

- (a) ILO
- (b) OECD
- (c) WTO
- (d) WHO
- (e) UNICEF

Answer: B

Labor markets in developed nations have recovered only half of the loss of employment they suffered in the pandemic, with the young and low-skilled hurt most.

That's the conclusion of a 400-page study by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which found that about 22 million jobs disappeared by the end of 2020 in industrial nations. The Paris-based institution said a full recovery to pre-pandemic levels of employment won't come until the end of next year.

143. The HDFC Ltd has divested 2.46 per cent of its stake worth Rs 37 crore in which among the following Company?

- (a) Oil India
- (b) Reliance Industries Limited
- (c) Hindustan Petroleum
- (d) Bharat Petroleum
- (e) Hindustan Oil Exploration Company

Answer: E

Housing finance major HDFC Ltd has divested 2.46 per cent of its stake in Hindustan Oil Exploration Company (HOECL) for Rs 37 crore.

HDFC held 1,48,26,303 equity shares of HOECL.

The Corporation has sold 32,53,517 shares representing 2.46 per cent of the paid-up share capital of HOECL, HDFC said in a regulatory filing.

144. Which among the following has cleared a provision of using satellite connectivity in telecom

networks to provide services in remote areas where it is difficult to lay optical fibre network?

- (a) DCC
- (b) TRAI
- (c) Department of Telecom mission
- (d) BSNL
- (e) TDSAT

Answer: A

Telecom department's apex body the Digital Communications Commission (DCC) has cleared a provision of using satellite connectivity in telecom networks to provide services in remote areas where it is difficult to lay optical fibre network.

Telecom Secretary Anshu Prakash told that the DCC (formerly the Telecom Commission) has also cleared the Request for Proposal for the rollout of BharatNet project for broadband services in villages in 16 states in public private partnership mode with viability gap funding of Rs 19,041 crore.

145. Which among the following INS has carried out a two-day maritime partnership exercise in the Tyrrhenian Sea with Italian frigate ITS Antonio Marcegaglia?

- (a) INS Kiltan
- (b) INS Chilika
- (c) INS Tabar
- (d) INS Jalaswa
- (e) INS Talwar

Answer: C

Chief of Army Staff Gen M M Naravane met his Italian counterpart Lt Gen Pietro Serino and Defence Minister Lorenzo Guerini in Rome and held extensive talks focusing on strengthening bilateral defence cooperation, including military-to-military engagement.

The Chief of Army Staff arrived in Rome on a two-day visit on the second leg of his two-nation tour of the UK and Italy. Gen Naravane's visit to Italy comes days after Indian naval ship INS Tabar and Italian frigate ITS Antonio Marceglia carried out a two-day maritime partnership exercise in the Tyrrhenian sea.

146. Which among the following company has published its first transparency report under the new IT rules includes the details of complaints received from users in the country?

- (a) Microsoft
- (b) Infosys
- (c) Twitter
- (d) Google
- (e) Amazon

Answer: D

Google India has published its first transparency report under the new IT rules which includes details of complaints received from users in the country and the action taken across Google's platforms that are classified as "significant social media intermediaries (SSMIs)" under the rules.

The report currently covers complaints received and auctioned between April 1 and April 30 this year. Google said there will be a two-month lag on reporting in a bid to allow sufficient time for data processing and validation.

147. Which among the following country has developed the world's tallest sandcastle towering more than 20 metres high and comprising nearly 5,000 tonnes of sand?

- (a) Switzerland
- (b) Denmark
- (c) Ukraine
- (d) France
- (e) Singapore

Answer: B

The world's tallest sandcastle has been completed in Denmark, towering more than 20 metres high and comprising nearly 5,000 tonnes of sand, according to its designers.

Standing 21.16 metres in height (69.4 feet), the castle is more than 3 metres taller than one built in Germany in 2019, which previously held the title, according to Guinness World Records.

A total of 4,860 tonnes of sand make up the intricately decorated structure, which is reminiscent of a pyramid, in the small seaside town of Blokhust.

148. The Coal India Ltd has inked a pact for purchase of _____ Russian rope shovels for nearly Rs 1,462 crore.

- (a) 19
- (b) 15
- (c) 11
- (d) 13
- (e) 10

Answer: C

State-owned Coal India Ltd (CIL) has inked a pact for purchase of 11 Russian rope shovels for nearly Rs 1,462 crore.

Electric rope shovels play a vital role in opencast mines for loading of material.

"In an ongoing process of modernising its ageing heavy earth moving machinery fleet, Coal India Ltd (CIL) closed a deal valued at nearly Rs 1,462 crore for purchase of 11 20-cubic metre electric rope shovels," the PSU said in a statement.

149. Which among the following organisation has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation with Japan Fair Trade Commission to promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy?

- (a) FICCI
- (b) CCI
- (c) RAW
- (d) QCI
- (e) Planning Commission

Answer: B

Solution: The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Memorandum on Cooperation (MoC) between

Competition Commission of India (CCI) and Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) to promote and strengthen cooperation in the matter of Competition Law and Policy.

Primary Tag: International

Secondary Tag: Outline

150. 'One Mumbai Metro Card' has been launched by Mastercard, Mumbai Metro and which among the following country to ensure contactless and cashless travel for Mumbaikars?

- (a) Axis Bank
- (b) Punjab National Bank
- (c) Indian Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) State Bank of India

Answer: A

Mastercard, Mumbai Metro and Axis Bank announced the launch of 'One Mumbai Metro Card', to ensure contactless and cashless travel for Mumbaikars.

The 'One Mumbai Metro Card' offers salient features such as contactless, simplicity of use and top-up, speed and convenience for one's metro fare as well as other daily spends such as grocery, restaurants and shopping. It is relevant in facilitating safe and seamless metro commute without the need to queue up anywhere, in times of social distancing and for hassle-free daily payments. One can get the 'One Mumbai Metro Card' from Mumbai Metro Station counters.

151. Which among the following institute has partnered with Axis Bank to launch a FinTech Professional Programme for FinTech Professionals for Axis Bank?

- (a) Manipal University
- (b) NIBM
- (c) NIIT IFBI
- (d) NIFM
- (e) IIBS

Answer: C

NIIT Institute of Finance Banking and Insurance (NIIT IFBI) - a subsidiary of NIIT, and Axis Bank have launched a FinTech Professional Programme under the Axis Bank - NIIT Digital Banking Academy.

The course is designed to build future ready FinTech Professionals for Axis Bank.

The FinTech Professional Programme is the first programme being launched under this Academy and offers graduates with 0-3 years of experience an opportunity to join Axis Bank as Deputy Manager (IT)

152. Which among the following country has used a laser-powered canon to destroy a drone in a test of technology that hope to protect the Paris 2024 Olympic Games?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Italy
- (c) Brazil

- (d) Saudi Arabia
- (e) France

Answer: E

The French military used a laser-powered canon to destroy a drone in a test of technology that the government hopes will be used to protect the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The prototype tested can detect lightweight commercial drones from a distance of up to 3 km (1.8 miles), track them and destroy them once they approach within 1 km of the canon.

153. SEBI has recently relaxed the timelines for bourses to modify commodity derivative contracts. What are the reduced days of advance intimation for all the three categories of commodity derivatives contracts?

- (a) 10 days
- (b) 20 days
- (c) 30 days
- (d) 15 days
- (e) 25 days

Answer: A

SEBI relaxed the advance intimation requirement for exchanges for carrying out modifications in the contract specifications of commodity derivatives contracts.

The move is aimed at bringing in uniformity while giving effect to the contract modifications so that they have the desired impact and the modified contract represents a healthy replica of the physical

market, Sebi said in a circular. "It has been decided, in consultation with the stock exchanges, to reduce the number of days of advance intimation for all the three categories i.e. Category A, Category B and Category C, to 10 days," the regulator said.

At present, the advance intimation timelines are 10 days for category first and 30 days for category second and category third contract modifications.

154. Daren Sammy has been appointed as the brand ambassador of FUN88. FUN88 is a _____based platform.

- (a) Fashion
- (b) Medical
- (c) Fitness
- (d) Sports
- (e) Electronics

Answer: D

FUN88, the leading sports platform announced the signing of Daren Sammy as its brand ambassador. Sammy is a two time T20 World Cup winning captain for West Indies with a strong fan following in India and the sub-continent.

Sammy has also played professionally in the Indian Premier League for Hyderabad. FUN88 is a renowned brand in the global & Indian sports domain with an offering of real time news and analysis on various sports leading with cricket, tennis, football, kabaddi and much more.

155. The Software Technology Parks of India has recently signed six MOU to strengthen the collaborative start-up ecosystem in the country. STPI has not signed an MOU with which among the following?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Coolworks
- (c) Mathworks
- (d) YES Bank
- (e) Freshworks

Answer: B

Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an organization under the IT ministry, has signed six memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with Bank of Baroda, YES Bank, Mathworks, YourStory, Freshworks and Pontaq, as it looks to strengthen the collaborative startup ecosystem in the country. STPI has been working for the startup ecosystem in the country and creating 28 Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in emerging technologies.

The MoUs are intended to promote entrepreneurship and create a nurturing ecosystem for STPI CoEs in areas such as digital and mobile payments, blockchain, IoT, big data, and other emerging technologies.

Through the MoU, MathWorks will offer one year of free access to its software tools including MATLAB, Simulink and 90 other products for CoEs.

156. The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty on 14 banks. The highest penalty

of Rs 2 crore has been imposed on which of the following bank?

- (a) Bandhan Bank
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) IndusInd Bank
- (d) Central Bank of India
- (e) Bank of Baroda

Answer: E

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty on 14 banks, including State Bank of India (SBI), Bandhan Bank, IndusInd Bank, Bank of Baroda (BoB), Central Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by them. The penalty ranges from Rs 50 lakh to Rs 2 crore, with SBI being charged Rs 50 lakh and BoB Rs 2 crore.

157. Toni Kroos, a Football Player has announced his retirement from International Football. He hails from which country?

- (a) France
- (b) Morocco
- (c) Germany
- (d) Netherlands
- (e) Argentina

Answer: C

Germany's World Cup-winning midfielder Toni Kroos announced retirement from international football. In a statement, Kroos said that he had already planned to retire after Euro 2020, and he knew he will not feature in the 2022 World Cup.

158. The Debit and credit cards issued by the banks has now come with a complimentary personal accident insurance cover. All supporting documents relating to the claim must be submitted within _____ days from the date of intimation.

- (a) 90 days
- (b) 60 days
- (c) 30 days
- (d) 15 days
- (e) 3 days

Answer: B

Debit and credit cards issued by banks come with a complimentary personal accident insurance cover, which not many customers are aware of.

For instance, under the Rupay insurance programme, claim intimation should be done within 90 days from the date of accident and all supporting documents relating to the claim must be submitted within 60 days from the date of intimation. It also said the cardholder should have done an active transaction (either a financial or non-financial transaction) 90 days prior to the date of accident.

159. Manu Sawhney has recently resigned from the International Cricket Council. He served as _____ in ICC.

- (a) Chairman
- (b) Director
- (c) MD
- (d) CEO

(e) President

Answer: D

International Cricket Council (ICC) CEO Manu Sawhney resigned from his position, four months after his allegedly “abrasive conduct” came under the scanner during an internal investigation, prompting the world body to send him on leave. Sawhney is the former CEO of Singapore Sports Hub and also served as Managing Director of ESPN Star Sports, a company he worked with for 17 years. He is also a non-executive director and member of the Audit Committee of Manchester United Ltd.

160. The Reserve Bank has asked banks and financial institutions to use ARR instead of LIBOR as the reference rate for entering into new financial contracts. What does ‘A’ mean in ARR?

- (a) Alternative
- (b) Accepted
- (c) Additional
- (d) Authority
- (e) Administrative

Answer: A

The Reserve Bank asked banks and financial institutions to use any widely accepted Alternative Reference Rate (ARR) instead of LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rates) as the reference rate for entering into new financial contracts.

The Reserve Bank's directive follows a decision of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), UK which on March 5, 2021 had announced that all LIBOR

settings would either cease to be provided by any administrator or would no longer be representative. In order to deal with the emerging situation, the RBI has asked banks and financial institutions to "cease entering into new financial contracts that reference LIBOR as a benchmark and instead use any widely accepted alternative reference rate (ARR), as soon as practicable and in any case by December 31, 2021."

161. A new book titled 'The Art of Conjuring Alternate Realities: How Information Warfare Shapes Your World' has been authored by whom among the following?

- (a) Rajesh Gupta
- (b) Shivam Shankar Singh
- (c) Anand Venkatanarayanan
- (d) Both A & C
- (e) Both B & C

Answer: E

A new book titled 'The Art of Conjuring Alternate Realities: How Information Warfare Shapes Your World', authored by Shivam Shankar Singh and Anand Venkatanarayanan. The Book is Published by HarperCollins.

The Book deals with human history, societal control was determined by various hierarchies like military, colonialism, mega-corporations and now by information. This book widely talks about how information warfare is shaping your life and world.

162. According to BP's Statistical Review of World Energy report, Which among the following country has become the fourth-largest supplier of crude oil to India in 2020?

- (a) Iraq
- (b) Saudi Arabia
- (c) US
- (d) Denmark
- (e) UAE

Answer: C

The United States became the fourth-largest supplier of crude oil to India in 2020, according to BP's latest report.

The US supplied 10.7 million tonnes of crude oil to India in 2020, behind Iraq's 47 million tonnes, Saudi Arabia's 38 million tonnes, and UAE's 22 million tonnes, said the BP's Statistical Review of World Energy.

The US supply accounted for about 5% of India's total imports of 204 million tonnes in the year, a big jump for the country which had started exporting oil to India in 2017. It also turned out to be the fourth-largest natural gas supplier to India in 2020.

163. Which among the following ministry has announced that India Industrial Land Bank would achieve pan-India integration by December 2021?

- (a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Defence
- (d) Ministry of Public & Personnel

(e) Ministry of Finance

Answer: A

The India Industrial Land Bank will achieve pan-India integration by December 2021, said Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The system has been integrated with industry-based GIS systems of 17 states so that details can be updated on the portal on a real-time basis, the ministry further added. The India Industrial Land Bank, or IILB, is a GIS-based portal that acts as an one-stop repository of all industrial infrastructure-related information, including connectivity, infrastructure, natural resources and terrain, plot-level information on vacant plots, line of activity, and contact details.

164. What is the Budget tabled by the West Bengal government for 2021-22, with special focus on social service expenditure, education and health care?

- (a) Rs 2.08 Lakh Crore
- (b) Rs 4.08 Lakh Crore
- (c) Rs 1.08 Lakh Crore
- (d) Rs 3.08 Lakh Crore
- (e) Rs 6.08 Lakh Crore

Answer: D

The West Bengal government tabled a Rs 3.08-lakh crore Budget for 2021-22, with special focus on social service expenditure, education and health care.

Industry minister Partha Chatterjee presented the budget in the state Assembly in place of finance minister Amit Mitra who is not keeping well.

165. Which among the following organisation has joined with leading public health experts, vaccine regulators and policymakers to form an advisory group for Covid-19 vaccines?

- (a) World Bank
- (b) ADB
- (c) RBI
- (d) IMF
- (e) AIIB

Answer: B

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has joined with leading public health experts, vaccine regulators and policymakers to form an advisory group to provide its developing member countries (DMCs) with expert technical and scientific advice on the quality, safety and effectiveness of vaccines for coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.

The regional vaccine advisory group will help ADB and its DMCs better understand regulatory oversight, risk management strategies and pharma co-vigilance needed to safely introduce and monitor vaccine rollouts.

166. Who among the following has been appointed as the interim Prime Minister of Haiti?

- (a) Joseph Lambert
- (b) Emmanuel Jeff
- (c) Claude Joseph
- (d) Mackenson Samuel
- (e) Ricardo Jeff

Answer: A

The Haitian Senate appointed Joseph Lambert, current head of the upper house, as provisional president of the Republic and denied the authority of the interim Prime Minister, Claude Joseph, who has been in power since the assassination of Jovenel Moise with the support of the UN and the United States.

The resolution, signed by eight of the ten senators who are still active, considers that Claude Joseph was dismissed from his post, in the previous decree signed by Moise before his murder.

167. Which of the organisation along with United Nations Environment Programme has said that human-wildlife conflict would cause one of the greatest threats to wildlife species?

- (a) WCS
- (b) NWF
- (c) PETA
- (d) WWF
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

A global report released by World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has said that human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is one of the greatest threats to wildlife species. It called for maintaining connectivity for wildlife through human-dominated spaces as many species have adapted to exploit and utilize these areas, bringing difficult deliberations and delicate

negotiations about land-sharing and land-sparing to the forefront.

168. The Reserve Bank of India has announced the cut-off yield for the new 10-year bond at _____% per annum.

- (a) 6.6%
- (b) 6.10%
- (c) 6.5%
- (d) 6.2%
- (e) 6.7%

Answer: B

The Reserve Bank of India announced the cut-off yield for the new 10-year bond at 6.10% per annum, higher than that of the current benchmark, signalling a slight tolerance for a higher yield after months of trying to keep it at 6% or less.

RBI sold ₹14,000 crore of the new 2031 bond as part of the ₹26,000 crore planned weekly government security auction.

169. India along with which country has hold the inaugural meeting of the Financial Markets Dialogue virtually?

- (a) US
- (b) UAE
- (c) France
- (d) Italy
- (e) UK

Answer: E

India and the United Kingdom held the inaugural meeting of the India-UK Financial Markets Dialogue virtually. The Dialogue was established at the 10th Economic and Financial Dialogue in October last year to deepen bilateral ties in the financial sector. The Dialogue was led by senior officials from the Indian side by the Ministry of Finance and from UK Treasury, with participation from Indian and UK independent regulatory agencies, including the Reserve Bank of India, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, International Financial Services Centre Authority, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India, the Bank of England, and the Financial Conduct Authority.

170. Scientists have recently found that the first reference-grade whole genome sequence of a highly salt-tolerant and salt-secreting true-mangrove species called _____.

- (a) *Bruguiera gymnorhiza*
- (b) *Excoecaria agallocha*
- (c) *Avicennia marina*
- (d) *Sonneratia caseolaris*
- (e) *Ceriops tagal*

Answer: C

Scientists at the DBT-Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, and SRM-DBT Partnership Platform for Advanced Life Sciences Technologies, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Tamil Nadu, have reported for the first time a reference-grade whole genome sequence of a highly salt-tolerant

and salt-secreting true-mangrove species, *Avicennia marina*.

171. The BRICS member countries have agreed STI-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action during _____th meeting of the grouping's science & technology steering committee Plan.

- (a) 12th
- (b) 15th
- (c) 11th
- (d) 13th
- (e) 10th

Answer: A

BRICS member countries have agreed to a Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)-led BRICS Innovation Cooperation Action Plan (2021-24) proposed by India during 12th meeting of the grouping's science & technology steering committee. India had proposed facilitating sharing of experiences of each other's innovation ecosystem and networking of innovators and entrepreneurs. The details will be worked out by BRICS Science, Technology Innovation Entrepreneurship partnership (STIEP) working group.

172. India has signed a Letter of Exchange with which country to facilitate the import and export of goods through the Indian railway freight services?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Pakistan

- (d) Sri Lanka
- (e) Nepal

Answer: E

India and Nepal have signed a Letter of Exchange (LoE), to revise the 2004 India-Nepal Rail Services Agreement (RSA) and which will facilitate the import and export of goods through the Indian railway freight services.

A virtual ceremony was held to exchange notes verbales and signed copies of the LoE, between the two governments, as per the release from Indian Embassy in Kathmandu.

173. The position of chairman at which among the following insurance company has been abolished by the government recently?

- (a) Max Life Insurance Company
- (b) Aditya Birla Health Insurance
- (c) Life Insurance Corporation
- (d) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- (e) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance

Answer: C

As the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) readies itself for public listing, the government has abolished the position of chairman at the insurer, which will have a chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director (MD).

The changes have been notified by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) through rules in the LIC Act, 1956. Various rules have been amended in the

LIC Act to replace the post of chairman and create the position of CEO.

The insurer will continue with the post of MD. Both CEO and MD will be appointed by the central government.

174. Which among the following Firing Range has been named after the Bollywood actress Vidya Balan?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) Ladakh
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Gulmarg
- (e) Shillong

Answer: D

Vidya Balan is on a professional high. The actress is basking in the success of her recently-released Amazon Prime Video film 'Sherni' and was recently invited to join the board of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

And now, the Indian Army has given the 'Kahaani' actress another reason to celebrate.

The Armed Forces named one of its military firing ranges after Balan as a way to recognise her contribution to cinema. The Vidya Balan Firing Range is located in Gulmarg, Kashmir.

Earlier this year, the actress and her husband producer Siddharth Roy Kapur had attended the Gulmarg Winter Festival organised by the Indian Army.

175. Which among the following organisation has reported that third wave of COVID-19 may hit India in August, peak in September?

- (a) WHO
- (b) SBI
- (c) RBI
- (d) EU
- (e) World Bank

Answer: B

India may see the much-feared third wave of the coronavirus pandemic from the middle of August and the COVID-19 cases would peak in September, said a report by the State Bank of India (SBI) while the country is still fighting with the second wave.

The report, "COVID-19: the race to finishing line," was published by SBI Research on July 5.

"Going by the current data, India can experience daily COVID-19 cases around 10,000 somewhere around the second week of July.

176. Who among the following minister has addressed the 16th annual conference on 'Road Development in India virtually?

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Rajnath Singh
- (d) Nirmala Sitharaman
- (e) Nitin Gadkari

Answer: E

Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari on July 09 addressed the 16th annual

conference on 'Road Development in India', via video conferencing. Addressing a virtual event, Gadkari said the Central government is investing 1.4 trillion dollars (Rs 111 lakh crores) in infrastructure development through National Infrastructure Pipeline.

177. Which among the following bank has announced its first derivative transaction linked to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate to replace LIBOR?

- (a) Punjab National Bank
- (b) Indian Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) Central Bank of India
- (e) Bandhan Bank

Answer: C

Private sector lender Axis Bank announced its first derivative transaction linked to the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR).

SOFR, an alternative reference rate, is the recommended US dollar interest rate benchmark expected to replace Libor at the end of 2021.

178. As per the Oxfam Report, how many people has died each minute because of Hunger?

- (a) 11 People
- (b) 13 People
- (c) 10 People
- (d) 12 People

(e) 15 People

Answer: A

Each minute 11 people die of hunger and there is a 6-fold increase (compared to last year) in the number of people threatened over famine-like conditions, as per the report titled "The Hunger Virus Multiplies" released by global anti-poverty organisation 'Oxfam'.

The report also states that the global death toll of 11/minute from famine outpaces that of COVID-19 (7 deaths/minute).

179. The Indian researchers have spotted an extremely luminous powerful, hydrogen deficient, fast-evolving _____.

- (a) Superluminous Superanovae
- (b) Superluminous Superiornovae
- (c) Superluminous Supremenovae
- (d) Superluminous Supernovae
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

In a step towards probing the mysteries of the early universe, the Indian researchers have spotted an extremely luminous, powerful, hydrogen deficient, fast-evolving supernova that shines with the energy borrowed from an exotic type of neutron star with an ultra-powerful magnetic field. Supernovae (SNe) are extremely bright, super-powerful explosions of dead stars in the universe and the Superluminous Supernovae (SLSNe) among them are exceptionally rare.

180. Which among the following has launched a global Mobility Aids Action Group to examine and improve the transport journey of mobility aids?

- (a) AAI
- (b) IATA
- (c) DGCA
- (d) ACI
- (e) None of these

Answer: B

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a global Mobility Aids Action Group to examine and improve the transport journey of mobility aids, including wheelchairs, with the objective of improving the handling of this vital equipment for travelers with disabilities, the global airline association said in a statement.

The action group will be the first of its kind aimed at tackling issues around the safe and secure transport of mobility aids—an issue of huge importance to a growing number of travelers, IATA said.

181. The International Malala Day has been observed in which among the following date?

- (a) July 11
- (b) July 13
- (c) July 14
- (d) July 12
- (e) July 10

Answer: D

International Malala Day is celebrated every year on July 12 to salute the Pakistani activist, Malala Yousafzai. July 12 also marks her birthday, therefore the UN promptly declared that the day will now be observed as 'Malala Day' to honor the young activist.

182. The EXIM bank has extended a USD 35.26 million loan for a power transmission project by Kalpataru Power Transmission. Kalpataru Power Transmission is located in which city?

- (a) Senegal
- (b) Ghana
- (c) Cameroon
- (d) Republic of Mali
- (e) Dakar

Answer: A

The Export Import (Exim) Bank of India said it has extended a USD 35.26 million loan for a power transmission project being executed by Kalpataru Power Transmission in Senegal.

The buyer's credit facility was extended under the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) scheme, which provides a safe mode of financing option to Indian project exporters backed by cover from NEIA Trust, as per an official statement.

183. The Vice President Venkaiah Naidu has received the first copy of the English translation of Thummeti Raghothama's book- Terrace Garden:

Midde Thota. The book was initially written in which language?

- (a) Marathi
- (b) Sanskrit
- (c) Telugu
- (d) Kannada
- (e) Assamese

Answer: C

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu received the first copy of the English translation of Thummeti Raghothama Reddy's book- Terrace Garden: Midde Thota. The book, originally written in Telugu, chronicles Mr Reddy's successful journey of developing a fruitful terrace garden at Naarapalle, Hyderabad. Mr Naidu commended the translator Koduru Sitarama Prasad and the publisher Yadlapalli Venkateswara Rao for their efforts in bringing out the book.

The book 'Terrace Garden: Midde Thota' gives an insight into the practical methods and techniques that can be adopted while cultivating a terrace garden. The Vice President urged the people with empty spaces at home to try cultivating gardening as a hobby.

184. Sirisha Bandla from Andhra Pradesh became _____ Indian-origin woman to head to space when she flies as part of Virgin Galactic's first fully crewed flight test.

- (a) Second
- (b) Sixth

(c) First

(d) Fifth

(e) Third

Answer: E

Sirisha Bandla, a 34-year-old aeronautical engineer, is set to become the third Indian-origin woman to head to space when she flies as part of Virgin Galactic's first fully crewed flight test.

Bandla, who was born in Guntur district in Andhra Pradesh and brought up in Houston, Texas, will join Sir Richard Branson, the company's billionaire founder, and five others on board Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo Unity to make a journey to the edge of space from New Mexico

185. Yashpal Sharma has passed away recently. He was associated with which among the following sports?

- (a) Golf
- (b) Cricket
- (c) Football
- (d) Tennis
- (e) Hockey

Answer: B

Former Indian cricketer and 1983 World Cup winner Yashpal Sharma passed away due to a cardiac arrest.

"Yashpal Sharma passed away around 7:40 in the morning due to cardiac arrest. He made his Test debut for India on the tour of England in 1979 and played the last of his 37 Tests in October 1983. He

scored an unbeaten century against Australia in Delhi, while his highest Test score of 140 was scored in Chennai against England. He scored 1606 runs at an average of 33.45 in Test cricket.

186. The UEFA European Championship 2020 has won by Italy after defeating which among the following country at the Wembley Stadium?

- (a) England
- (b) Argentina
- (c) Netherland
- (d) Germany
- (e) Australia

Answer: A

The champions of the 2020 UEFA European Championship are Italy. Roberto Mancini's side have defeated England at the Wembley Stadium on penalties. Italy prevailed in the penalty shoot-out 3-2 to win their second Euro title. Luke Shaw scored a beautiful volley inside 2 minutes to give England a 1-0 lead at half-time. Leonardo Bonucci leveled with a close-range finish as the match went into extra time.

187. The IMF Executive directors has allocated new Special Drawing Right of _____ Billion to help boost global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- (a) \$ 750 Billion
- (b) \$ 650 Billion
- (c) \$ 850 Billion
- (d) \$ 700 Billion

(e) \$ 600 Billion

Answer: B

Executive directors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have had initial discussions on a possible new Special Drawing Right (SDR) allocation of 650 billion U.S. dollars to help boost global recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

188. The Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has allocated ₹2.5 lakh to whom among the following whose family income is less than ₹5 lakh?

- (a) Students
- (b) Nurses
- (c) Street Vendors
- (d) Widows
- (e) Sanitary Workers

Answer: D

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched a scheme wherein social and financial security would be provided to women who have lost their husbands to the coronavirus disease. Under the 'Chief Minister's COVID-19 Widows Support Scheme', a one-time assistance of ₹2.5 lakh each will be given to such women whose family income is less than ₹5 lakh.

189. The National Fish Farmers Day has been celebrated on 10th July of every year. This year marks _____ National Fish Farmers Day.

- (a) 20th
- (b) 13th

- (c) 19th
- (d) 22nd
- (e) 21st

Answer: E

The 21st National Fish Farmers' Day 2021 was observed in Manipur. On the occasion, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh announced that the State Government would provide loans with 50 percent grant to fish farmers who produce local fish Sareng (Wallago Catfish) and instructed the Fisheries Department to introduce a scheme in this regard soon. The Chief Minister also distributed cash rewards to the winners of Best Fish Farmers 2020 during the function.

The National Fish Farmers Day is celebrated on 10th July every year in memory of scientists Dr K. H. Alikunhi and Dr H. L. Chaudhary for their successful demonstration of Hypophysation (technology of induced breeding) in Indian Major Carps on 10th July 1957.

190. Which among the following Small Finance Bank has received the Reserve Bank of India's nod to apply for amalgamation of the promoter into itself?

- (a) Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- (b) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- (c) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (d) Capital Small Finance Bank
- (e) AU Small Finance Bank

Answer: C

Equitas Holdings, the promoter of Equitas Small Finance Bank (SFB), said the bank has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) nod to apply for amalgamation of the promoter into itself.

As per the SFB licensing guidelines of RBI, a promoter of SFB can exit or cease to be a promoter after the mandatory initial lock-in period of five years (initial promoter lock-in) depending on RBI's regulatory and supervisory comfort and SEBI regulations at that time.

191. "A New Cold War: Henry Kissinger and the Rise of China", a collection of critical essays has been edited by whom among the following?

- (a) Sanjaya Baru
- (b) Rahul Sharma
- (c) C Raja Mohan
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both B & C

Answer: D

A collection of critical essays examines the impact, consequences and legacy of the then US National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger's secret visit to China in 1971 and how it has shaped world order. "A New Cold War: Henry Kissinger and the Rise of China", edited by Sanjaya Baru and Rahul Sharma, has contributions from Teresita Schaffer, Kanti Bajpai, Hoo Tiang Boon, Sujan Chinoy, Bill Emmott, Frederic Grare, Quah Say Jye and C Raja Mohan among others.

After Kissinger made the door-opening visit to China in July 1971 to meet top Chinese leaders, it inaugurated a new phase not just in US-China relations but in contemporary history.

192. P K Warriar has passed away recently. He was associated with which among the following field?

- (a) Politics
- (b) Medicine
- (c) Sports
- (d) Journalism
- (e) Business

Answer: B

Dr P K Warriar, who popularised Ayurveda, died in Kerala's Kottakal a month after celebrating his 100th birthday on June 8,. Decorated with the country's third and fourth highest civilian awards -Padma Bhushan in 2010 and Padma Shri in 1999 - Warriar was also a freedom fighter. He was known as a connoisseur of arts, an author and a teacher.

193. The Andhra Pradesh State government has signed MOU with _____Companies to provide permanent women empowerment and livelihood to six lakh women through the YSR Cheyutha scheme.

- (a) 20
- (b) 17
- (c) 11
- (d) 19
- (e) 14

Answer: E

The State government of Andhra Pradesh signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with 14 companies in order to provide permanent women empowerment and livelihood to six lakh women through the YSR Cheyutha scheme.

At a programme held in the Panchayat Raj Commissioner's office in Tadepalli, officials exchanged papers in the presence of the Ministers' Committee, which included Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy (Panchayat Raj and Rural Development), Botcha Satyanarayana (Municipal Administration and Urban Development), K Kannababu (Agriculture), and Seediri Appala Raju (Animal Husbandry).

The ministers stated that the government provides Rs 75,000 to each eligible woman in four instalments and that Rs 8,000 crore has been given to 24 lakh women in two instalments so far under the YSR Cheyutha scheme. Previously, the government reached agreements with six major corporations.

194. Viswanathan Anand has recently finished second in which among the following Tour by defeating Garry Kasparov?

- (a) Italy Grand Chess Tour
- (b) Austria Grand Chess Tour
- (c) Serbia Grand Chess Tour
- (d) Argentina Grand Chess Tour
- (e) Croatia Grand Chess Tour

Answer: E

Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand finished second in the Croatia Grand Chess Tour. Anand put on a brilliant performance and defeated his rival Garry Kasparov. Anand had also crushed Kasparov on the first day of the Blitz. Playing with white pieces, Anand beats the 13th world champion in half an hour in the fourth round of the Blitz event. On the first day of the Blitz, the Former World Champion recorded four wins, drawn three matches, and suffered two defeats.

195. Who among the following has released the book 'Palleku Pattabhishekam' authored by former MP Shri Yalamanchili Sivaji?

- (a) Narebdra Singh Tomar
- (b) Venkaiah Naidu
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Ramnath Kovind
- (e) Narendra Modi

Answer: B

Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu said that providing better prices for agri produce and timely, affordable credit to farmers are crucial to sustain agriculture in the country.

Releasing the book 'Palleku Pattabhishekam' by former MP Shri Yalamanchili Sivaji at Dr Marri Channa Reddy Human Resource Development Institute in Hyderabad, the Vice President said that villages and agriculture are intrinsically connected and we must address their issues holistically to bring 'Gram Swarajya' to our villages.

196. Which among the following has become the first cricketer in the world to score 14000 runs in T20 cricket?

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) AB de Villiers
- (c) Rohit Sharma
- (d) Chris Gayle
- (e) Dwayne Bravo

Answer: D

The West Indies batsman Chris Gayle became the first cricketer in the world to score 14000 runs in T20 cricket, prompting to term him the 'Sachin Tendulkar of T20s'. Gayle achieved the landmark with a match-winning half-century against Australia in the 3rd T20I, which helped West Indies beat the visitors by six wickets and seal the five-match series.

The left-hander, who was already the highest run-scorer of the shortest format, got to the landmark 14000 runs when he reached his fifty off 33 balls against Australia.

197. The ISRO has successfully launched which among the following satellite on board GSLV F10 rocket from Sriharikota?

- (a) GISAT-1
- (b) ScatSat-1
- (c) GSAT-31
- (d) RISAT-1
- (e) Cartosat-2

Answer: A

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is getting back into launch activity fully at Sriharikota spaceport with the planned orbiting of geo imaging satellite GISAT-1 on board GSLV-F10 rocket on August 12.

It's going to be only the second launch of the Bengaluru-headquartered space agency in the COVID-19-hit 2021.

ISRO successfully launched PSLV-C51 mission on February 28 with Brazil's earth observation satellite Amazonia-1 and 18 co-passengers, including some built by students, on board.

198. What is the authorised capital for the National Asset Reconstruction Company incorporated by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs?

- (a) Rs 200 crore
- (b) Rs 150 crore
- (c) Rs 300 crore
- (d) Rs 50 crore
- (e) Rs 100 crore

Answer: E

The National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) is a legal entity now and has been registered with the Registrar of Companies (RoC) Mumbai. According to data available with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), NARCL was incorporated on July 7 with an authorised capital of Rs 100 crore and paid-up capital of Rs 74.6 crore. The Indian Banks Association (IBA) is likely to

approach the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) this week to seek an ARC (asset reconstruction company) licence

199. Which among the following mobile app has been launched by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, a one-stop solution catering to the needs of residents and tourists?

- (a) myJammu
- (b) mySrinagar
- (c) my Kashmir
- (d) myJ&K
- (e) None of these

Answer: B

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched the "mySrinagar" -- a one-stop solution catering to the needs of residents and tourists by integrating all available e-services offered by various departments and tourism-related information "in both offline and online modes".

An official spokesman said the "mySrinagar" mobile app also has emergency helpline service.

The "mySrinagar" app will work as a robust mechanism facilitating real-time information dissemination to the user, besides making information related to tourist attractions and destinations in Srinagar city available on a single platform, the spokesman said.

200. 'CUSAT' has become the North India's first Satellite launched for the advanced training program

Important Monthly Current Affairs MCQ's PDF – July 2021

for the students in the field of Aerospace Engineering. The satellite has been launched by which University?

- (a) Delhi University
- (b) Guru Nanak Dev University
- (c) Chandigarh University
- (d) SRM University
- (e) Panjab University

Answer: C

Chandigarh University has launched Student Satellite Designing and Training program 'CUSAT' and it has become North India's first University to launch the advanced training program for the students in the field of Aerospace Engineering. India has already helped countries like U.A.E, Singapore, Thailand, France, Spain, and others countries to launch their satellite which will help them in communication, navigation, and in other programs also.

July 3rd week Current Affairs MCQ

1. Recently, Bandaru Dattatreya sworn in as the 18th governor of Haryana. He succeeded whom among the following?

- (a) Satyadeo Narain Arya
- (b) Manohar Lal Khattar
- (c) B.D. Mishra
- (d) Jagdish Mukhi
- (e) J.B. Patnaik

Answer: A

Former Union minister Bandaru Dattatreya sworn in as the 18th governor of Haryana.

Dattatreya was administered the oath of office by Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice Ravi Shanker Jha.

He was the minister of state for labour and employment in the NDA government headed by

Narendra Modi in 2014 and was also part of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee cabinet earlier.

Dattatreya was governor of Himachal Pradesh. He succeeds Satyadeo Narain Arya.

2. In July, 2021, Government of Haryana has set up India's first-ever 'Grain ATM' as a pilot project in which of the following districts of the state?

- (a) Faridabad
- (b) Gurugram
- (c) Ambala
- (d) Karnal
- (e) Panipat

Answer: B

The Haryana government has set up India's first-ever 'Grain ATM' as a pilot project in Gurugram.

The newly installed machines can dispense approximately 70 kg of grains in five to seven minutes' time.

It is installed under the 'World Food Programme' of the United Nation.

It aims to provide relief to the consumers who wait in long queues to get the ration.

Three types of grains - wheat, rice, and millet can be distributed through this machine.

3. Recently, RBI cancelled the license of Dr Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar Urban Co-operative Bank due to inadequate capital. The bank is based in which district of Maharashtra?

- (a) Solapur
- (b) Thane
- (c) Latur
- (d) Aurangabad
- (e) Bhandara

Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India cancelled the license of Dr Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd, Nilanga, Latur, as it does not have adequate capital and earning prospects and as such, it does not comply with the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The Maharashtra-based bank with its current financial position would be unable to pay its depositors in full, the central bank said while announcing the cancellation of its licence.

The bank ceases to carry on banking business, with effect from the close of business.

4. Name the airport from where India's First pod taxi service will be operated.

- (a) Jewar Airport
- (b) Rajkot Airport
- (c) Purandar Airport
- (d) Sindhudurg Airport
- (e) Kalyani Airport

Answer: A

Indian Port Rail and Ropeway Corporation Ltd (IPRCL) has prepared a Detailed Project Report or DPR for the pod taxi service between Noida Airport at Jewar and Film City.

This is a 14 km stretch.

This will be India's first pod taxi service.

Pod taxis can accommodate four to six passengers per car.

There are plans to run a driverless taxi between the two destinations.

5. In July, 2021, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the International Cooperation and Convention Centre, 'Rudrakash'. The Center is located in which of the following States?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Maharashtra

Answer: C

PM inaugurated & laid foundation stones of multiple development projects in Varanasi worth more than ₹1500 cr. at IIT-BHU.

He also inaugurated the International Cooperation and Convention Centre, 'Rudrakash', which has been constructed with Japanese assistance.

PM inaugurated projects worth around ₹744 cr. & laid foundation stones of several projects & public works worth ₹839 cr

Varanasi is the PM's constituency.

6. As per UNICEF, Which country has the highest number of under-vaccinated or unvaccinated children worldwide?

- (a) South Africa
- (b) China
- (c) India
- (d) Bangladesh
- (e) Pakistan

Answer: C

India has the highest number of under-vaccinated or unvaccinated children worldwide at 3.5 million, an increase of 1.4 million from 2019, amid the pandemic outbreak.

It also noted that over 3 mn zero-dose children in 2020 lived in India.

At nearly 4.4 million, South Asia recorded the highest number of children having failed to receive routine vaccination in the past 10 years.

Just 10 countries account for 62% of all under- or unvaccinated children globally.

7. Which edition of BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting was chaired by the Union Minister for Labour Employment Bhupendra Yadav in July 2021?

- (a) 5th
- (b) 7th
- (c) 9th
- (d) 4th
- (e) 3rd

Answer: B

Minister for Labour Employment Bhupender Yadav chaired the 7th BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meeting under India's Presidency.

Discussion on 4 priority areas of cooperation took place viz., Promoting Social Security Agreements amongst BRICS Nations; Formalisation of Labour Markets; Participation of Women in Labour Force; & Gig & Platform Workers: Role in Labour Market.

Significant aspect of the meeting was adoption of BRICS Labour Ministers' Declaration.

8. 'Mathrukavacham', a covid vaccination campaign to vaccinate all pregnant women has been launched by which among the following state?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Kerala

(e)Karnataka

Answer: D

The Kerala government's campaign 'mathrukavacham' to vaccinate all the pregnant women in the state against COVID-19 infection was inaugurated at the district level recently.

Spot registrations for vaccination of pregnant women would be carried out at various government hospitals.

Pregnant women can receive the COVID vaccine at any time during their pregnancy.

The special vaccination drive comes as a strong defense to protect pregnant women.

9. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recently launched an Artificial Intelligence powered grievance management application in New Delhi. The system was developed by which of the following IIT's?

- (a) IIT Pune
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Kanpur
- (d) IIT Ropar
- (e) IIT Roorkee

Answer: C

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched an Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered grievance management application in New Delhi.

The system was developed by the Ministry of Defence with the cooperation of IIT-Kanpur.

This is the 1st AI-based system developed to improve grievance redressal in the Government.

The system can identify repeat complaints or spam automatically.

10. How much amount has been approved by the cabinet to provide subsidies to Indian shipping companies in global tenders floated by ministries and CPSEs for import of government cargo?

- (a) 1524 crores
- (b) 1624 crores
- (c) 1264 crores
- (d) 1364 crores
- (e) 1024 crores

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet approved a scheme to provide Rs 1,624 crore over 5 years as a subsidy to Indian shipping companies in global tenders floated by ministries and CPSEs for the import of government cargo.

The subsidy support would be extended only to those ships which have bagged the award after the implementation of the scheme & ships older than 20 years would not be eligible.

Currently, the Indian fleet comprises a meagre 1.2% of the world fleet in terms of capacity.

The share of Indian ships in the carriage of India's EXIM trade has drastically declined from 40.7% in 1987-88 to about 7.8% in 2018-19.

11. Recently, an MoU was signed between the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Department of

Biotechnology for co-operation in the field of

_____.

- (a) Polar regions
- (b) Indian Ocean
- (c) Earthquake prone areas in India
- (d) Himalyan region
- (e) Arctic region

Answer: A

An MoU was signed between the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) for cooperation in the area of polar biology.

The MoU envisages mutual collaboration to explore the possibility of cooperation, convergence, and synergy to bring out the expertise and services of both organizations under one roof and work hand-in-hand for addressing relevant questions in the field of polar biology.

The MoES has research stations in both the Arctic and the Antarctica regions.

12. Name the official cheer song for Team India for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics created by AR Rahman and Ananya Birla.

- (a) Feel Good
- (b) Hindustan Meri Jaan
- (c) Chak De India
- (d) Cheer4India
- (e) Hindustani Way

Answer: E

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur launched Team India's official cheer song 'Hindustani Way' for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. The song, created by AR Rahman and Ananya Birla, was unveiled ahead of the highly-anticipated Tokyo Olympics which is scheduled to commence from July 23 and conclude on August 8.

India is sending their biggest contingent to the Tokyo Olympics 2020 with 126 athletes across 18 sporting disciplines set to represent the country.

13. Indian Council of Agriculture Research has celebrated its 93rd foundation day virtually on July 16. Name the Present director of the organisation.

- (a) Nitin M Nagarkar
- (b) GR Chintala
- (c) Randeep Guleria
- (d) Vishnu Vardhana Rao
- (e) Trilochan Mohapatra

Answer: E

Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) celebrated its 93rd foundation day virtually on July 16.

'Kisan Sarathi', a digital platform to facilitate farmers to get 'right information at right time' in their desired language, was launched

ICAR Headquarters: New Delhi

ICAR Director: Trilochan Mohapatra

14. Which among the following railway station has been finally renamed as Banaras by the North eastern railways?

- (a) Ghazipur railway station
- (b) Manduadih railway station
- (c) Suraimanpur railway station
- (d) Muzzampur railway station
- (e) Bhatni railway station

Answer: B

Solution:

The Manduadih railway station has been finally renamed as Banaras by the North eastern railways (NER).

The newly painted signboards were put up with Banaras written in Hindi, Sanskrit, English, and Urdu.

The code for the station with the new identity will now be 'BSBS'

The name 'Banaras' has returned on the map of Indian Railways after a gap of 64 years.

15. Veteran actress Surekha Sikri passed away recently. She was awarded with how many national awards during her lifetime?

- (a) 2
- (b) 5
- (c) 3
- (d) 1
- (e) 4

Answer: C

Veteran actress Surekha Sikri passed away in Mumbai.

An Alumni of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and the National School of Drama (NSD) Surekha Sikri was awarded with 3 national awards.

She is also a recipient of Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 1989.

16. Which among the following companies has recently announced a new Bitcoin based business for its financial payments company Square?

- (a) Whatsapp
- (b) Google
- (c) Twitter
- (d) Facebook
- (e) Microsoft

Answer: C

Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey has announced plans to create a new business focused on building an open developer platform for Bitcoin for his financial payments company Square.

Called 'TBD,' the new business joins existing payments services like Seller, Cash App and Tidal.

17. In July 2021, PM Modi has inaugurated a revamped railway station in which one of the following places in Gujarat?

- (a) Ahmedabad
- (b) Gandhinagar
- (c) Jamnagar
- (d) Vadnagar

(e)Rajkot

Answer: D

Recently, in July 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated a revamped Vadnagar railway station.

He also flagged off the Gandhinagar-Varetha Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) train which passes through Vadnagar.

PM Modi also inaugurated a five-star hotel atop the redeveloped Gandhinagar railway station and some new attractions at Science City in Ahmedabad.

18. Which among the following cities has partnered with Google to provide real-time bus tracking services to commuters?

- (a)Delhi
- (b)Chandigarh
- (c)Bengaluru
- (d)Mumbai
- (e)Gurugram

Answer: A

The Delhi government has collaborated with Google to launch a system to enable commuters to track bus locations, arrival and departure times, and routes on a real-time basis on their smartphones.

Users will get an estimation of how long their trip is going to take, and if their bus is delayed.

Google Transit will automatically update the times in line with the new conditions

19. Recently, Bank of Maharashtra signed an MoU with NABARD to boost developmental initiatives linked to priority sector lending in Maharashtra.

Where is the headquarters of Bank of Maharashtra situated?

- (a)Mumbai
- (b)Pune
- (c)Surat
- (d)Aurangabad
- (e)Nashik

Answer: B

Bank of Maharashtra has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) to boost ongoing developmental initiatives linked to priority sector lending in Maharashtra.

The MoU envisages joint initiatives for the benefit of farmers, farmer producer organisations, joint liability groups, self help groups, rural artisans, weavers, agripreneurs, agri start-ups, micro, small and medium enterprises in the State.

About Bank of Maharashtra:

Headquarters: Pune

CEO: A.S Rajeev

About NABARD:

Headquarters: Mumbai

Chairman: GR Chintala

20. When is the World day for International Justice observed across the globe every year?

- (a)15th July

(b)19thJuly

(c)17thJuly

(d)23thJuly

(e)20thJuly

Answer: C

The World Day of International Justice is observed every year on July 17 to recognize the efforts of the international justice system and strengthen it.

On this date, the International Criminal Court was formally established in 2002, following the adoption of the Rome statute in 1998.

The theme for this year's World day for International Justice is 'Social justice in the digital economy'.

21.Which state government has released the Retail Parks Policy 2021-2026 to boost retail trade within the state?

(a)Madhya Pradesh

(b)Odisha

(c)Andhra Pradesh

(d)Maharashtra

(e)Gujarat

Answer: C

The Andhra Pradesh government in July 2021, came out with the 'Retail Parks Policy 2016-2021' with the objective of catalyzing growth and providing thrust to development of the retail sector in the state. Through the new policy, the state expects to attract new investments to the tune of Rs 5,000 crore in the retail sector by the year 2026.

The AP Retail Parks Policy is spurred by the Government of India's reforms to attract Foreign Direct Investment in the retail industry.

The policy will also encourage skill development, create more employment opportunities for all sections of the society involved in retail trade and strengthen the existing unorganized retail sector.

22.Which automobile giant has planned to set up a new plant in Haryana with an annual production capacity of 7.5-10 lakh units?

(a)Toyota

(b)Volkswagen

(c)Hero MotoCorps

(d)Maruti Suzuki

(e)Mahindra & Mahindra

Answer: D

Maruti Suzuki has decided to set up a new plant in Haryana with an annual production capacity of 7.5-10 lakh units.

The project will see an investment of around Rs. 18,000 crore.

The upcoming factory will replace the brand's Gurugram-based facility as the automaker wants to shift production away from the latter due to logistical constraints.

23.A tri-nation table top maritime exercise, 'Exercise Shield' was held between India, Sri Lanka and which other nation through virtual mode on 14th and 15th July?

- (a)Maldives
- (b)Malaysia
- (c)Singapore
- (d)Thailand
- (e)Australia

Answer: A

A Tri Nation Table Top Anti-Narcotics & Maritime Search and Rescue exercise (Exercise Shield) between Maldives National Defence Force, Sri Lanka Navy and Indian Navy was conducted in virtual mode for the first time on 14 and 15 July 2021 with Indian Navy as the lead agency.

The exercise was coordinated by the Maritime Warfare Centre (MWC), Mumbai.

The exercise was focused at enhancing maritime security cooperation and mutual understanding, exchange of best practices/procedures for countering common trans-national maritime crimes such as narcotics smuggling, evolving modalities for exchanging information/intelligence and to assist each other in Maritime Search and Rescue.

24. With which country, Pakistan signed an agreement for the construction of about 1100 km gas pipeline from Port Qasim in Karachi to Lahore?

- (a)China
- (b)Russia
- (c)France
- (d)Germany
- (e)UAE

Answer: B

Pakistan and Russia have signed an agreement for the construction of about 1,100-km gas pipeline from Port Qasim in Karachi to Lahore at an estimated cost of USD 2.5-3 billion by the end of 2023.

The project is called the Pakstream Gas Pipeline Project commonly known as North-South Gas project.

It will enable LNG imports from such gas producers as Oman, Qatar, Russia, the US, and Australia to deliver gas to customers in Pakistan's interiors, such as power plants, factories, and cities.

25. How many new routes have been launched by the government to boost regional connectivity from Madhya Pradesh to Maharashtra and Gujarat?

- (a)4
- (b)6
- (c)8
- (d)10
- (e)12

Answer: C

The Civil Aviation Ministry launched eight new routes to bolster the aerial connectivity from Madhya Pradesh to Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Operations will be started in eight new routes including Gwalior-Mumbai-Gwalior, Gwalior-Pune-Gwalior, Jabalpur-Surat-Jabalpur, and Ahmedabad-Gwalior-Ahmedabad route.

The commencement of these routes fulfils the objectives of the Ministry of Civil Aviation to enhance

the regional connectivity of the Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities with the metro cities of the country.

26. Recently, the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd has issued operational guidelines for the credit guarantee scheme. What is the total value in rupees for the credit guarantee scheme?

- (a) 10000 crore
- (b) 20000 crore
- (c) 30000 crore
- (d) 40000 crore
- (e) 50000 crore

Answer: E

In a bid to improve medical infrastructure in non-metros, the National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC) issued operational guidelines for the Rs 50,000-crore credit guarantee scheme.

The scheme was announced as part of Rs 6.29-lakh-crore stimulus package last month by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The loans under the Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Sectors (LGSCAS) would be available at a concessional rate of not more than 7.95 per cent, as was announced by the financial minister and later approved by the Union Cabinet.

27. Who among the following has developed an automated technology for the collection of toilet waste from running trains?

- (a) Anindya Sinha

(b) Avinash Kumar

(c) Shekar Chaudhari

(d) V Venkateswara

(e) R.V. Krishnaiah

Answer: E

An Indian scientist, R.V. Krishnaiah has developed an automated technology for the collection of toilet waste, which is easy to maintain and seven times cheaper than the bio-toilets used by the Indian Railways.

The technology developed with support from the Advanced Manufacturing Technologies programme of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), aligned with the 'Make in India' initiative has been granted five National patents and is in the testing phase.

In contrast with Bio toilets which cost one lakh per unit, the new technology brings down the cost to Fifteen thousand rupees only.

28. Which country's parliament has passed a bill to provide legal assistance in international criminal matters to fulfil the conditions set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

(a) Pakistan

(b) Iran

(c) Iraq

(d) Afghanistan

(e) North Korea

Answer: A

Pakistan's parliament has passed a bill for providing legal assistance in international criminal matters as part of efforts to fulfil the conditions set by the global financial watchdog FATF

The bill called the Mutual Legal Assistance (Criminal Matters) Amendment Bill was passed by the Senate, the upper house amidst protest by the Opposition.

Pakistan was placed on the grey list by the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in June, 2018 and was given a plan of action to complete it by October, 2019.

29. Recently, Google cloud has launched its new cloud region in Delhi-NCR region to serve its customers in India and Asia-Pacific. How many Google cloud regions are there across the world in total?

- (a) 20
- (b) 22
- (c) 24
- (d) 26
- (e) 28

Answer: D

Google Cloud launched its new cloud region in Delhi-NCR (National Capital Region) to serve its customers in India and Asia-Pacific. This new Google Cloud region is the second such in India after Mumbai and the 10th in Asia-Pacific.

As the second cloud region, customers are expected to benefit from improved business continuity planning, while maintaining data sovereignty. Totally, 26 Google Cloud regions are present across the world.

30. The first ever monk fruit cultivation begins in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu. The fruit is mainly cultivated in which country?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Bhutan
- (d) Thailand
- (e) China

Answer: E

The 'monk fruit' from China, which is known for its properties as non-caloric natural sweetener, was introduced for field trials in Himachal Pradesh by the Palampur-based Council of Scientific Research and Industrial Technology-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT) in Kullu. This is the first ever monk fruit cultivation exercise in India

The monk fruit (*siraitia grosvenorii*), is known for its intensely sweet taste

31. As per the WWF-UNEP report, how much percentage of India's tiger ranges falls outside the protected areas?

- (a) 40%
- (b) 35%

(c)48%

(d)30%

(e)52%

Answer: B

A new report by WWF and UNEP has found that 35 per cent of India's tiger ranges currently lie outside protected areas.

The report, A Future for All – A need for Human-Wildlife Coexistence, examined increasing human-wildlife conflict, and has found that marine and terrestrial protected areas only cover 9.67 per cent globally.

Apart from India's tigers, 40 percent of the African lion range and 70 per cent of the African and Asian elephant ranges fall outside protected areas, finds the report.

32.Which among the following international airports has signed an agreement with Noida International Airport Limited for the development of the Noida Airport?

- (a)Zurich International Airport
- (b)Fort Worth International Airport
- (c)Tokyo Haneda International Airport
- (d)Singapore Changi Airport
- (e)Munich Airport

Answer: A

Zurich Airport International signed a shareholder agreement with the Uttar Pradesh government's entity NIAL in Lucknow for the development of the Noida International Airport.

YIAPL is a 100% subsidiary of Zurich Airport International and has been incorporated to develop the Noida International Airport in Jewar, which is around 70 km from Delhi.

33.Which state has set to introduce the 'One Block, One Product' scheme to empower small industries in rural areas of the state?

- (a)Odisha
- (b)Gujarat
- (c)Haryana
- (d)Bihar
- (e)Uttar Pradesh

Answer: C

To encourage and promote small industries in the rural areas, the Haryana government will soon introduce the 'One Block, One Product' scheme.

Under the scheme, the state government plans to connect every block of the state with some industrial vision.

Arrangements for common services, lab testing, packaging, transportation, accountancy will be set up in the cluster itself.

34.Which among the following companies has acquired a controlling stake of 66.95% in 25-year old search engine platform Just Dial?

- (a)Reliance Industries
- (b)Microsoft Inc
- (c)Google
- (d)Facebook

(e)Adani Groups

Answer: A

Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) is acquiring a controlling stake of 66.95% in 25-year-old search engine platform Just Dial for Rs 5,719 crore.

RRVL will acquire 25.33% in Just Dial through a preferential allotment at Rs 1,022.25 per share and take another 15.62% from its founder VSS Mani at Rs 1,020 per share would make an open offer to acquire up to 26%.

35.Name the AI-algorithm recently developed by IIT -Madras to spot cancer-causing mutations.

- (a)Cancer AI
- (b)TensorFlow
- (c)DNA Drive
- (d)Self Aware
- (e)NBDriver

Answer: E

NBDriver (neighbourhood driver) is an AI tool which can be used in analyzing the cancer-causing mutations in cells. This AI tool has been developed by researchers working at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M)

The tool is used to differentiate between passenger and driver mutations using the features derived from the neighbourhood sequences of somatic mutations.

36.Which among the following countries has launched a programme called 'Tax Inspectors without Borders' in partnership with India?

(a)Bangladesh

(b)Pakistan

(c)Nepal

(d)Bhutan

(e)Sri Lanka

Answer: D

Recently, Bhutan's Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme launched in partnership with India. TIWB, a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), launched its programme in Bhutan.

India was chosen as the Partner Jurisdiction and has provided the Tax Expert for this programme. The focus of the programme will be in the area of International Taxation and Transfer Pricing.

About Bhutan

Capital:Thimphu

Currency, Ngultrum

37.Who among the following has written the book titled 'The India Story'?

- (a)Dr. Bimal Jalan
- (b)Dr Raghuram Rajan
- (c)Dr. Manmohan Singh
- (d)Dr. A Subramanian
- (e)Dr. Raja Chelliah

Answer: A

Former RBI governor Bimal Jalan writes a new book titled 'The India Story'

The book focuses on India's economic history and aims to provide lessons for the future of India's political economy.

Bimal Jalan also authored the books 'India Then and Now', 'India Ahead', 'Politics Trumps Economics' (2012), the latter co-authored with economist Pulapre Balakrishnan.

38. Which one of the following countries' Prime Minister-Designate Saad Hariri has resigned after failing to form a government?

- (a) Syria
- (b) Turkey
- (c) Israel
- (d) Lebanon
- (e) Iran

Answer: D

Lebanon's Prime Minister-Designate Saad Hariri resigns after failing to form a government.

Lebanon President Michel Aoun tasked Mr. Hariri in October 2020 to form a new government after the last one collapsed in the aftermath of the deadly Beirut explosion in August 2020 that destroyed much of the capital.

Mr. Hariri is the second prime minister-designate to give up trying to form up a government amid a deadlock among the country's ruling elite.

About Lebanon

Capital: Beirut

Currency: Lebanese pound

39. Who among the following has been renamed as Press Attache of India's Olympic contingent by Indian Olympic association?

- (a) Rajeev kumar
- (b) Raman Bhalla
- (c) B.K Sinha
- (d) HC awasthy
- (e) Rakesh Kumar

Answer: C

Indian Olympic Association has appointed retired IPS officer B K Sinha, who will perform the dual role of Security as well as Press Attache of the country's contingent at Tokyo Games, which begins on July 23.

India will be represented by a 228-strong contingent, including 119 athletes, at the Tokyo Olympics, which is being held under strict health protocols sans spectators.

BK Sinha is a former Haryana DGP and also a recipient of the President's Police Medal.

40. Bashar al-Assad recently sworn in as the President of Syria . He has been in power since _____.

- (a) 2000
- (b) 1995
- (c) 1990
- (d) 2005
- (e) 2010

Answer: A

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad sworn in for fourth seven-year term.

He officially won 95% of the vote in an election dismissed abroad. U.S. and European officials have questioned the legitimacy of the election.

In power since 2000, Assad's re-election in a landslide was never in doubt. His new term starts with the country still devastated by 10 years of war and sliding deeper into a worsening economic crisis.

The U.N. estimates that more than 80% of Syrians live under the poverty line.

41. Manufacturing of high-speed rail trains recently began in Gujarat's Savli for which among the following high speed rail corridors?

- (a) Mumbai-Ahmedabad
- (b) Delhi-Meerut
- (c) Varanasi-Howrah
- (d) Mumbai-Hyderabad
- (e) Chennai-Mysore

Answer: B

Recently, in July 2021, manufacturing of high-speed rail trains for Delhi-Meerut RRTS project began in Gujarat.

Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) trains are 100% indigenously manufactured, with over 80% localisation and are being manufactured in Alstom's factory in Savli (Gujarat).

This facility will produce the bogies, car bodies and undertake train testing. The propulsion systems and

electricals are being manufactured at the company's factory in Maneja (Gujarat)

42. In July 2021, which among the following countries handed over the first two MH-60R multi role helicopters to India?

- (a) Russia
- (b) France
- (c) Japan
- (d) US
- (e) UK

Answer: D

Recently, in July 2021, US Navy handed over the first two MH-60R multi role helicopters to India.

The Indian Navy is procuring 24 of these helicopters manufactured by Lockheed Martin under foreign military sales from the US government at an estimated cost of USD2.4 billion.

The MH-60R helicopter is an all-weather helicopter designed to support multiple missions with state-of-the-art avionics.

43. Indian photojournalist Danish Siddiqui was killed in Kandahar, Afghanistan, recently. In which year, he won the Pulitzer prize in feature photography?

- (a) 2016
- (b) 2017
- (c) 2018
- (d) 2019
- (e) 2020

Answer: C

Pulitzer Prize-winning Indian photojournalist Danish Siddiqui has been killed in Afghanistan while covering the region's escalating conflict for Reuters.

A Reuters photographer since 2010, Siddiqui's work spanned the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Rohingya refugee crisis, the Hong Kong protests and Nepal earthquakes.

In 2018, he won the Pulitzer Prize in feature photography.

44.Ministry of Electronics and Information

Technology has signed an MoU with which among the following to enable map services in UMANG App?

- (a)MapsofIndia
- (b)MapmyIndia
- (c)Bhuvan
- (d)Bharats Maps
- (e)NICMAPS

Answer: B

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology enables map services in UMANG App through MoU with MapmyIndia.

As a result of integration of UMANG with MapmyIndia, citizens will be able to find government facilities nearest to their location, such as mandis, blood banks and much more, at the click of a button.

Besides, they will also be able to view the driving distance, get directions and turn by turn voice and visual guidance to locations, including traffic and road safety alerts. The UMANG mobile app launched in 2017.

45.Recently the Indian Academy of Highway Engineers has signed a pact with the university of which country for setting up a centre of excellence?

- (a)Australia
- (b)US
- (c)Germany
- (d)UK
- (e)Japan

Answer: A

The Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE), under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORTH), has signed an Agreement with University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia for setting up a Centre for Advanced Transportation Technology and Systems (CATTS) at IAHE, Noida.

46.National Commission for Women has signed an MoU with Bureau of Police Research and Development for gender sensitization of police personnel. When is the National Commission for Women set up?

- (a)1990
- (b)1991
- (c)1992
- (d)1994

(e)1998

Answer: C

The National Commission for Women has signed an MoU with the Bureau of Police Research and Development for gender sensitization of police personnel across the country.

Gender sensitization of police personnel with respect to legislation and policies concerning women, bringing attitudinal and behavioural changes in police are the objectives of the programme.

About National Commission for Women

Chairperson: Rekha Sharma

Formed: 1992

47. An international collaboration of astronomers has identified a curious occurrence of how many stars like objects that appear and vanish in a small region within half an hour in an old photographic plate?

- (a)6
- (b)8
- (c)9
- (d)11
- (e)7

Answer: C

An international collaboration of astronomers has identified a curious occurrence of nine stars-like objects that appeared and vanished in a small region within half an hour in an old photographic plate.

Scientists from Sweden, Spain, USA, Ukraine, and India, including Dr. Alok C. Gupta, Scientist from ARIES, investigated an early form of photography that used glass plates to capture images of the night sky from the 12th of April 1950, and detected these transient stars which were not to be found in photographs half an hour later and not traced since then.

Such a group of objects appearing and disappearing at the same time have been detected for the first time in the history of astronomy.

48. Which among the following companies in partnership with NASSCOM foundation has skilled 5000 underserved youth in data science from Karnataka, Telangana and Delhi-NCR region?

- (a)Microsoft
- (b)Infosys
- (c)Google
- (d)IBM
- (e)Reliance

Answer: D

IBM Corporation in partnership with Nasscom Foundation has skilled about 5,000 underserved youth in data science and cloud computing, from Karnataka, Telangana, and Delhi-NCR.

IBM and NASSCOM Foundation worked with 23 colleges to certify enrolled students on IBM certified courses on emerging technologies including Data science and Cloud computing in 2019.

This unique program engaged students with an on-campus, 250 hour-long blended training model that uses online and face-to-face training to build skills in new-age technologies like Data Science and Cloud Computing in its first year.

The program pivoted into a completely online mode of education and learning due to COVID based restrictions in 2020.

49. India's independent data center provider, Web Werks has signed an MoU with which state government to set up a data center in the state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Telangana
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Answer: A

Independent data centre provider Web Werks signed an MoU with the Government of Karnataka to set up a data centre in Bengaluru.

Web Werks will be investing ₹750 crore in the project which will be fully operational in two years.

The data centre which will be located in Whitefield, will be spread across 1.25 lakh sq ft and have a potential of up to 20 MW with further expansion possibilities.

The Government of Karnataka will aid this development through facilitating required permissions, registrations, approvals, and clearances through a single window clearance.

50. Which of the following states has presented a 566.20 crore rupees deficit state budget for the year 2021-22, on July 16, 2021?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Assam
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: C

In Assam, Finance minister Ajanta Neog presented a 566.20 crore rupees deficit state budget for the year 2021-22.

The budget promised to provide 1 lakh rupees each to the next of kin of COVID victims.

In a bid to give a boost to the health infrastructure, 1000 sub centres would be converted to hospitals.

The budget also proposed to set up 1000 model Anganwadi Centres with Child Care facilities.

51. 16th July, 2021 marked the 111st birth anniversary of which among the following freedom fighters, was popularly known as 'Golden Old Lady'?

- (a) Matangini Hazra
- (b) Aruna Asaf Ali
- (c) Lakshmi Sahgal
- (d) Usha Mehta
- (e) Sarojini Naidu

Answer: B

July 16, 2021, marked the 111th birth anniversary of freedom fighter Aruna Asaf Ali.

She is widely remembered for hoisting the national flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay during Quit India Movement in 1942.

She was popularly known as the "Golden Old Lady" of India's Independence Movement for her bravery.

52. Name the former Indian opener who has been appointed as the Chief Coach for the Odisha Cricket Team for two seasons.

- (a) Shiv Sunder Das
- (b) Wasim Jaffer
- (c) Vikram Rathore
- (d) Sanjay Bangal
- (e) Bharat Arun

Answer: B

The former India opener Wasim Jaffer has been appointed as chief coach for the Odisha cricket team for two seasons.

Prior to this, Jaffer was the head coach of the Uttarakhand Ranji Trophy team for the year 2020-21.

Jaffer played 31 Tests for India and scored 1944 runs with the highest score of 212.

53. How much amount has been donated by Jeff Bezos to the world's largest museum 'Smithsonian'?

- (a) \$100 million dollar
- (b) \$150 million dollar
- (c) \$200 million dollar
- (d) \$300 million dollar
- (e) \$500 million dollar

Answer: C

Amazon founder and soon-to-be-space traveller Jeff Bezos is donating \$200 million to the Smithsonian Institution to boost its National Air and Space Museum, the largest gift received by the institution since its founding in 1846.

The Smithsonian said \$70 million of the money would support museum renovations.

The other \$130 million would go toward building a new education center at the museum called the Bezos Learning Center to inspire students to promote innovation and explore careers in science, math and engineering.

This historic gift will help the Smithsonian achieve its goal of reaching every classroom in America by creating a world-class learning center.

54. Which of the following banks has tied up with Visa to issue fresh credit cards?

- (a) RBL Bank
- (b) Federal Bank
- (c) Axis Bank
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Answer: A

RBL Bank has tied up with card network Visa Worldwide to issue fresh credit cards after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had barred Mastercard Asia/Pacific from issuing new cards in India.

The bank currently has 3 million credit card customers and is the fifth largest credit card issuer in the country with roughly 5% market share.

55. The Chhattisgarh government has cancelled how many MoUs signed between different departments and companies between 2001 and 2018?

- (a) 129
- (b) 135
- (c) 158
- (d) 146
- (e) 163

Answer: C

The Chhattisgarh government has canceled 158 memorandums of understanding (MoUs) signed between various departments and companies between 2001 and 2018, as no progress has been made in their execution.

According to an official statement, 103 out of 158 MoUs were signed during the Global Investors Meet in 2012 during the tenure of the Raman Singh-led BJP government in the state.

A decision in this regard was taken in the 15th meeting of the State Investment Promotion Board under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the official said.

56. The All India Council for Technical Education has permitted B.Tech programs in how many regional languages on 17th July 2021?

- (a) 7

(b) 9

(c) 11

(d) 13

(e) 15

Answer: C

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted BTech programs in 11 regional languages, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced on. These languages are Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Gujarati, Malayalam, Bengali, Assamese, Punjabi and Odia.

57. Harela, the festival to commemorate the new harvest as the monsoon start. It is celebrated in which of the following states?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Assam
- (d) Meghalaya
- (e) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: A

Harela, the festival commemorating the new harvest in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand, was celebrated.

Harela is celebrated as the monsoon starts and is considered one of the most important festivals in the entire Kumaon region.

To celebrate this festival dedicated to Hindu gods Shiva and Parvati saplings are planted by various societies, associations, and the government.

58. Recently, Odisha government has announced a _____ Crore Covid assistance to Mission Shakti to support 70 lakh women under self -help group.

- (a) 453.5 crore
- (b) 356.5 crore
- (c) 253.5 crore
- (d) 556.5 crore
- (e) 653.5 crore

Answer: A

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has announced Rs 453.5 crore Covid assistance to Mission Shakti which will provide support to 70 lakh women under self -help group.

Each of the 336 Mission Shakti federations will get an assistance of Rs 50 Lakh for the construction of block level Mission Shakti Bhawans, totalling Rs 169 crores.

A fund of Rs 84.5 crore has been provided for business development.

59. Nelson Mandela International Day or Mandela Day has celebrated on which of the following days annually?

- (a) 16th July
- (b) 17th July
- (c) 18th July
- (d) 19th July
- (e) 20th July

Answer: C

Nelson Mandela International Day is observed on 18 July worldwide to remind the contributions of Mandela to the culture of peace, human rights, reconciliation and freedom.

This day was first celebrated on July 18, 2010, after the United Nations in November 2009 officially declared Nelson Mandela International Day.

Originally, this day was Mandela's idea to celebrate his birthday as Mandela Day.

In 2014, the UN General Assembly introduced the Nelson Mandela Prize, an award recognising the achievements of those who dedicate their lives to the service of humanity.

60. Name the documentary which was directed by Mumbai-based filmmaker and director Payal Kapadia, won the Golden Eye award for the best documentary at the 74th Cannes festival on July 17th 2021.

- (a) And What is the Summer Saying
- (b) A Night of Knowing Nothing
- (c) Last Mango Before the Monsoon
- (d) Afternoon Clouds
- (e) The Velvet Underground

Answer: B

A Night of Knowing Nothing, directed by Payal Kapadia, won the Oeil d'or (Golden Eye) award for best documentary at the 74th Cannes Film Festival on July 17.

The Mumbai-based filmmaker's first feature bagged the prestigious prize in a field made up of 28

documentaries presented across various sections of the festival.

A Night of Knowing Nothing screened as part of the Directors' Fortnight, a section that runs parallel to the festival.

61. In July 2021, the Haryana government got in principle approval from the central government to set up a cultural center in which city of the state?

- (a) Gurugram
- (b) Karnal
- (c) Kurukshetra
- (d) Faridabad
- (e) Ambala

Answer: C

Haryana Government has got in-principle approval from the Central Government to set up a 'Cultural Centre' in Kurukshetra

Apart from this, the Centre and Haryana Government will work jointly to expand and develop the famous 'International Surajkund Craft Mela' into a grand affair for which a comprehensive plan has been formulated.

62. Recently, the government notified a hike in FDI limit in pension fund to 74%. What was the previous limit?

- (a) 51%
- (b) 65%
- (c) 33%
- (d) 49%

(e) 27%

Answer: D

Government notified a hike in the foreign direct investment limit in pension fund management to 74% from 49% under the national pension system (NPS), opening doors for experienced foreign partners in this space and facilitating more competition in the fledgling segment.

Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA) Act links the FDI ceiling in the insurance sector.

63. Julia Ducournau has become only the second woman in history to win the top award at the Cannes Film Festival. She belongs to which country?

- (a) France
- (b) Germany
- (c) Russia
- (d) Italy
- (e) UK

Answer: A

French director Julia Ducournau has become only the second woman in history to win the top award at the Cannes Film Festival.

Ducournau, 37, was awarded the Palme d'Or prize for the film Titane, a wildly imaginative movie about a serial killer.

64. Bangladeshi Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus will be the second person to

receive the Olympic Laurel at the Tokyo Games.

Who was the first one to receive the laurel?

- (a) Renate Reinsave
- (b) Kip Keino
- (c) Leos Carax
- (d) Michael Phelps
- (e) Larisa Latynina

Answer: B

Bangladeshi Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus will receive the Olympic Laurel at the Tokyo Games, the second time the trophy will be awarded, the International Olympic Committee.

Yunus, whose pioneering micro-lender has been hailed for cutting poverty across the globe, will be honoured for "his extensive work in sport for development",

It was given for the first time at the 2016 Rio Games to Kenyan former Olympian Kip Keino

65. Which of the following banks has launched an Artificial Intelligence-powered virtual assistant to help customers with banking-related queries anytime?;

- (a) RBL Bank
- (b) Yes Bank
- (c) Federal Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank
- (e) Axis Bank

Answer: C

The Federal Bank launched FEDDY, an Artificial Intelligence-powered virtual assistant to help customers with banking-related queries anytime.

The bank said while most of the similar AI-powered virtual assistants are available only on its website, FEDDY can be accessed via Alexa, Google Assistant and WhatsApp.

FEDDY is integrated into Google Business Messaging, a first-of-its-kind by an Indian bank

66. The United States, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and which other nation have agreed in principle to establish a new quadrilateral diplomatic platform ?

- (a) Israel
- (b) India
- (c) Uzbekistan
- (d) UAE
- (e) South Korea

Answer: C

The United States, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, have agreed in principle to establish a new quadrilateral diplomatic platform focused on enhancing regional connectivity.

The parties consider long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan critical to regional connectivity and agree that peace and regional connectivity are mutually reinforcing.

67. BJP leader Sudhanshu Mittal's book on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh has now been translated into which language?

- (a) German
- (b) Japanese
- (c) French

(d)Chinese

(e)Russian

Answer: D

BJP leader Sudhanshu Mittal's book on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has now been translated into Chinese language. "RSS: Building India Through SEWA", which talks of RSS's history, ideology and policies, and their subsequent impact on the nation, was brought out by Har-Anand Publications in 2019.

The Chinese translation is by Jack Bo.

68.The International Cricket Council has inducted 3 new members at its 78th Annual General Meeting.Which one of the following is not among them?

(a)Mongolia

(b)Tajikistan

(c)Switzerland

(d)Uzbekistan

(e)Both C & D

Answer: D

The International Cricket Council (ICC) inducted Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Switzerland as members at its 78th Annual General Meeting. Mongolia and Tajikistan as the 22nd and 23rd members of the Asia region.

Switzerland is Europe's 35th member. with the ICC now comprising 106 members in total, including 94 associates.

About ICC:-

Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Founded: 15 June 1909

69.Who among the following has won the British Grand Prix 2021?

(a)Lewis Hamilton

(b)Sebastin Vettel

(c)Max Verstappen

(d)Valtteri Bottas

(e)Charles Leclerc

Answer: A

Lewis Hamilton celebrated a record eighth British Grand Prix victory after fighting back from a 10-second penalty for a first-lap collision that halted the race and sent title rival Max Verstappen to hospital. The Mercedes driver, now only eight points behind Red Bull's Verstappen after 10 races, passed Ferrari's Charles Leclerc with two laps to go as a capacity 140,000 crowd rose to cheer on their home hero.

The win was the 99th of seven-times world champion Hamilton's Formula One career, fourth of the current campaign and one of the more controversial in his long list of achievements

70.Name the former India shot-stopper who would be conferred with Mohun Bagan Ratna posthumously.

(a)Sumit Banerjee

(b)Amit Banerjee

- (c)Sangeet Banerjee
(d)Abhishek Banerjee
(e)Shibaji Banerjee

Answer: E

Former India and Mohun Bagan shot-stopper Shibaji Banerjee, who famously denied Brazil's legendary football player Pele from scoring a goal in an exhibition match in 1977, will be conferred with Mohun Bagan Ratna posthumously.

Banerjee played more than one half of the game in which he made at least five good saves.

Apart from denying Pele the chance to score from a direct free kick, the Bagan goalkeeper also blocked Pele in a one-on-one situation, drawing massive cheers from the crowd.

Banerjee played for Bagan for 11 years and died at the age of 68 four years ago.

71.The National Mission for Clean Ganga (in its 36th Executive Committee) approved new projects for the rejuvenation of how many rivers in Uttarakhand?

- (a)3
(b)4
(c)5
(d)6
(e)7

Answer: D

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (in its 36th Executive Committee) approved new projects for the rejuvenation of six rivers in Uttarakhand.

The projects shall cover the six polluted river stretches (Bhela, Dhela, Kichha, Nandor, Pilankha, & Kosi) in the Kumaon region.

An important and progressive feature of the project is comprehensive sludge management arrangements

About NMCG

Chairman : Rajiv Ranjan Mishra

Formed: 12 August 2011

72.Who among the following has been appointed as the deputy Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha?

- (a)Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi
(b)Harivansh Narayan
(c)Mallikarjun Kharge
(d)Shyam Nandan Prasad
(e)Ram Subhag Singh

Answer: A

Union minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has been appointed as the deputy Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha.

Naqvi had served as the minister of state for parliamentary affairs during the first term of the Modi government.

Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi is one of the few leaders in BJP who is believed to have a good working relationship with other political parties.

In 2017, he was handed over the charge of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

73. Which among the following states has recently implemented the blockchain technology to tackle issues related to fake education certificates?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Rajasthan

Answer: C

The Maharashtra State Skill Development Board recently took an initiative to prevent cases of forged education certificates being shared among citizens. According to reports, the board has decided to issue a total of 10 lakh digital diploma certificates using blockchain technology.

The initiative was recently launched on the occasion of World Youth Skills Day.

74. Which state government has planned to provide jobs to all national games medalists?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Chhattisgarh

Answer: A

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that along with Olympics, Asian and Commonwealth games medalists, the medal winners in National Games would also get government jobs.

All those who won medals in National Games so far for Assam would be given Sports Pension by the State Government.

Assam is also planning to increase the pension of sports persons from Rs 8000 to Rs 10,000.

75. Banking and financial services major Goldman Sachs has opened a new facility in which of the following cities of India as a part of its commitment to expand business innovation in India?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Gurugram
- (e) Ahmedabad

Answer: A

Banking and financial services major Goldman Sachs has opened a new facility in Hyderabad as part of its commitment to expand its global centre for engineering and business innovation in India. The new office is expected to have about 800 people by year-end and grow to over 2,500 people by 2023.

76. As per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a rare case of monkeypox was detected in which of the following places?

- (a) Texas
- (b) Melbourne
- (c) New York
- (d) California

(e)Alaska

Answer: A

A rare case of monkeypox was detected in the US state of Texas, marking the first such cases recorded in the state, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said.

CDC describes monkeypox as a rare but potentially serious viral illness.

The last monkeypox outbreak in the US was in 2003 and over 47 people were affected by the virus.

It was traced to pet prairie dogs in the Midwest that harboured the virus.

77.Which among the following has handed over fifteen 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilised Remote Control Guns to Indian Navy?

- (a)BHEL
- (b)L&T
- (c)Bharat Dynamic
- (d)Ordnance Factory
- (e)Hindustan Aeronautics

Answer: D

Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli has handed over Fifteen 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilized Remote Control Guns to Indian Navy and 10 to Indian Coast Guard.

It is manufactured with transfer of technology agreement from Elbit Systems, Israel.

The gun is meant for marine applications and can remotely engage targets.

It is equipped with an inbuilt CCD camera, thermal imager and a laser range finder for observation and tracking of targets through day and night operations.

78.Recently, which state has announced to launch a flagship startup promotion scheme Accelerate startup in the state?

- (a)Madhya Pradesh
- (b)Odisha
- (c)Andhra Pradesh
- (d)Gujarat
- (e)Maharashtra

Answer: C

The Andhra Pradesh Government has announced the launch of a flagship startup promotion scheme for early-stage startups to offer plug-and-play office space and access to a network of investors and mentors.

In addition, the government will also partner with a consortium of Venture Capitals and Private Equity firms and universities in order to set up 100 cr 'Funds of funds' for funding startups in the state.

79.Who among the following has announced the deployment of an Anti-Drone Swadeshi System along the country's border?

- (a)Rajnath Singh
- (b)Narendra Modi
- (c)Amit Shah

(d) Ram Nath Kovind

(e) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer: C

An Anti-Drone Swadeshi System will soon be deployed along the country's border.

This was announced by Home Minister Amit Shah while addressing the 18th Investiture Ceremony of Border Security Force, BSF in New Delhi.

Defence Research and Development organisation along with other concerned agencies are working on this system.

80. On 16th July 2021, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the Peerkho -Mahamaya section of the Jammu ropeway project. What is the estimated cost of the project?

(a) ₹75.83 cr

(b) ₹85.83 cr

(c) ₹65.83 cr

(d) ₹55.83 cr

(e) ₹95.83 cr

Answer: A

Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the 1.18km Peerkho-Mahamaya section of the Jammu ropeway project.

The ropeway project includes a restaurant, walkways, lawns, public utilities, parking space, and some recreational facilities.

The project that cost ₹75.83 crores comprises two sections between Peerkho (below Mubarak Mandi) and Mahamaya at a distance of 1.184 km and

another between Mahamaya Temple and Bahu at a distance of 0.485km.

81. Recently, foreign ministers of US and Central Asia concluded the C5+1 meeting. The meeting was focussed on the issues of which country?

(a) Uzbekistan

(b) Afghanistan

(c) Pakistan

(d) Myanmar

(e) Iran

Answer: B

In July, 2021, US officials and Central Asian foreign ministers met in Uzbekistan, to conclude the C5+1 summit, which was primarily focused on Afghanistan.

The two-day event took place in Tashkent on July 15-16 focused on exploring ways to enhance connectivity between Central Asia and South Asia through trade, transportation, and energy.

As part of the plan, Afghanistan will have increased security, energy, economic, and trade cooperation.

82. Martyrs Day also known as Arzarni Day has been observed as a public holiday in which country on July 19 every year?

(a) Bangladesh

(b) Afghanistan

(c) Myanmar

(d) Sri Lanka

(e) Pakistan

Answer: C

Martyrs' Day, also known as Arzarni Day, is observed as a public holiday in Myanmar on July 19 every year.

Martyrs' Day commemorates the assassination of General Aung San and several other cabinet members in 1947.

In 1886, Myanmar (then called Burma) came under British control.

Burma gained its independence from British colonial rule on January 4th 1948.

83.Name the Indian Union Muslim League leader, who recently took oath as a member of Rajya Sabha for a third term.

- (a)Muhammed Sheriff
- (b)PV Abdul Wahab
- (c)Sayyid Sadik Ali
- (d)Muhammed Basheer
- (e)Rashad Hussain

Answer: B

Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader P V Abdul Wahab took oath as a member of the Rajya Sabha for a third term.

Wahab, who was first elected to the Upper House in 2004 and then in 2015,took oath in English.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has been appointed leader of the House by the Prime Minister.

84.In July 2021, which of the following lending platforms has acquired AI-based risk analysis platform, TERA finlabs, marking its third acquisition since its inception?

- (a)Razorpay
- (b)Amazon Pay
- (c)PayPal
- (d)PhonePe
- (e)Google Pay

Answer: A

Razorpay has acquired artificial intelligence (AI)-based risk analysis platform TERA Finlabs, marking its third acquisition since inception.

Bengaluru-based TERA Finlabs provides risk management software, along with customized credit offerings to make lending more affordable for consumers and profitable for lenders.

Razorpay will leverage the acquisition for its small and medium enterprise (SME)-based lending business.

Razorpay was launched in 2013.Its CEO is Harshil Mathur.

85.Researchers in which country have set a new record for the world's fastest internet service at 319 Terabytes per second?

- (a)Japan

- (b) China
- (c) US
- (d) South Korea
- (e) UK

Answer: A

Researchers at the National Institute of Information And Communications Technology in Japan have set a new world record for the world's fastest internet speed at 319 Terabytes per second in the form of a long-haul transmission over 3,001 kilometres.

The record was earlier held by researchers from the University College of London at 178 Tbps.

86. Shikhar Dhawan became the second fastest opener in the world to reach the 6000-run mark in ODI cricket. Who holds the first spot?

- (a) Virat Kohli
- (b) Hashim Amla
- (c) Kane Williamson
- (d) Martin Guptill
- (e) Steven Smith

Answer: B

Team India opening batsman Shikhar Dhawan completed 6000 runs in one-day internationals and 10000 runs in international cricket (all three formats) on his captaincy debut against Sri Lanka in the first ODI.

Shikhar Dhawan completed the feat in his 140th innings, becoming the second-fastest Indian and fourth batsman overall to achieve the record.

Former South African batsman Hashim Amla is the fastest to achieve 6000 runs in ODI format in just 123 innings.

Regular skipper Virat Kohli still remains the fastest Indian batsman to achieve the record as he completed the feat in 136 innings

87. Which state government has planned to set up 15000 telemedicine centers across the state in the next two years?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Assam

Answer: C

The West Bengal government is planning to set up at least 15,000 telemedicine centres in the next two years to provide an end-to-end service to the government and private healthcare facilities.

The state administration is collaborating with the 'National Digital Health Mission' for this purpose.

The state government runs around Rs 2,500-3,000 crore worth of schemes to cover a wide variety of treatments and is in process of creating a big ecosystem so that no patient remains unattended.

88. Which among the following state government has taken initiative to promote commercial cultivation of Agar tree and set a target to achieve 2000 crore business from the sector in the next 3 years?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Meghalaya
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Nagaland
- (e) Tripura

Answer: E

The government of Tripura has taken initiatives to promote commercial cultivation of Agar trees and has set a target of achieving Rs 2,000 crore business from this sector in the coming three years.

Tripura government has plans to export 1,500 kg of Agar oil and 75,000 kg of Agar chips in the year 2021-22.

Tripura government has launched a draft named Tripura Agar Wood Policy 2021 and a target has been set up of doubling the plantation by the year 2025.

Currently, there are over 50 lakh agar trees in the state.

89. Rossari Biotech Ltd has announced the acquisition of Tristar Intermediaries on 18th July 2021. What is the acquisition value of the deal?

- (a) ₹ 70 cr
- (b) ₹ 90 cr
- (c) ₹ 100 cr
- (d) ₹ 120 cr
- (e) ₹ 130 cr

Answer: D

Rossari Biotech announced that its board of directors has approved the acquisition of Tristar Intermediates.

As per the agreement, Rossari will be acquiring 100% of the equity share capital of Tristar Intermediates. 76% of the equity share capital will be acquired upon closure of the transaction, and the balance 24% over the next three years.

The total enterprise value of the transaction is Rs. 120 crores.

The transaction brings together two high-potential companies within the speciality chemical space.

90. In July 2021, PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated and dedicated several railway projects worth Rs _____ Crores in Gujarat.

- (a) 800 cr
- (b) 900 cr
- (c) 1000 cr
- (d) 1100 cr
- (e) 1200 cr

Answer: D

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated projects worth over Rs 1,100 crore in Gujarat on July 15.

These projects include three new attractions in a state-of-the-art science city, a five-star hotel atop a railway station and several railway projects.

During the virtual event, PM Modi would also flag off Gandhinagar-Varanasi weekly superfast train and Gandhinagar-Varetha train.

91. In July 2021, CESL and the World Resource Institute, India has entered into a partnership to devise strategies for India's net-zero emission transition path. Where is the headquarters of the World Resource Institute located?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Lucknow

Answer: A

Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL) and the World Resources Institute India have entered into a pact to work on strategising for India's transition towards a net-zero emission trajectory.

Under the partnership, WRI India will support CESL in building adaptive business models to help state governments realise their targets, including decentralising renewable energy and improving battery storage capacities.

About CESL:

Headquarters: New Delhi

CEO: Mahua Acharya

About WRI

Headquarters: Mumbai

MD & CEO: O P Agarwal

92. In July, 2021, Internet And Mobile Association of India has appointed Sanjay Gupta as its chairman for 2021-23. Sanjay Gupta is the Vice President &

Managing Director of which among the following companies?

- (a) Google India
- (b) Facebook India
- (c) Amazon India
- (d) Razorpay
- (e) Times Internet

Answer: A

Industry body IMAI has appointed Google India Vice President and Managing Director Sanjay Gupta as its chairman for the period 2021-23.

He succeeds Amazon Senior Vice President and India Country Manager Amit Agarwal.

Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has also named Facebook India Vice President and Managing Director Ajit Mohan as Vice Chairman of the association, succeeding Yatra.com co-founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dhruv Shringi. Razorpay CEO and co-founder Harshil Mathur has been elected as the Treasurer and succeeds Satyan Gajwani, Vice Chairman of Times Internet Ltd.

93. Name the former cabinet minister who has authored a new book titled 'A Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society in Flux' set to be released in July 2021.

- (a) Mehbooba Mufti
- (b) Abdul Haq Khan
- (c) Khemlata Wakhlu
- (d) Ghulam Naqi Lone
- (e) Abdul Rehman Veeri

Answer: C

A book titled “Kashmiri Century: Portrait of a Society in Flux” written by the former cabinet minister Khemlata Vakhlu, has been released recently.

The book throws a compassionate light on the innocent and hard-working people who live in the beautiful valley of Kashmir.

The stories are all based on the author’s personal experiences and her intimate understanding of what it means to be a Kashmiri-speaking native.

Khem Lata has served as a member of the Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly for 12 years. She has also served as the Minister of Tourism in J&K from 1984 to 1986.

At present she serves as the senior advisor of the J&K congress committee.

94. In July 2021, Andhra Pradesh government has signed MOU with how many companies for helping women in business?

- (a) 7
- (b) 9
- (c) 10
- (d) 13
- (e) 14

Answer: E

With an objective to ensure women empowerment and livelihood to six lakh women on a permanent basis through the YSR Cheyutha scheme, the State government exchanged MoUs with 14 companies.

The State government, through the MoUs, wants to create a conducive business environment with end-to-end solutions consisting of capital support, market linkages, skill enhancement and technical support, thereby empowering women and ensuring a sustainable income both at the individual and collective level.

Rs 8,000 crore has been given to 24 lakh women in two instalments so far under the YSR Cheyutha scheme.

Earlier, the government entered into agreements with six prominent companies.

95. Which among the following states has launched the Electric Bike Taxi scheme to encourage fuel conservation in the state?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Tamil Nadu
- (e) Gujarat

Answer: C

Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa launched the Electric Bike Taxi scheme in Bengaluru.

The scheme will generate self employment and serve as a bridge between public transport and daily travellers.

It is eco-friendly and encourages fuel conservation. The main objective of the scheme is to reduce the travel time and inconvenience faced by the public to

travel from their home to the bus stand, railway station and metro stations.

96. Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved a pact between India and which country regarding cooperation on coking coal?

- (a) South Africa
- (b) Russia
- (c) Canada
- (d) Australia
- (e) US

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet approved a pact between India and Russia regarding cooperation on coking coal, a key steel making raw material, for which domestic players remain dependent on imports from a select group of countries.

Around 85 per cent of India's coking coal demand is met through imports.

The cooperation with Russia will help India reduce its dependence on far-located countries like Australia, South Africa, Canada and the US for sourcing of coking coal.

97. Which among the following has become the first Gulf nation to open an embassy in Israel?

- (a) UAE
- (b) Kuwait
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) Bahrain
- (e) Oman

Answer: A

The United Arab Emirates became the first Gulf nation to open an embassy in Israel, nearly a year after both countries signed an agreement to normalise diplomatic ties.

The new mission is located in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange building.

98. India's National Plastic Surgery Day got the global acceptance recently in July. Which day has been adopted as the World Plastic Surgery Day?

- (a) 11th July
- (b) 13th July
- (c) 15th July
- (d) 17th July
- (e) 19th July

Answer: C

The concept of observing July 15 as National Plastic Surgery Day in India has been adopted by the leaders of top bodies in the speciality across the globe as World Plastic Surgery Day.

The Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSI) announced the decision.

Coimbatore-based plastic surgeon S. Raja Sabapathy introduced the concept of National Plastic Surgery Day when he was the APSI president in 2011 to create awareness of plastic surgery.

Every plastic surgeon in the country did one free surgery to mark the inaugural year.

99. USA's Shirley Fry Irvin passed away recently. He was related to which of the following sports?

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Badminton
- (c) Cricket
- (d) Football
- (e) None of the Above

Answer: A

Tennis Hall of Famer Shirley Fry Irvin, who won three consecutive major titles in the 1950s to

complete a career Grand Slam, has died at 94.

Fry also won 13 Grand Slam doubles titles. From 1946 to 1956, she finished the year ranked in the top 10 nine times.

100. As per the Union Minister RK Singh, India will reduce its carbon intensity to how much percentage by the year 2030?

- (a) 20%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 30%
- (d) 33%
- (e) 40%

Answer: D

Union Minister R K Singh exuded confidence that India will exceed its target of reducing carbon emission set for 2030 under the Paris agreement. Speaking at the inaugural session of the CII-organised Aatmanirbhar Bharat – Self-Reliance for Renewable Energy Manufacturing conference, the Power, New and Renewable Energy Minister said

that as per its commitment made in Paris, India has to reduce its carbon intensity to 33 per cent by 2030.

101. Asha Bonalu, one of the biggest traditional folk festivals, has been celebrated in which of the following states?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Karnataka

Answer: A

Telangana celebrated the 'Asha Bonalu' festival, one of the biggest traditional folk festivals in the state.

The Bonalu festival was declared a 'state festival' by the K Chandrasekhar Rao-led government after the state's formation back in 2014.

The Bonalu festival involves scores of devotees offering the traditional 'bonam' (derived from Bhojanam, meaning meals) to the goddess Mahankali at 25 temples across the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

102. BUSY has partnered with which among the following bank for banking solutions?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) ICICI Bank
- (c) Federal bank
- (d) RBL bank
- (e) Axis bank

Answer: B

BUSY, one of India's leading business accounting software, has partnered with ICICI Bank for banking solutions. The integration will help BUSY users gain better accessibility in managing their Banking, improving their business efficiencies from BUSY itself.

Under this partnership, ICICI Bank's current account holders can now securely connect their bank account to their BUSY Accounting Software.

103. Union Cabinet has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary for further five years from 2021 to 2026 at a total cost of _____ Crore.

- (a) 7000 cr
- (b) 9000 cr
- (c) 11000 cr
- (d) 12000 cr
- (e) 14000 cr

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary for further five years from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026 at a total cost of Rs. 9000 crore.

This proposal will help in construction of 3800 court halls and 4000 residential units for judicial officers of District and Subordinate courts, 1450 lawyer halls,

1450 toilets complexes and 3800 digital computer rooms.

104. The government boys high school located in Stone Building College in Malleshwaram has become the first government high school in the country to develop a satellite. How many satellites have been developed?

- (a) 75
- (b) 80
- (c) 55
- (d) 90
- (e) 60

Answer: A

The government boys high school located in Stone Building College in Malleshwaram, Karnataka, will become the first government high school in the country to develop a satellite.

The students of the school will be involved in a programme of developing 75 satellites as part of the 75th Independence Day celebrations which will be held next year.

105. Which city has topped the latest rankings of top cities in India where All India Radio Live-streams on News On Air App are most popular?

- (a) Pune
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Hyderabad
- (d) New Delhi
- (e) Mumbai

Answer: A

In the latest Rankings of top cities in India where All India Radio Live-streams on NewsOnAir App are most popular, Hyderabad has displaced Chennai to take back its third spot, while Pune and Bengaluru continue to be at first and second positions respectively for the fourth week straight.

Jaipur witnesses rise to 8th spot, while Bhopal slides to Rank 9.

In major changes in rankings of top AIR Streams in India, AIR Kodaikanal has climbed up the ladder to Rank 8 from 10. Rainbow Kannada Kamanabillu has jumped to 4th position, while AIR Pune has slipped to 5th spot.

More than 240 Radio Services of All India Radio are live-streamed on NewsOnAir App, PrasarBharati's official App. These All India Radio Streams on NewsOnAir App have a large number of listeners not just in India, but globally, in more than 85 countries and 8000 cities across the globe.

106. Who among the following has compiled and edited 'Kamala Harris and the Rise of Indian Americans', an anthology to document the historic election of Kamala Harris as the Vice President of the United States?

- (a) Raahul mehta
- (b) Vikram Khanna
- (c) Sumit Nanda
- (d) Tarun Basu
- (e) Subhash awasthi

Answer: D

A group of influential Indian-Americans, scholars, diplomats and entrepreneurs have come together to write an anthology to document the historic election of Kamala Harris as Vice President and the rise of the small but powerful Indian-American community in the United States.

The anthology is being compiled and edited by veteran Indian editor Tarun Basu

107. Recently, ISRO successfully has conducted the third long-duration hot test on the liquid propellant engine named _____, that would launch the ambitious Gaganyaan programme.

- (a) Kedar Engine
- (b) Vikas Engine
- (c) Sahyadri Engine
- (d) Vishal engine
- (e) Vikram Engine

Answer: B

The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully conducted the third long-duration hot test on the liquid propellant Vikas engine that would launch the ambitious Gaganyaan programme.

The test of the liquid propellant Vikas engine was done for the core L110 liquid stage of the human rated GSLV MkIII vehicle, as part of the engine qualification requirements for the Gaganyaan programme, Isro said in a statement.

The engine was fired for 240 seconds at the test facility of Isro Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu.

108.The Badminton World Federation has confirmed which city of China to be the host of the Sudirman Cup Finals 2023?

- (a)Wuhan
- (b)Shanghai
- (c)Suzhou
- (d)Hangzhou
- (e)Beijing

Answer: C

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) confirmed that Suzhou, China has been awarded the hosting rights of the Sudirman Cup Finals 2023.

Suzhou was due to host the World Mixed Team Championships in 2021, but with BWF unable to stage any tournaments in China this year, the event was switched to Vantaa in Finland.

109.Who will be the head of the panel on the quantum of stake dilution of Life Insurance Corporation?

- (a)Anurag Thakur
- (b)Nirmala Sitharaman
- (c)Amit Shah
- (d)Smriti Irani
- (e)Narendra Modi

Answer: B

The Cabinet has cleared an initial public offering of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). The modalities of the same will be decided by a panel headed by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The listing of LIC will be crucial for the government to meet its disinvestment target.

The government aims to mop up Rs 1.75 lakh crore in the current fiscal from minority stake sales and privatisation.

110.Which of the following has partnered with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the healthcare sectors?

- (a)T-Hub
- (b)FICCI
- (c)TiE
- (d)IFFCO
- (e)Ministry of AAYUSH

Answer: A

T-Hub, India's pioneering innovation ecosystem, announced its partnership with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the healthcare sectors.

As a part of this partnership, T-Hub is running a three month cohort-based program AIC T-Hub Foundation, exclusively for the deep tech startups creating new-age solutions in the field of life sciences and healthcare.

111. Which of the following has implemented an integrated real-time enterprise management system (iDREAMS) to bring digital transformation in the rail assets?

- (a) National Transport Carriers
- (b) National Transport Corporation
- (c) National Capital Regional Transport Corporation
- (d) Transport Authority Regional Transport Office
- (e) None of the Above

Answer: C

To bring digital transformation in the way rail assets are being managed in the country, the National Capital Regional Transport Corporation (NCRTC) said it is implementing an integrated real-time enterprise management system (iDREAMS). The iDREAMS system, aimed to bring about revolution in the rail industry, will help to predict, identify, rectify or remove any risks or shortcomings related to its wide range of assets, making sure that it does not hamper commuter safety and their experience of a hassle-free comfortable ride to their destination, it said.

112. Which country has begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One'?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) USA
- (e) Iran

Answer: C

China has officially begun the construction of the world's first commercial modular small reactor 'Linglong One' at the Changjiang Nuclear Power Plant in the country's Hainan Province, the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) said. The project will have power generation capacity of 125,000 kilowatts and its annual power generation capacity would be 1 billion kilowatt hours capable of serving 526,000 households.

113. In July 2021, the government has released how much amount to states to make up for the shortfall in their revenues because of the GST implementation?

- (a) 90000 cr
- (b) 85000 cr
- (c) 80000 cr
- (d) 75000 cr
- (e) 70000 cr

Answer: D

The government has borrowed and given to the states Rs 75,000 crore to make up for the shortfall in their revenues because of the GST implementation. The Finance Ministry in a statement said the amount released is about half of the Rs 1.59 lakh crore that was agreed to be borrowed in the current fiscal by the Centre and passed on to the states and Union Territories on a back-to-back basis to meet their resource gap.

114.The wholesale price-based inflation eased marginally to what percentage in June due to softening in prices of crude oil and food items?

- (a)12.07%
- (b)12.12%
- (c)12.18%
- (d)12.45%
- (e)12.01%

Answer: A

The wholesale price-based inflation eased marginally to 12.07 per cent in June as crude oil and food items witnessed some softening in prices.

However, WPI inflation remained double-digit for the third consecutive month in June, mainly due to a low base of last year.

WPI inflation was (-) 1.81 per cent, in June 2020.

Retail inflation remained above the RBI's comfort level of 6 per cent for the second straight month at 6.26 per cent in June.

115.Name the digital platform launched by the government to facilitate farmers to get the right information at the right time in their desired language.

- (a)Kisan Sarathi
- (b)Kisan Vigyan
- (c)Kisan Nidhi
- (d)Kisan Ekta
- (e)Kisan Bhasha

Answer: A

In order to facilitate farmers to get 'right information at right time' in their desired language, a digital platform namely 'KisanSarathi' was launched jointly by Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

This initiative of KisanSarathi empowers farmers with technological interventions to reach farmers in remote areas.

116.Which of the following state governments recently launched a Mobile App 'Pensioners' Life Certificate Verification' to offer pensioners a hassle-free interface?

- (a)Tripura
- (b)Meghalaya
- (c)Manipur
- (d)Mizoram
- (e)Assam

Answer: B

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched a Mobile App 'Pensioners' Life Certificate Verification' that will offer pensioners a hassle-free interface with the pension disbursing authority to prove that they are alive.

For better end-to-end delivery of service, a chatbot called MEDA has also been incorporated in the App where the pensioners can ask queries and type the suggestions for improvement of the App which will be duly monitored.

117. Gautam Benegal passed away recently. He belonged to which of the following professions?

- (a) Filmmaker
- (b) Singer
- (c) Guitarist
- (d) Dancer
- (e) Journalist

Answer: A

Gautam Benegal, the National Award-winning writer, filmmaker and cartoonist, passed away at the age of 56 owing to cardiac arrest.

Among several notable accomplishments of Benegal, his creations of the Hansaplast Boy and the Kelvinator Penguin remain the most memorable. Besides, he was also invited to write and illustrate for the iconic Bengali children's magazine *Sandesh* at the young age of 16, by Satyajit Ray.

He won the National Award for best animation film *The Prince and the Crown of Stone* in 2010.

118. The All India Football Federation has nominated which football club to represent India in the AFC Club Championship 2020-21?

- (a) Churchill Brothers FC
- (b) Gokulam Kerala FC
- (c) Real Kashmir FC
- (d) Chennai City FC
- (e) Bengaluru FC

Answer: B

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has nominated Gokulam Kerala FC to represent India in

the AFC Club Championship 2020-21, following the postponement of the Indian Women's League. Gokulam Kerala FC became the first team from Kerala to win a national title when they defeated Kryphsa FC in the 2019-20 Indian Women's League (IWL) finals in Bengaluru.

119. A Biography titled 'Riding Free: An Olympic Journey' is based on whom among the following?

- (a) Deepak Mondal
- (b) Climax Lawrence
- (c) Imtiaz Anees
- (d) Anwar Ali
- (e) Fouaad Mirza

Answer: C

HarperCollins announced to present the story of an Indian equestrian rider and his Olympic dream 'Riding Free: My Olympic Journey' by Imtiaz Anees. Imtiaz Anees is an equestrian Olympian, trainer, competitor, NBC commentator, qualified Level 2 instructor and coach educator.

120. Which organization has partnered with UN Women, the United Nations entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, to enable corporates implement Women's Empowerment Principles in India?

- (a) Katalytics Consulting
- (b) Cocoon Consulting
- (c) Interweave Consulting

(d) Parity Consulting

(e) Cloud Consulting

Answer: C

Diversity consulting organisation Interweave has partnered with UN Women, the United Nations entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, to enable corporates implement Women's Empowerment Principles in India.

As a part of this initiative, Interweave Consulting will now provide technical support to corporates to implement these principles ranging from establishing high-level leadership commitment for gender equality to fair work practices that include equal access to opportunities.

121. Rajasthan government has launched 'Kisan Mitra Urja Yojna'. Under the scheme, farmers will get a monthly grant of _____.

(a) ₹ 1000

(b) ₹ 1500

(c) ₹ 1800

(d) ₹ 2000

(e) ₹ 2500

Answer: A

Farmers in Rajasthan will get a monthly grant of Rs 1,000 under the 'Kisan Mitra Urja Yojna' which was launched by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in the state.

Under this scheme, for which an additional expenditure of Rs 1,450 crore will be incurred annually, electricity for agricultural purposes will

become almost free for the small and medium category farmers in the state.

The main objective of the scheme is to provide economic support to the farmers," he said after launching the scheme virtually.

The rate of agricultural electricity in the state is Rs. 5.55 per unit but farmers are being charged 90 paise per unit and the state government is bearing the remaining cost.

122. Recently, Tamil Nadu government has received a relief package of _____ Crore for management of the second wave and prevention of the third wave in the state by the central government.

(a) ₹ 500 Cr

(b) ₹ 600 Cr

(c) ₹ 700 Cr

(d) ₹ 800 Cr

(e) ₹ 900 Cr

Answer: D

Tamil Nadu Health Minister M. Subramaniam said that the Union Government granted a relief package of 800 crore rupees for management of the second wave and prevention of the third wave in the state. Speaking to the media in New Delhi after meeting Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya yesterday, he said that more grants would be given after exhaustion of the fund. Mr. Subramaniam said that the state has sought additional doses of vaccines and urged the Union Government to permit

vaccine manufacturing units at Chengalpet and Coonoor.

123. In which state, Olympics Selfie Points set up to encourage Indian players participating in Tokyo Olympics Games?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Assam
- (e) Manipur

Answer: B

In Chhattisgarh, people are showing enthusiasm to encourage Indian players participating in the Tokyo Olympic Games. AIR correspondent reports that in Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh, selfie points have been made at four public places to encourage the Indian players participating in the Tokyo Olympics.

People can take selfies at these places and share it on Facebook with the hashtag Cheer for India. Apart from this, an online quiz has also been organized by Sports Authority of India and Indian Olympic Association.

124. SAP Labs India and UNDP have collaborated with which state to foster digital skills, social entrepreneurship in the state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Gujarat

- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: A

SAP Labs India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India have collaborated with the Government of Karnataka to enhance access to career guidance, employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and to promote the digital skills to empower the women and youths of Karnataka.

The initiative aims to reach over 20,000 youth and 5,000 women in Bangalore Rural, Raichur and Dakshina Kannada districts over the next three years.

125. The overseas direct investment of domestic companies doubled to _____ billion in June 2021, according to the data released by RBI.

- (a) \$2.80 billion
- (b) \$3.50 billion
- (c) \$1.90 billion
- (d) \$4.20 billion
- (e) \$3.60 billion

Answer: A

The overseas direct investment of domestic companies more than doubled to USD 2.80 billion in June this year, according to RBI data.

India Inc had invested USD 1.39 billion in overseas ventures in the year-ago month.

However, on a month-on-month basis, the investment was lower by over 58 percent from USD 6.71 billion in May 2021, as per the RBI data on outward investments by Indian firms.

Among the major investors included Tata Steel USD 1 billion in a wholly owned subsidiary in Singapore; Wipro USD 787.5 million in a wholly owned unit in the US; and Tata Power USD 131.25 million in a fully owned unit in Mauritius.

126. A Successful trial of movement of train between India and Nepal was undertaken on July 18, 2021. What is the length of the rail-section that connects the two countries?

- (a) 34.50 km
- (b) 32.50 km
- (c) 30.50 km
- (d) 37.50 km
- (e) 40.50 km

Answer: A

On 18 July 2021, a successful trial run of the train was undertaken between Jaynagar in India and Kurtha in Nepal.

The rail section connects Jaynagar in Madhubani district of Bihar to Kurtha in Mahottari district of Nepal.

The length of the rail section is 34.50 km-long.

It is the first section of the rail line links between the two countries.

The cost of this rail section is 619 crore.

127. According to the depositories data, Foreign investors pulled out over how much amount from the Indian equities market so far in July, 2021?

- (a) 3000 cr
- (b) 3500 cr
- (c) 4000 cr
- (d) 4500 cr
- (e) 4800 cr

Answer: D

Foreign investors pulled out over 4,500 crore rupees from the Indian equities market so far in July.

According to the depositories data, Foreign Portfolio Investors or FPIs, have withdrawn 4,515 crore rupees from the Indian equities markets so far this month, but invested 3,033 crore rupee into the debt segment in the same period, resulting into a net outflow of 1,482 crore rupees from the Indian capital markets.

Prior to this, FPIs invested 17,215 crore rupees in the Indian equities markets in June, after remaining net sellers in April and May.

128. Name the Indian origin person who would be the part of Us-based Blue origin's New Shepard flight to be filed to space on July 20th 2021.

- (a) Sanjal Gavande
- (b) Kovind Gupta
- (c) Uday Singh
- (d) Suresh Reddy
- (e) Y Subbarao

Answer: A

Amazon founder and billionaire Jeff Bezos is set to fly into space along with a crew on July 20. Among those involved in the building of the rocket that will launch Bezos to space is Sanjal Gavande, a resident of Kalyan in Maharashtra.

Sanjal Gavande, 30, is part of the team that built the rocket system New Shepard for Bezos's space exploration company Blue Origin.

She completed her mechanical engineering degree from the University of Mumbai and then went to Michigan Technological University in the US to pursue her Masters.

129. Which among the following companies has appointed Vanitha Narayanan as an Additional Director to its board with effect from 19 July 2021?

- (a) HCL Technologies
- (b) Infosys
- (c) Accenture
- (d) Wipro
- (e) IBM

Answer: A

HCL Technologies Ltd has appointed Vanitha Narayanan as an additional director to its board, effective 19 July. Narayanan will hold office as an independent director.

With the addition of Narayanan, the board of the company will consist of four women directors, one of the highest in the industry.

Narayanan is a senior global executive and board leader with a successful track record spanning three decades in technology and telecommunications.

130. Which among the following bank has signed an MOU to offer salary accounts to all the personnels of Indian Navy?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Canara Bank
- (d) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Answer: D

The Indian Navy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kotak Mahindra for salary accounts of all its personnel – both serving and retired.

The bank will reportedly offer special salary account benefits to the Indian Navy like enhanced complimentary personal accident insurance cover, special education benefit for children, and additional girl child benefit, and attractive rates and zero processing fees on personal loans, home loans and car loans.

131. Which among the following insurance companies has introduced a benefit based health insurance policy, Arogya Rakshak?

- (a) Life Insurance Corporation
- (b) HDFC Life Insurance Company
- (c) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company
- (d) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company
- (e) PNB MetLife India Insurance Company

Answer: A

Life Insurance Corporation of India, or LIC, introduced a benefit-based health insurance policy, Arogya Rakshak, on 19 July. The policy is a non-linked, non-participating, regular premium, individual health insurance.

The Arogya Rakshak policy pays a lump sum benefit equal to the sum insured irrespective of actual medical treatment costs

The cover period will be available for principal insurers, spouses and parents up to 80 years and for children up to 25 years, according to the LIC.

132. Which edition of the International Film Festival of India has announced a call for entries for Indian Panorama, 2021?

- (a) 51st
- (b) 52nd
- (c) 55th
- (d) 59th
- (e) 61st

Answer: B

The 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has announced a call for entries for Indian Panorama, 2021.

Indian Panorama is a flagship component of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) under which best of contemporary Indian films are selected for the promotion of film art.

The 52nd edition of IFFI will be held in Goa from 20th to 28th November, 2021.

The last date to submit applications online is 12th August, 2021.

133. India has emerged as the fifth largest foreign exchange reserves holder in the world. Who holds the first spot?

- (a) China
- (b) USA
- (c) Russia
- (d) Switzerland
- (e) Japan

Answer: A

With India's forex reserves at \$608.99 billion as on June 25, 2021 stood, India has emerged as the fifth largest foreign exchange reserves holder in the world after China, Japan, Switzerland and Russia.

This was stated by Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary.

134. The Government of India has extended the duration of 'Stand Up India Scheme' up to the year 2025. When was the scheme started?

- (a)2014
- (b)2015
- (c)2016
- (d)2017
- (e)2018

Answer: C

The Government of India has extended the duration of 'Stand Up India Scheme' up to the year 2025, MoS for Social Justice and Empowerment Sushri Pratima Bhounik.

This scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 5, 2016.

The objective of the 'Stand Up India Scheme' is to facilitate loans from Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) of value between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore to at least one SC or ST borrower and one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up green field enterprise in manufacturing, service or trading sector.

135.Which of the following IITs has launched an affordable rapid antigen test kit to detect Covid-19 priced at Rs.50?

- (a)IIT Delhi
- (b)IIT Kanpur
- (c)IIT Madras
- (d)IIT Pune
- (e)IIT Bombay

Answer: A

The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-D) launched an affordable rapid antigen test kit to

detect Covid-19 priced at Rs.50, which was developed entirely by its Centre for Biomedical Engineering (CBME) led by professor Harpal Singh. The kit was launched by minister of state for education Sanjay Dhotre, who stated the premier institute's efforts have helped the country in becoming more "self-sufficient" in its fight against the deadly virus.

IIT-Delhi first disrupted the RT-PCR market with a Rs.399 probe-free RT PCR kit, launched in July 2020.

136.Name the scheme launched by the Chief Justice of India NV Ramana to instantly transmit bail and other orders to the jail authorities, district courts and the High Courts.

- (a)INSTA
- (b)FASTER
- (c)QUICK
- (d)SWIFT
- (e)E-ORDER

Answer: B

Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana launched a new scheme called 'FASTER' or 'Fast and Secure Transmission of Electronic Records'.

Under the scheme, the Supreme Court will instantly transmit bail and other orders to the jail authorities, district courts and the High Courts.

This will be done in a secure way electronically.

As per the present practice, hard copy of the bail order received by hand is mandated.

137. On July 18, 2021, Indian Council for Cultural Relations has launched a new campaign called 'KALA VISHWA' a special campaign under the Horizon Series. What is the duration of the campaign?

- (a) 1 month
- (b) 2 month
- (c) 3 month
- (d) 6 month
- (e) 9 month

Answer: D

On July 18, 2021, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) launched a new campaign called 'KALA VISHWA', from its Mumbai Centre.

It will help to present traditional folk arts of India to foreign students and also be of help to the neglected artists.

Kala Vishwas is a special campaign under the Horizon Series that will be held for a duration of six months.

It focus on traditional art forms of Maharashtra and Goa

138. The International Chess Day is celebrated annually on July 20. When was the International Chess Federation founded?

- (a) 1919
- (b) 1924
- (c) 1937
- (d) 1955

(e) 1967

Answer: B

The International Chess Day is celebrated annually on July 20, the day the International Chess Federation was founded, in 1924.

This year FIDE's motto is, "Teach someone how to play chess."

The idea to celebrate this day as the international chess day was proposed by UNESCO, and it has been celebrated as such since 1966, after it was established by FIDE.

139. The Government has set up a world-class 'Indian Institute of Heritage' at which place to focus on conservation and research in India's rich tangible heritage?

- (a) Mathura
- (b) Noida
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Gurugram
- (e) Bhopal

Answer: B

Government to set up a world-class 'Indian Institute of Heritage' at Noida to focus on conservation and research in India's rich tangible heritage.

The government has decided to set up the 'Indian Institute of Heritage' at Noida, Gautama Buddha Nagar.

This will impact higher education and research in the field related to rich Indian heritage and its conservation

This would be a standalone Institution of its type in the country.

140. How many startups from different sectors are currently on board on the Startup India Showcase Platform?

- (a) 50
- (b) 65
- (c) 78
- (d) 104
- (e) 121

Answer: D

104 startups from different sectors such as Food-Tech, Green energy, Defence, Ed-Tech, Health-Tech, etc are currently on board on the platform. Startup India Showcase is an online discovery platform for the most promising startups of the country.

These innovations span across various cutting-edge sectors such as Fintech, EnterpriseTech, Social Impact, HealthTech, EdTech, among others.

141. The Government announced the launch of National Logistics Excellence Awards recently. The awards will be presented in how many categories?

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) 4
- (e) 5

Answer: B

With a view to turn the spotlight on the logistics sector, the Government announced the launch of National Logistics Excellence Awards.

Awards will give due recognition to various players involved in the logistics supply chain

The awards are in two categories, the first group includes logistics infrastructure/service providers and second one is for various user industries.

The awards will highlight best practices including consolidation, process standardisation, technological upgrade, digital transformations, and sustainable practices.

142. Which of the countries has unveiled a super-fast maglev train at a speed of 600 kilometers per hour?

- (a) China
- (b) Russia
- (c) Japan
- (d) UAE
- (e) USA

Answer: A

The country China unveiled a super-fast 600 kph maglev train.

The world's first high-speed maglev transportation system running at a speed of 600 kilometers per hour made its public debut in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province.

Maglev is short for magnetic levitation.

The technology was first patented in the 1960s.

The train uses electro-magnetic force and levitates above the track.

143. Who among the following has been named as the AIFF men's footballer of the year for 2020-21 season?

- (a) Sandesh Jingham
- (b) Suresh Singh
- (c) Subrata Dutta
- (d) Praful Patel
- (e) Shachindra Kumar

Answer: A

Senior India defender Sandesh Jingham was named the AIFF men's Footballer of the Year, while midfielder Suresh Singh Wangjam was picked as the Emerging Player for 2020-21 season.

It is the first time that the towering central defender has received the AIFF Player of the Year award, having won the Emerging Player of the Year Award in 2014.

The award winners were chosen on the basis of votes from the Indian Super League and I-League club coaches.

144. Who among the following has released the book titled 'Palleku Pattabhishekam' on Rural India and agriculture?

- (a) Venkaiah Naidu
- (b) Narendra Singh Tomar
- (c) Piyush Goyal
- (d) Narendra Modi
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer: A

Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu has released a book titled 'Palleku Pattabhishekam' authored by former MP Yalamanchili Sivaji.

This book is based on rural India and agriculture.

The Vice President said that villages and agriculture are intrinsically connected and we must address their issues holistically to bring 'Gram Swarajya' to our villages

145. Which among the following IITs has developed a first-of-its-kind Oxygen Rationing Device – AMLEX that supplies a required volume of oxygen to the patient?

- (a) IIT Pune
- (b) IIT Kharagpur
- (c) IIT Ropar
- (d) IIT Roorkee
- (e) IIT Bombay

Answer: C

To increase the life of medical oxygen cylinders threefold, the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar has developed a first-of-its-kind Oxygen Rationing Device – AMLEX that supplies a required volume of oxygen to the patient during inhalation and trips when the patient exhales CO₂.

This process saves oxygen which otherwise unnecessarily get wasted.

146. Which Bollywood actress partnered with the launch of Himachal Pradesh government state's

initiative, 'Digital Saathi-Baccho ka Sahara-Phone Humara'?

- (a) Yami Gautam
- (b) Preeti Zinta
- (c) Kangna Ranaut
- (d) Kareena Kapoor
- (e) Sara Ali Khan

Answer: A

Yami Gautam has joined hands with the Himachal Pradesh Government in their initiative, Baccho ka Sahara, Phone Humara.

Launched under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan of the State Government, Yami attended the launching event virtually. ^

Education Minister Govind Singh Thakur kickstarted the campaign under the presence of Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur.

The leading actress, who is the face of the cause, urged everyone to come forward and donate spare smartphones to help needy children.

147. Indian Oil Corporation has set to build India's first 'Green Hydrogen' plant at which place?

- (a) Mathura
- (b) Noida
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Gurugram
- (e) Faridabad

Answer: A

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is all set to build the country's first green hydrogen plant at Mathura Refinery to meet the growing energy needs.

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has drawn a strategic growth path that aims to maintain focus on its core refining and fuel marketing businesses while making bigger inroads into petrochemicals, hydrogen and electric mobility over the next 10 years.

148. Which payment bank became the first in India to make payments from Fixed Deposit a/c held with IndusInd Bank?

- (a) Airtel Payment Bank
- (b) Paytm Payments Bank
- (c) Fino Payment Bank
- (d) Jio Payment Bank
- (e) India Post Payment Bank

Answer: B

On July 19, 2021, Paytm enabled its Paytm Payments Bank's (PPB) customers to make instant payments across online platforms through its all-in-one payment gateway using balances available in their Fixed Deposit (FD) account, which is held with IndusInd Bank, the partner bank of Paytm.

The innovation will help customers manage their liquidity in real-time to make payments seamlessly.

149. The Asian Development Bank has forecasted India's GDP for FY 22 at _____ percentage.

- (a) 7.5%
- (b) 8%

(c)8.5%

(d)9%

(e)10%

Answer: E

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has downgraded India's economic growth forecast for the current financial year to 10 percent, from 11 percent predicted earlier this year, mainly on account of the adverse impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

About ADB:

Headquarters: Manila, Philippines

President: Masatsugu Asakava

150.The Bank Nationalisation Day is annually observed on 19th July. Year 2021 marks which anniversary of Bank Nationalisation?

(a)50th

(b)52nd

(c)56th

(d)58th

(e)60th

Answer: B

The bank Nationalisation Day is annually observed on 19th July to commemorate the issuance of the Banking Companies (Acquisitions & Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1969 on 19th July 1969, that nationalised 14 major banks in India with a deposit of more than 50 crores each.

19th July 2021 marks the 52nd anniversary of the Banks Nationalisation.

All India Bank Employees Association has organised a month long Webinars from July 1 to 31 to commemorate the 52nd anniversary.

151.Which of the following became the first state in India to launch SOHUM-Automated Auditory Brainstem Response System under Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programme?

(a)Haryana

(b)Punjab

(c)Maharashtra

(d)Andhra Pradesh

(e)Himachal Pradesh

Answer: B

Punjab government launched an automated auditory brainstem response system (AABR) under universal new-born hearing screening programme.

Punjab has become the first state in the country to introduce the AABR system to manage hearing loss in new-born and young children.

This is done under the Universal new-born hearing screening programme.

152.Which village in Kerala has been bestowed with the title Kerala's first 'Book Village'?

(a)Amboori

(b)Perumkulam

(c)Vilavoorkal

(d)Vembayam

(e)Thalavady

Answer: B

Perumkulam, in Kollam District has been bestowed with the title Kerala's first 'Book Village'.

This claim to fame results from years of concerted efforts aimed at encouraging the habit of reading.

The library inculcates passion towards reading by setting up bookshelves, or 'Book Nests' placed at different corners of the village.

153. Ariel Henry has been elected as the new prime minister of which country?

- (a) Haiti
- (b) Guatemala
- (c) Jamaica
- (d) Hawaii
- (e) Lebanon

Answer: A

Amid political turmoil caused by the assassination of President Jovenel Moise, Ariel Henry was appointed as the new Prime Minister of Haiti.

Ariel Henry, a neurosurgeon and former cabinet minister was tapped as Prime Minister by the President just days before he was gunned down at his home on July 7, reported NHK World.

Henry will lead the nation until a new President is chosen in an election scheduled for September.

154. Which state government has launched a mobile application Kisan Organic for coordination and negotiation between farmers and the buyers in the state?

- (a) Rajasthan

(b) Andhra Pradesh

(c) Telangana

(d) Haryana

(e) Gujarat

Answer: A

The Rajasthan government has launched an application to facilitate the coordination and negotiation between farmers and buyers of organic produce.

Called the 'Raj Kisan Organic' application, it has been developed by the state's Agriculture Department.

The purchase and sale of organic products in the state can now be routed through this online medium.

Rajasthan agriculture minister Lalchand Kataria stated that more than 20,000 farmers became members of around 90 organic producer groups registered with the Rajasthan State Organic Certification Organisation.

155. Which platform would acquire Indian video e-commerce platform Simsim, as part of its efforts to help small businesses and retailers in India reach new customers?

- (a) Netflix
- (b) Hotstar
- (c) Youtube
- (d) Twitter
- (e) Facebook

Answer: C

YouTube said it will acquire Indian video e-commerce platform Simsim, as part of its efforts to help small businesses and retailers in India reach new customers.

The company, however, did not disclose the financial details of the transaction. There will be no immediate changes to Simsim and the app will continue operating independently, it added.

YouTube is working on ways to showcase Simsim offers to YouTube viewers.

156.Which airline has become the first airline in the Middle East to join the IATA (International Air Transport Association) Turbulence Aware platform?

- (a)Qatar Airways
- (b)Singapore Airlines
- (c)Cathay Pacific
- (d)Air New Zealand
- (e)None

Answer: A

Qatar Airways and the International Air Transport Association announced that Qatar Airways will become the first airline in the Middle East to join the IATA Turbulence Aware platform.

IATA's Turbulence Aware helps airlines mitigate the impact of turbulence, a leading cause of passenger and crew injuries and higher fuel costs each year.

With the recent announcement Qatar Airways has equipped 120 aircraft with the Turbulence Aware platform, with plans to expand to the rest of its fleet.

157.Which country has successfully test fired S-500 next-generation missile system from the Kapustin Yar range?

- (a)China
- (b)Russia
- (c)Israel
- (d)Iran
- (e)Saudi Arabia

Answer: B

Russia said it had successfully test-fired its new S-500 air defence missile systems at a southern training range and hit a high-speed ballistic target. Russia says the S-500, which is expected to have a maximum firing range of 600 kilometres, is the most advanced anti-missile system in the world and is capable of countering attacks from space.

158.Which village of Gujarat has come out with a unique idea of holding Balika Panchayat to take up issues pertaining to adolescent girls and women in the village?

- (a)Waghai
- (b)Kunariya
- (c)Hodka
- (d)Khavda
- (e)Madhapur

Answer: B

The Kunariya village of Kutch district in Gujarat has come up with a unique idea of holding Balika

Panchayat. The first-ever elections of this Balika Panchayat were successfully held in July 2021. Inspired by the TV series, Balika Vadhu, the Kunariya village in Kutch district held elections for the unique Balika Panchayat, which aims to develop leadership qualities in the girls for Future Panchayat polls.

This Panchayat will be run by the girls and for the girls.

The Sarpanch of this progressive village, Suresh Chhanga said the separate sitting arrangements will be given to these girls and they will be given to use the budget of gender sensitivity.

159. Recently, Indian warship INS Tabar has participated in a 2-day exercise with French frigate FNS Aquitaine and four Rafale fighter aircraft of the French Navy. Where was the exercise held?

- (a) Bay of Bengal
- (b) Arabian Sea
- (c) Gulf of Lion
- (d) Gulf of Guinea
- (e) Bay of Biscay

Answer: E

Indian warship INS Tabar was part of a two-day exercise with French frigate FNS Aquitaine and four Rafale fighter aircraft of the French Navy in the Bay of Biscay on July 15 and 16.

A wide range of operations including anti-submarine and air defence drills, replenishment at sea and firing were exercised by the ships,

160. Pedro Castillo has been elected as the new president of which country?

- (a) Peru
- (b) Palau
- (c) Cambodia
- (d) Syria
- (e) Haiti

Answer: A

Pedro Castillo has been declared president-elect of Peru, weeks after winning the popular vote in a tightly-contested run-off election.

Mr Castillo, a 51-year-old former school teacher and union leader, secured just over 50% of the votes. He will be sworn in as Peru's president on 28 July.

161. Which among the following country has become the top trading partner of India in 2020-21?

- (a) USA
- (b) China
- (c) Switzerland
- (d) Singapore
- (e) Russia

Answer: B

China became India's biggest trading partner in the first 9 months of FY21.

After being relegated to the second spot in the previous two fiscal years, China again became India's biggest trading partner in the first nine months of FY21.

This was despite heightened tensions between the two countries.

162. Which among the following country announced that women can now register for the annual Haj pilgrimage without a male guardian (mahram)?

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) Qatar
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Oman
- (e) UAE

Answer: A

Saudi Arabia has announced that women can now register for the annual Haj pilgrimage without a male guardian (mahram).

The development comes days after it was announced that Saudi women can now live on their own without requiring the consent of their father or male guardian after a new legal amendment by the Kingdom.

163. What is the extended deadline for linking the Aadhaar numbers of beneficiaries with their ration cards as notified by the central government?

- (a) September 30, 2021
- (b) October 31, 2021
- (c) December 31, 2021
- (d) January 31, 2022
- (e) March 31, 2021

Answer: A

The Union Government said that the timeline given to all States and Union Territories for linking the Aadhaar numbers of beneficiaries with their ration cards has been extended up to 30th of September this year.

164. Prasar Bharati has collaborated with which institute on NextGen Broadcasting Technology Center of Excellence to spur Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Media and Broadcasting?

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Ropar
- (c) IIT Madras
- (d) IIT Kanpur
- (e) IIT Pune

Answer: D

Solution:

Prasar Bharati and IIT Kanpur will collaborate on NextGen Broadcasting Technology Center of Excellence to spur Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Media and Broadcasting.

As a follow up to the Memorandum of Understanding, a Center of Excellence for Media and Broadcasting Technologies will be established at IIT Kanpur.

165. When is the Space Exploration Day observed across the globe?

- (a) 16th July
- (b) 17th July
- (c) 18th July

(d) 19th July

(e) 20th July

Answer: E

July 20 holds a special place in the world of space and science as it is commemorated as the Space Exploration Day. Back in 1969 on the same date, Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first humans to land on the Moon's surface.

Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the moon's surface in 1969 and he had called the event "one giant leap for mankind".

166. Telangana government has launched the 'Chief Minister's Dalit Empowerment Scheme' or 'Telangana Dalit Bandhu' on a pilot basis in which place?

(a) Huzurabad

(b) Amberpet

(c) Musheerabad

(d) Mahbubnagar

(e) Tandra

Answer: A

The Telangana government's ambitious Chief Minister's Dalit Empowerment Scheme, now christened 'Telangana Dalit Bandhu,' will be launched by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao in Huzurabad Assembly constituency of erstwhile Karimnagar district on a pilot basis.

The purpose of Dalit Bandhu scheme is to improve their socio-economic status.

167. Aman Gulia and Sagar Jaglan emerged as the new world champions of which among the following sports?

(a) Chess

(b) Wrestling

(c) Boxing

(d) Tennis

(e) Swimming

Answer: B

Young wrestlers Aman Gulia and Sagar Jaglan emerged as the new world champions in their respective categories as India dished out an impressive show on the second day of the Cadet World Championship 2021 at Budapest, Hungary. Gulia emerged the winner with a convincing 5-2 win over American Luke Joseph Lilledahl in a 48kg final while Jaglan blanked James Mockler Rowley 4-0 in the 80kg summit clash.

168. Who among the following has been appointed as the new prime minister of Eswatini?

(a) Cleopas Dlamini

(b) Barnabas Sibusiso

(c) Vincent Mhlanga

(d) Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini

(e) Martin Dlamini

Answer: A

Eswatini's King Mswati III appointed Cleopas Dlamini as the southern African nation's new prime minister, replacing Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, who died in December.

Dlamini was previously Chief Executive of the Public Service Pension Fund.

169.KTS Padannayil passed away in July 2021. He was related to which profession?

- (a) Actor
- (b) Politics
- (c) Singer
- (d) Writer
- (e) Journalist

Answer: A

Veteran Malayalam actor KTS Padannayil alias KT Subramanian Padannayil died. He was 88. He made his debut with director Rajasenan's Aniyam Bava Chettan Bava, which released in 1995. He stole the hearts of the people with his unique dialogue delivery.

170. According to Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane, how much amount has been sanctioned under Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme?

- (a) 2.73 lakh cr
- (b) 4.56 lakh
- (c) 3.67 lakh cr
- (d) 5.66 lakh cr
- (e) 7.23 lakh cr

Answer: A

Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Narayan Rane has said that the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme has been launched for

emergency credit lines of up to 4.5 lakh crore rupees to MSMEs and the same is backed by 10 per cent Central Government guarantee.

In a written reply in Lok Sabha, Mr. Rane said that 2.73 lakh crore rupees have been sanctioned under this scheme.

171. Which state has announced to set up its first horticultural crops processing cluster, including a mango processing unit ?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Odisha
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Answer: C

Karnataka will be setting up its first horticultural crops processing cluster, including a mango processing unit, in Ramanagara district. It will be set up through a PPP model with an estimated investment of about ₹500 crores.

40 acres of land in Bhairapattana near Ramanagara will be used for this purpose.

Mango processing units including common facilities will be established in 4 acres.

172. J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has inaugurated how many Digital Village Centres at Civil Secretariat in Srinagar on 20 July 2021?

- (a)11
- (b)22
- (c)33
- (d)44
- (e)55

Answer: D

J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated 44 Digital Village Centres at Civil Secretariat in Srinagar on 20 July 2021.

The new initiative will enable the government to disseminate its programme and policies through a readily available system.

They will digitally connect the Panchayats and strengthen the mode of public service delivery in Jammu and Kashmir.

173. Which country has launched a state-approved matchmaking app "Hamdam" to promote marriages in the Islamic country?

- (a)Iran
- (b)Kuwait
- (c)Oman
- (d)UAE
- (e)Qatar

Answer: A

Iran, facing a fall in fertility rates, has launched a state-approved matchmaking app "Hamdam" to promote marriages in the Islamic country.

The app gives advice for young singles seeking a marriage partner.

Iran's population could be among the oldest in the world in two decades after the fertility rate among Iranian women dropped 25% over the past four years.

174. Which among the following countries has reported a rise in cases of Norovirus, a highly contagious virus similar to the coronavirus?

- (a)US
- (b)England
- (c)China
- (d)Australia
- (e)South Korea

Answer: B

England has reported a rise in cases of Norovirus, a highly contagious virus similar to the coronavirus.

Norovirus is highly infectious and causes vomiting and diarrhoea but usually passes in a couple of days.

It is easily transmitted through contact with infected individuals or contaminated surfaces.

A person usually develops symptoms 12 to 48 hours after being exposed to norovirus.

175. The Defence Ministry has issued a tender for building six conventional submarines under Project-75 India. What is the estimated cost of the tender?

- (a)20000 cr
- (b)30000 cr
- (c)40000 cr
- (d)50000 cr

(e)60000 cr

Answer: D

In a major boost for the Indian Navy and Make in India, the Defence Ministry on 20 July 2021 issued a tender expected to be worth around ₹50,000 crores for building six conventional submarines under Project-75 India.

The submarines would be equipped with heavy-duty firepower so that the boats will have 12 Land Attack Cruise Missiles (LACM) along with Anti-Ship cruise missiles (ASCM).

176.Which state government has launched the 'Pink Protection' project to reduce crime against women?

- (a)Rajasthan
- (b)Uttar Pradesh
- (c)Kerala
- (d)Karnataka
- (e)Andhra Pradesh

Answer: C

The Kerala Police has launched a new initiative called the "Pink Protection" project for the protection of women in public, private and digital spaces.

For the project, 10 cars, 40 two-wheelers, including Bullet bikes and 20 bicycles, were allotted, which were flagged off by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

The "Pink Protection" project aims to prevent dowry-related issues, cyber-bullying and humiliation in public places. The project has 10 components, one

of which is activating the existing Pink Police Patrol system.

The system has been named "Pink Janamaithri Beat", under which police officials will conduct regular house visits to collect information on domestic violence.

177.Which among the following countries will conduct military drill in August 2021 with Tajikistan and Uzbekistan near the border with Afghanistan?

- (a)USA
- (b)Russia
- (c)China
- (d)UAE
- (e)Germany

Answer: B

Russia will conduct military drills next month with Tajikistan and Uzbekistan near the border with Afghanistan where the Taliban have launched an offensive against Afghan government troops.

The joint drills will take place August 5-10 at the Kharbmaidon training ground in Tajikistan near the Afghan border.

The troops will run drills to defeat illegal armed units that invaded the territory of an allied country.

The Defence Ministry said, troops from a Russian military base in Tajikistan and the Central Military District will take part in the games.

178.How much grant has been recommended by the 15th Finance Commission for online learning and

development of professional courses in regional languages for higher education in India?

- (a) 4143 cr
- (b) 5143 cr
- (c) 6143 cr
- (d) 7143 cr
- (e) 8143 cr

Answer: C

The 15th Finance Commission has recommended a grant of 6,143 crore rupees for online learning and development of professional courses in regional languages for higher education in India.

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has mentioned this in Lok Sabha in a written reply.

The Minister said that the promotion of online education has been provided through the development of Massive Open Online Courses, MOOCs, direct to home-DTH content development, digital classrooms and provision of devices for 25 lakh students belonging to socially and economically weaker sections of the society.

179. Recently, Saffola Mealmaker has launched an e-cookbook titled 'Delicious Soya Cook Book'. The book has been curated by whom among the following?

- (a) Kunal Kapoor
- (b) Sanjeev Kapoor
- (c) Vikas Khanna
- (d) Pankaj Bhadouria
- (e) Vicky Ratnani

Answer: A

Saffola Mealmaker announced the launch of its very own e-cookbook: 'Saffola Mealmaker Delicious Soya CookBook' featuring some of the most interesting ways to use the versatile, healthy and tasty ingredient soya specially curated by renowned celebrity Chef Kunal Kapur.

This e-cookbook has over 50+ easy-to-make recipes which guarantees lots of experimentation and fun in the kitchen.

180. IAF chief Bhadauria was invited by which of the following nations to review its Passing Out Parade?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Iran
- (e) Bangladesh

Answer: E

Signifying the strong bonds between India and Bangladesh, Indian Air Force chief RKS Bhadauria reviewed the Passing Out Parade and Commissioning Ceremony at Bangladesh Air Force. This was the first instance when any foreign chief was invited to review the Parade as the Chief Guest.

181. The Cachar district has received the National Silver SKOCH award under the health category. The district is located in which state?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Odisha

- (c) Assam
(d) Madhya Pradesh
(e) Telangana

Answer: C

The Cachar district of Barak Valley in South Assam has got the prestigious National Silver SKOCH award under health category on the project called "Pushti Nirbhor"

The prime objectives were to train the villagers towards becoming self-reliant especially during pandemic situations, to explore the household Nutri gardens and earn the marketing value and to meet nutritional needs of the families.

182. Which bank has recently selected Paisalo as its National Corporate Business Correspondent for boosting its financial inclusion drive?

- (a) State Bank of India
(b) Bank of Baroda
(c) ICICI
(d) HDFC
(e) Union Bank of India

Answer: A

State Bank of India has selected Paisalo Digital as its National Corporate Business Correspondent for boosting its financial inclusion drive with the help of kiosk-based banking services.

Paisalo is tapping into the Rs 8 lakh crore market opportunity of small ticket loans for India's 365 million unbanked population.

183. U GRO Capital announced the launch of a co-lending partnership for micro, small and medium enterprises with which of the following banks?

- (a) SBI
(b) IDBI
(c) HDFC
(d) BOB
(e) ICICI

Answer: D

U GRO Capital announced the launch of a co-lending partnership for micro, small and medium enterprises with Bank of Baroda.

Called Pratham, it is under Reserve Bank of India's revised co-lending guidelines.

It is a ₹1,000-crore co-lending programme that will allow MSMEs to avail customised lending solutions at a competitive rate of interest with a significant reduction in turn-around time.

184. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk 2021' is a joint military exercise between which of the following countries?

- (a) Turkey and Azerbaijan
(b) Tajikistan and Armenia
(c) Uzbekistan and Armenia
(d) Azerbaijan and Armenia
(e) Turkey and Armenia

Answer: A

The Turkish and Azerbaijani militaries completed joint drills in Baku.

The two countries deployed tanks, helicopters, and drones in the drills in an effort to improve the two countries' combat interoperability.

The drills, called "Mustafa Kemal Atatürk 2021, The name is a reference to modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

185.Name the innovative programme launched by the NSE Foundation in partnership with NITI Aayog and UNICEF for increased vaccination in Aspirational District?

- (a)KAVACH
- (b)SURAKSHA
- (c)CAVACH
- (d)COVAX
- (e)CODRIVE

Answer: C

NSE Foundation, a Section 8 subsidiary of National Stock Exchange of India Limited, has launched an innovative programme called Cavach (COVID-19 and Vaccination Assistance Campaign for Health) in partnership with UNICEF and NITI Aayog.

Dr Vinod K. Paul, Member NITI Aayog, launched Project CAVACH in the presence of District Collectors and NSE Officials.

186.Name the Shooter from Madhya Pradesh who has set a world record at the Para Sport Cup in Peru.

- (a)Apurvi Chandela
- (b)Elavenil Valarivan.

(c)Divyanshi Singh

(d)Rubina Francis

(e)Chinki Yadav

Answer: D

Shooter Rubina Francis (21) has set a world record at the Para Sport Cup in Peru.

She has won gold in the 10-metre air pistol para-event for women.

Scoring 238.1 points, she went past the world record of Aysegul Pehlivanlar of Turkey.

This win also secured her the quota for India at the Tokyo Summer Paralympics 2020.

187.Gira Sarabhai passed away recently. She was the co-founder of which of the following institutes?

- (a)National Eye Institute
- (b)National Institute of Design
- (c)National Institute of Technology
- (d)National Human Genome Research Institute
- (e)National Institute on Aging

Answer: B

Gira Sarabhai Co-founder Of National Institute of Design Passes Away At 98.

The pioneer of design education in the nation has played a vital part in establishing several other institutions and also made remarkable contributions in the field of art and architecture.

She was the daughter of industrialist Ambalal Sarabhai & sister of Dr Vikram Sarabhai. She also established the Calico Museum of Textiles.

188. Australia became only the second country in the world to host the Olympics in three different cities.

Which was the first country to host the Olympics in three different cities?

- (a) USA
- (b) UK
- (c) Japan
- (d) Russia
- (e) Indonesia

Answer: A

Brisbane was announced as the host of the 2032 Olympics, thus becoming the third Australian city to host the Games.

Australia became only the second country in the world, after the United States, to host the Olympics in three different cities.

Brisbane had been chosen as the "preferred host" in February.

189. India successfully flight-tested the New Generation Akash Missile (Akash-NG) off the Odisha coast. What is the range of the missile?

- (a) 40 km
- (b) 50 km
- (c) 60 km
- (d) 70 km
- (e) 80 km

Answer: E

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted the second flight test of the New Generation Akash

(Akash-NG) Missile from an integrated test range in Chandipur off the Odisha coast.

The range of the new version is about 80 kms, an enhancement from the current 40 kms. It is capable of intercepting high speed aerial threats and will be a force multiplier.

The test was carried out against a high-speed unmanned aerial target that was successfully intercepted by the missile.

190. Former Governor of RBI, Duvvuri Subbarao recently released the book titled 'Bank with a Soul: Equitas'. The book is authored by whom among the following?

- (a) CK Garyali
- (b) NV Ramana
- (c) RV Raveendran
- (d) BK Sinha
- (e) Yalamanchili Sivaji

Answer: A

Former RBI Governor, Duvvuri Subbarao has unveiled a book 'Bank With A Soul: Equitas' authored by Dr. C K Garyali.

Dr. Garyali is a founder trustee of EDIT (Equitas Development Initiative Trust) and the book chronicles the journey of Equitas and EDIT in transforming the lives of women with frequent social reform initiatives helping them set up micro-enterprises.

191. When is the National Broadcasting Day observed in India?

- (a) 20th July
- (b) 21st July
- (c) 22nd July
- (d) 23rd July
- (e) 24th July

Answer: D

National Broadcasting Day is observed annually in India on 23 July to commemorate the first-ever radio broadcast in the country that went on air from the Bombay Station under the Indian Broadcasting Company in 1927.

All India Radio (AIR) has been officially known since 1956 as 'Akashvani'.

It has the largest radio network in the world. AIR is owned by Prasar Bharti, which is a statutory autonomous body.

192. Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda recently bagged the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar 2020. He contributed his writing in which language?

- (a) Marathi
- (b) Kannada
- (c) Odia
- (d) Telugu
- (e) Urdu

Answer: C

The Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar, the national award instituted in memory of late poet laureate

Kuvempu, has been awarded to renowned Odia poet Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda for the year 2020. Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Trust instituted this national annual literary award in 2013 to recognise litterateurs who had contributed in any language recognised by the Constitution of India.

He was awarded the Gangadhar National Award in 2010, & the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1985

193. India recorded the highest ever construction speed of National Highways in 2020-21. How much area is to be constructed per day?

- (a) 36.5 Km
- (b) 37.5 Km
- (c) 38.5 Km
- (d) 39.5 Km
- (e) 40.5 Km

Answer: A

India recorded the highest ever construction speed of National Highways in 2020-21 with a pace of 36.5 km per day.

The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, said India has also created a world record by constructing a 2.5 km four-lane concrete road in just 24 hours and 26 km single lane Bitumen road in just 21 hours.

194. Which of the following smartphone maker companies has become the world's second-biggest smartphone maker?

- (a) Samsung

(b)Xiaomi

(c)Vivo

(d)Oppo

(e)Apple

Answer: B

Xiaomi Corp. has become the world's second biggest smartphone maker over the past quarter following an 83 per cent jump in shipments, according to preliminary estimates by Canalys. This marks the first occasion that Xiaomi, the Chinese maker of everything from rice cookers to gaming monitors, has broken into the top two, historically dominated by Samsung Electronics Co. and Apple Inc.

195.Which of the following countries is the first & only country in the Council of Europe to have withdrawn from the Istanbul Convention?

(a)Armenia

(b)Belgium

(c)Turkey

(d)Israel

(e)Georgia

Answer: C

The Istanbul Convention is also known as Council of Europe Convention on Preventing & Combating Violence against Women & Domestic Violence, is a regional human rights instrument that aims to protect women against all forms of violence & hold perpetrators accountable.

Turkey is the first & only country in the Council of

Europe to have withdrawn from a human rights convention.

196.India participated in the environment ministers' meeting at the 16th G20 Summit. Which country held the presidency of the Summit this year?

(a)UK

(b)Italy

(c)Russia

(d)Canada

(e)Germany

Answer: B

India will participate in the environment ministers' meeting at the 16th G20 Summit.

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav will virtually take part in the two-day meeting, along with Minister of State for Environment Ashwini Choubey.

The 16th G20 Summit under Italian Presidency is slated to revolve around its primary theme of "People, Planet" and Prosperity"

197.Three monuments of Andhra Pradesh have been identified as Adarsh Smarak. Which one of the following is not one among them?

(a)Monuments at Nagarjunakonda

(b)Budhhist Remains at Salihundam

(c)Veerabhadra Temple

(d)Gopachal Parvat

(e)Both b & c

Answer: D

Three monuments of Andhra Pradesh namely (i) Monuments at Nagarjunakonda, District Guntur (ii) Buddhist Remains at Salihundam, District Srikakulam, and (iii) Veerabhadra Temple at Lepakshi in District Anantapuram have been identified as Adarsh Smarak for providing additional facilities like Wi-Fi, Cafeteria, Interpretation centre, Braille signages, Illumination, etc.

Further, Fort at Gandikota has been included in the Adopt-a-Heritage scheme of the Ministry of Tourism, which is in PPP mode.

198.DRDO recently launched indigenously developed low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missiles. What is the maximum range of the missile?

- (a) 1.5 km
- (b) 2.5 km
- (c) 3.5 km
- (d) 4.5 km
- (e) 5.5 km

Answer: B

The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested indigenously developed low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM). The man-portable missile is launched using a tripod designed for a maximum range of 2.5 km with a launch weight of less than 15 kg.

199.The government approved the Biodiversity Management Plan (BDMP) worth Rs 18 crore for Marwah Forest Division to be funded by CVPP. Marwah forest division is located in which state?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Assam
- (e) Jammu & Kashmir

Answer: B

The government approved the Biodiversity Management Plan (BDMP) worth Rs 18 crore for Marwah Forest Division to be funded by Chenab Valley Power Project (CVPP) under its 'Environment Management Plan' component.

The order stated that under this plan, an area of 1500 hectare would be treated with 4.50 lakh rft fencing, 7.75 lakh plants to be planted, 15.05 lakh plant production, 5400 cubic metre soil conservation, three wooden bridges, construction of 20 guard huts and purchasing and utilising of two mobility vans over a period of seven years (from 2021-22 to 2027-28) with the annual phasing of physical and financial targets prescribed by the government.

200.Which of the following states/UT recently hosted a three day long Gurez Festival to highlight the heritage and culture of Gurez valley?

- (a) Jammu & Kashmir
- (b) Ladakh

Important Monthly Current Affairs MCQ's PDF – July 2021

- (c)Uttarakhand
- (d)Himachal Pradesh
- (e)Mizoram

Answer: A

The tourism department of Jammu and Kashmir recently hosted a three-day festival to boost tourism in Gurez Valley (a valley located in the high Himalayas) in Bandipora district.

Gurez Festival, which aims to highlight the heritage and culture of the area. Gurez not only has scenic beauty but the local culture including music and dance is also attractive.

In terms of adventure, fishing, rafting, trekking and even for nature walks this is a good destination.

July 4th week Current Affairs MCQ

1. Which bank has launched a loan scheme titled 'Bank Samagra' for the infrastructure development of Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperatives (PACS)?

- (a) Bank of Maharashtra
- (b) Kerala Bank
- (c) Shivalik Mercantile Bank
- (d) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (e) Indian Bank

Answer: B

Kerala Bank has launched a loan scheme titled 'Kerala Bank Samagra' for the infrastructure development of Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperatives (PACS).

The comprehensive loan scheme was devised to help PACS create job opportunities in rural areas and overcome the Covid crisis.

About Kerala Bank

Headquarters: Thiruvananthapuram

CEO: Shr. PS Rajan

2. Folk music legend Fakir Alamgir passed away recently. He belonged to which country?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Nepal
- (d) India
- (e) Bhutan

Answer: A

Folk music legend and freedom fighter Fakir Alamgir passed away in Dhaka. He was suffering from Coronavirus infection and suffered a heart attack. He was 71.

Singer, musician and songwriter, Fakir Alamgir was a leading exponent of Gono Sangeet or songs of the masses.

He was known as a leading voice for the weaker sections of society.

3. Which of the following insurance companies announced the launch of Optima Secure, a new health indemnity-based health insurance product?

- (a) Aegon Life Insurance
- (b) HDFC Ergo General Insurance
- (c) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- (d) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- (e) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance

Answer: B

HDFC ERGO General Insurance announced the launch of Optima Secure, a new health indemnity insurance product that seeks to redefine the value customers can get from their insurance plan. According to the HDFC ERGO, the product has the “secure, plus, protect, and restore benefits built-in”, which combine to offer customers up to four times their sum insured at no additional charge, while guaranteeing coverage for listed non-medical expenses.

4. Which bank has announced a strategic alliance with SMC Global Securities Limited for offering online trading services to customers?

- (a) Andhra Bank
- (b) Dena Bank
- (c) Vijaya Bank
- (d) Dhanlaxmi Bank
- (e) Federal Bank

Answer: D

The Dhanlaxmi bank announced a strategic alliance with SMC Global Securities Limited for offering online trading services to customers.

The tie-up will offer an integrated 3-in-1 account, comprising a Savings, Demat and Trading account providing a hassle free and convenient trading experience to the Dhanlaxmi Bank customers through the portal “www.smctradeonline.com apart from mobile trading app (SMC ACE) and desktop based software

5. The Bangladesh government is working to develop a social media platform alternative to Facebook.

What is the name of the platform?

- (a) Jogajog
- (b) Alapan
- (c) Douban
- (d) Sina weibo
- (e) Tehreek

Answer: A

The Bangladesh government is working to develop a social media platform named ‘Jogajog’ as an alternative to Facebook.

The platform will help the local entrepreneurs to create their own marketplace for sharing information and data without depending on any foreign platform. The government is also working to develop a communication app ‘Alapan’ as an alternative to Whatsapp.

Zunaid Ahmed Palak said that the government also plans to develop a streaming app as an alternative

to YouTube so that the huge outflow of money due to advertisements from the country could be stopped.

6. Recently a report on 'Renewable Integration in India 2021' was released. The report was launched by which among the following agencies?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) International Energy Agency
- (c) UNEP
- (d) IRENA
- (e) Both a & b

Answer: E

A report on "Renewables Integration in India 2021" was jointly launched by Dr. Rakesh Sarwal, Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog & Keisuke Sadamori, Director of Energy Markets and Security, IEA on 22nd July, 2021.

The report is based on the outcome of three states workshops held with the Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat to understand the specific energy transition challenges faced by these renewable-rich states.

The report uses IEA modelling results to show the effects of different flexibility options on the power system.

7. Income Tax Department celebrates July 24 as the Income tax day. When was the first authority to administer income tax in India created?

- (a) 1850

- (b) 1860

- (c) 1870

- (d) 1880

- (e) 1890

Answer: B

The Income Tax department marked 24th July 2021 as the 160th Income Tax Day or Aaykar Diwas.

July 24 has been celebrated as the Income Tax day in India since 2010.

The I-T department decided in 2010 to mark July 24 as the day for the annual celebration to mark 150 years of this levy from that year onwards.

Income tax was first levied as a duty in the year 1860 and the authority to levy that duty came into force on July 24 of that year.

8. World's first 3D-printed steel bridge was opened to the public in July 2021. Where is the Bridge located?

- (a) London

- (b) Paris

- (c) Amsterdam

- (d) Tokyo

- (e) Shanghai

Answer: C

The world's first 3D-printed steel bridge was opened to the public in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

It was developed by MX3D, a Dutch robotics company, in collaboration with a consortium of experts, and represents a major milestone for 3D-printing technology.

After four years of development, the bridge was unveiled by Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Netherlands.

It was installed over one of the oldest canals in Amsterdam's city centre – the Oudezids Achterburgwal.

9. Recently the Union government approved a Rs 6322 crore production-linked incentive scheme for speciality steel. What will be the duration of the scheme?

- (a) 3 years
- (b) 4 years
- (c) 5 years
- (d) 7 years
- (e) 10 years

Answer: C

The government approved a Rs 6,322-crore production linked incentive (PLI) scheme to boost the production of speciality steel in India.

It will boost manufacturing and help in reducing imports.

The scheme will also attract an additional investment of about Rs 40,000 crore and lead to a capacity addition of 25 million tonnes (MT).

The duration of the scheme will be five years, from 2023-24 to 2027-28.

The PLI scheme will cover coated/plated steel products, high strength/wear resistant steel, specialty rails, alloy steel products, steel wires and electrical steel.

10. World Bank has approved a loan of 125 million dollars to support which state against natural disasters, climate change impacts, disease outbreaks, and pandemics?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: A

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors has approved a \$125 million program to support Kerala's preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, disease outbreaks, and pandemics. The Resilient Kerala Program will focus on two key areas.

The program is part of a programmatic series of Bank-financed operations in the state.

The program will be state-wide and in the Pamba River Basin, Kerala will test a multisectoral approach in Idukki, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, and Alappuzha districts.

11. Which of the following ministries formed three advisory groups to resolve the challenges faced by it due Covid-19?

- (a) Ministry of Defence
- (b) Ministry of Civil Aviation
- (c) Ministry of MSME
- (d) Ministry of Power

(e)Ministry of Railway

Answer: B

The Civil Aviation Ministry has formed three advisory groups comprising airlines, airport operators, cargo carriers, ground handling companies, flying training organisations and maintenance, repair and overhaul companies to deliberate and resolve challenges faced by the sector.

The groups shall meet regularly to deliberate upon issues and resolve challenges facing each sector.

12.Which financial service corporation has acquired Currencycloud to provide foreign exchange services for cross-border payments to its customers?

- (a)PayPal
- (b)Razorpay
- (c)Mastercard
- (d)Visa
- (e)American Express

Answer: D

Visa has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Currencycloud, a global platform that enables banks and fintechs to provide foreign exchange services for cross-border payments.

The acquisition is valued at £700 million.

The Currencycloud platform supports nearly 500 banking and technology clients with reach in over 180 countries.

Currencycloud will strengthen Visa's existing foreign exchange capabilities by extending them to better serve financial institutions, fintechs and

partners while enabling new use cases and payment flows.

13.Indian Bank has signed an MOU with IIT Guwahati for financing start-ups under Bank's loan product "IND Spring Board". Where is the headquarters of the bank located?

- (a)Chennai
- (b)Bengaluru
- (c)Thiruvananthapuram
- (d)Lucknow
- (e)New Delhi

Answer: A

Chennai-headquartered Indian Bank has signed an agreement with IIT Guwahati Technology Incubation Centre (TIC) for financing start-ups under Bank's loan product "IND Spring Board".

Indian Bank's 'Ind Spring Board' scheme aims to empower start-ups to realise their research efforts powered by financial support from the bank.

Under this product, the bank supports start-ups by extending up to ₹50 crore as working capital and fund-based term loan requirements for acquiring fixed assets.

14.Recently, India and Maldives have signed an agreement for implementing community development projects in the Indian Ocean. What is the amount granted for the project?

- (a)2.5 million dollar
- (b)3.5 million dollar

(c) 4.5 million dollar

(d) 5.5 million dollar

(e) 6.5 million dollar

Answer: C

India and the Maldives signed an agreement for a grant of \$4.5 million for implementing community development projects in the Indian Ocean

archipelago that is seen as a key pillar of New

Delhi's "Neighbourhood First" policy.

The agreement was signed by external affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Maldivian counterpart Abdulla Shahid, who is also president-elect of the UN General Assembly.

Shahid is currently on a three-day visit to India.

15. Sikkil R Bhaskaran passed away recently. He was a noted _____.

(a) Violinist

(b) Guitarist

(c) Sitarist

(d) Lyricist

(e) Pianist

Answer: A

In Tamil Nadu, noted Carnatic Classical Violinist 'Kalaimamani' Sikkil Shri R Bhaskaran passed away at Chennai today. He was 85.

He started learning the Violin at the age of 11 from Thiruvavur Shri Subba Iyer and later trained under Mayuram Shri Govindarajan Pillai.

He gave his First public performance at 15 years of age and since then has regularly appeared in Music Concerts accompanying many leading artists.

During his close to 5 decades of Musical Career, Bhaskaran has been bestowed with many laurels, Awards & Honours.

16. Which country has offered India its first invite for Troika Plus Meets on Afghanistan?

(a) Canada

(b) USA

(c) Russia

(d) Iran

(e) Israel

Answer: C

Russia, India's neighboring country has invited India for the first time to the Russia-US-China Troika Plus meet in Afghanistan.

In the meeting, it would be discussed, among other issues, the role of the Taliban and the future of the landlocked country.

The decision to invite India for this meet was signaled at the South Central Asia connectivity meet at Tashkent.

Iran has also been invited to the meeting as like India. Pakistan and its representatives from Kabul might be part of the meet.

Russia is trying to form a regional consensus on the future of Afghanistan thus the meeting would be held in the near future.

17. Which of the following IIMs has inked an agreement with the Arunachal Pradesh government to foster better financial and policy management to improve livelihoods?

- (a) IIM Kozhikode
- (b) IIT Shillong
- (c) IIM Jammu
- (d) IIM Bangalore
- (e) IIM Ahmedabad

Answer: B

Arunachal Pradesh government has inked an agreement with the Indian Institute of Management Shillong here to foster better financial and policy management aimed at improving livelihoods.

The MoU is aimed at fostering mutual agreement between the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Centre for Policy Research Analysis of IIM Shillong and the Finance Planning and Investment Department of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

IIM Shillong will assist the government of Arunachal Pradesh in developing policies and roadmap for business development in handloom, horticulture, tourism, logistics and BPO sector, etc," it added.

18. The Indian Olympic Association has roped in whom among the following as a sponsor for the Indian contingent at the ongoing Tokyo Games?

- (a) Adani Groups
- (b) Reliance industries
- (c) TCS

(d) SBI

(e) Amul India

Answer: A

The Indian Olympic Association roped in the Adani Group as a sponsor for the Indian contingent at the ongoing Tokyo Games.

IOA secretary general Rajiv Mehta, who is in Tokyo, announced the development.

"Adani has confirmed to us a good sponsorship association and support for the future also," he added.

The IOA had earlier entered into sponsorship deals with various private entities, including dairy giant Amul, mobile gaming platform MPL Sports Foundation, JSW Sports among others.

19. Mirabai Chanu is the first Indian woman athlete to win an Olympic weightlifting medal at Tokyo 2020. She belongs to which Indian state?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Nagaland
- (e) Meghalaya

Answer: B

Ace Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu clinched a Silver and became the first Indian to win an Olympic medal at the 2020 Tokyo Games in the women's 49kg weightlifting event.

Mira Bai Chanu is a 26-year-old weightlifter from the state of Manipur

The Gold medal went to China's Hou Zhihui, who was just too good on the day.

This is the first time India has won a medal on the opening day of the Olympic Games.

This was India's first weightlifting medal at the Olympic Games in more than 20 years, since Karnam Malleshwari in Sydney.

20. In July 2021, the cabinet approved the establishment of a central university in the union territory of Ladakh. The central university will be constructed with a project cost of Rs _____ crore.

- (a) ₹ 500 Cr
- (b) ₹ 600 Cr
- (c) ₹ 680 Cr
- (d) ₹ 700 Cr
- (e) ₹ 750 Cr

Answer: E

The cabinet approved the establishment of a central university in the union territory of Ladakh, information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur said. He added that the central university will be constructed with a project cost of Rs 750 crore.

The minister said phase 1 of the project will be completed in four years

Presently, there is no such similar organisation within the newly formed UT of Ladakh.

21. The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) announced which of the following cities as the new venue/venues and host city/cities for the competition?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Pune
- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Both a, b
- (e) Both b, c

Answer: D

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) announced that the Mumbai Football Arena and Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Balewadi, Pune will be the new venues and host cities for the competition.

The Asian Football Confederation dropped Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad as venues to minimise the travelling time for participants and ensure an "optimum environment" for a bio-secure bubble.

22. Recently CRPF signed an MoU with C-DAC to train manpower of force in advanced technologies.

Name the Director General of CRPF.

- (a) Rakesh Asthana
- (b) Kuldiep Singh
- (c) Surjeet Singh Deswal
- (d) Krishnaswamy Natarajan
- (e) Manoj Mukund Narvane

Answer: B

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing C-DAC to train the manpower of the force in advanced technologies and undertake joint projects. The MoU aims at augmenting the technical capabilities of CRPF by training its manpower in advanced areas like the Internet of Things (IoT), Cybersecurity, AI, etc.

About CRPF

Headquarters: New Delhi

Formed: 27 July 1939.

Director General: Kuldip Singh

23. India has entered the top 10 list of the countries exporting agricultural produce in the year 2019 with a sizable share in the export 4 items. Which one is not one among them?

- (a) Rice
- (b) Cotton
- (c) Soya Bean
- (d) Meat
- (e) Maize

Answer: E

India has entered the top ten list of agricultural produce exporters in 2019 with a significant share within the export of rice, soya beans, cotton and meat, according to a World Trade Organisation (WTO) report on trends in world agricultural trade in recent 25 years.

In 2019, India ranked ninth with a share of 3.1% in global agricultural exports. Earlier this place was New Zealand.

Similarly, Mexico has ranked seventh with a share of 3.4% in global agricultural exports, which was previously followed by Malaysia. In the 'meat and edible meat offal' category, India was ranked eighth with a 4 per cent share in global trade.

While the US, which topped the list in 1995 (22.2%), was overtaken by the European Union in 2019 (16.1%).

Brazil maintained its ranking as the third-largest exporter, increasing its share from 4.8% in 1995 to 7.8% in 2019.

China climbed from the sixth spot in 1995 (4%) to fourth in 2019 (5.4%)

24. Recently, UNESCO strips England's Liverpool of its world heritage status. In which year, it was named as a World heritage Site?

- (a) 2000
- (b) 2004
- (c) 2007
- (d) 2009
- (e) 2012

Answer: B

The English city of Liverpool has been removed from UNESCO's list of world heritage sites after the United Nations' cultural agency found new buildings, including a football stadium, undermining the attractiveness of its Victorian docks.

Liverpool was named a World Heritage Site in 2004, joining cultural landmarks such as the Great Wall of China, the Taj Mahal, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

The city is only the third place to be removed from the prestigious list.

The only other sites stripped previously of the title are a wildlife sanctuary in Oman in 2007 after poaching and habitat loss and the Dresden Elbe valley in Germany in 2009 when a four-lane motorway bridge was built over the river.

The heritage label gives historic sites access to UN conservation funding as well as featuring in tourist guidebooks across the world.

25. India's GM Viswanathan Anand won the Sparkassen Trophy by defeating whom among the following?

- (a) Vladimir Kramnik
- (b) Hikaru Nakamura
- (c) Magnus Carlsen
- (d) Evangelos Katsioulis
- (e) Garry Kasparov

Answer: A

Viswanathan Anand defeated Russia's Vladimir Kramnik to win the Sparkassen Trophy at Dortmund. Anand needed only a draw in the final game of the No-Castling Chess event, and he got it in 40 moves.

26. Name a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance who has been appointed as a member of the UN tax committee for the 2021 to 2025 term.

- (a) Suman Chatterjee
- (b) Tanmay kumar
- (c) Rasmi Ranjan Das
- (d) Rajshekhar
- (e) Ramesh Kumar

Answer: C

Rasmi Ranjan Das, a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, has been appointed as a member of the UN tax committee for the 2021 to 2025 term.

Das is among the tax experts from around the world who has been appointed as a member of the UN tax committee.

The committee, formally known as the UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, guides countries' efforts to advance stronger and more forward-looking tax policies adapted to the realities of globalised trade and investment.

Other members of the UN Tax Committee appointed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres hail from countries such as Nigeria, Chile, South Korea, Malawi, Mexico, Ireland, Indonesia, Myanmar, Angola, Russia, Canada, Norway, Germany, Italy, Sweden and China.

27. Senior IPS officer Nasir Kamal has been appointed the Director-General of the Bureau of Civil

Aviation Security (BCAS) for a tenure of _____ year.

- (a)1
- (b)2
- (c)3
- (d)4
- (e)5

Answer: A

Senior IPS officer Nasir Kamal has been appointed the Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

He is a 1986-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Kamal's appointment to the post of Director General in BCAS for a tenure up to his superannuation on July 31, 2022.

28. Recently the Union cabinet approved the raising of FDI limit in public sector oil refiners. What is the proposed FDI limit?

- (a)49%
- (b)51%
- (c)74%
- (d)100%
- (e)None of the above

Answer: D

The Union Cabinet approved raising the foreign investment limit in privatisation-bound public sector oil refiners, a move that will aid the sale of government stake in BPCL.

Officials said the Cabinet has approved a proposal to allow foreign direct investment (FDI) limit in public sector refineries that are disinvestment candidates to 100 per cent from the current 49 per cent.

At present 49 percent FDI is allowed in oil refineries promoted by public sector companies under the automatic route.

29. Which of the following IITs launched the first technology innovation hub to find cyber security solutions for anti-drones technologies?

- (a)IIT Delhi
- (b)IIT Pune
- (c)IIT Bombay
- (d)IIT Kanpur
- (e)IIT Roorkee

Answer: D

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) has launched the first technology innovation hub to find cybersecurity solutions for anti-drones technologies, intrusion detection systems, block-chain and cyber-physical systems.

As many as 13 start-ups and 25 research and development principal investigators were selected after a rigorous application process.

The presence of cutting-edge technology in cybersecurity is accompanied by an increasing need to protect digital assets and deploy solutions for the common public as well as government and industry.

30. Who has won the gold medal in the first ever skateboarding competition in the Tokyo Olympics ?

- (a) Kelvin Hoefler
- (b) Yuto Horigome
- (c) Jagger Eaton
- (d) Nyjah Huston
- (e) Sakura Yosoizumi

Answer: B

Yuto Horigome of Japan claimed the first Olympic gold medal in skateboarding.

Kelvin Hoefler of Brazil won silver in the men's street skating competition, while Jagger Eaton of the United States clinched the bronze.

Skateboarding's inclusion into the Olympics marks a turning point for the sport, which has its roots in youth street culture and has influenced everything from art to fashion.

31. July 26 is celebrated as Kargil Vijaya Diwas to mark India's victory over Pakistani forces on the Kargil heights. In which year, the Kargil war fought?

- (a) 1971
- (b) 1976
- (c) 1991
- (d) 1989
- (e) 1999

Answer: E

July 26 is celebrated as Kargil Vijay Diwas to mark India's victory over Pakistani forces on the Kargil heights.

Year 2021 marks the completion of 22 years of the Kargil War.

On this day, the heroes of the Indian Army are remembered who lost their lives back in 1999 but ensured India's win over Pakistan.

In a war that lasted over 60 days in Ladakh's Kargil, India ousted the neighbouring nation's military forces and took back control of the high outposts in the region.

32. Recently, RBI has revised the threshold of personal amount to any director of a bank to 5 crores. What was the previous limit?

- (a) 25 Lakh
- (b) 50 Lakh
- (c) 1 crore
- (d) 2 crore
- (e) 3 crore

Answer: A

The Reserve Bank of India increased the limit of personal loans given to any director of a bank to Rs 5 crore, from Rs 25 lakh earlier.

The loan limit of Rs 25 lakh was fixed way back in 1996, and needed updating to reflect the increase in general prices since then. All loans given to directors and their relatives are considered personal loans by the bank.

The increased limits apply to all scheduled commercial banks, except regional rural banks, small finance banks and all local area banks.

33. Recently the Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa)

Temple, Telangana has been inscribed as a

UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is India's

_____ World Heritage Site.

(a) 35th

(b) 36th

(c) 37th

(d) 38th

(e) 39th

Answer: E

On July 25th 2021, India got its 39th World Heritage Site.

The Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Telangana has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The decision was taken at the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO .

Ramappa temple, a 13th century engineering marvel named after its architect, Ramappa, was proposed by the government as its only nomination for the UNESCO World Heritage site tag for the year 2019.

The temple complexes of Kakatiyas have a distinct style, technology and decoration exhibiting the influence of the Kakatiyan sculptor.

The temple stands on a six feet high star-shaped platform with walls, pillars and ceilings.

34. The cities of Orchha and Gwalior of Madhya Pradesh have been selected by UNESCO under its 'Historic Urban Landscape Project.' In which year, the project was started?

(a) 2011

(b) 2012

(c) 2013

(d) 2014

(e) 2015

Answer: A

In the state of Madhya Pradesh, the cities of Orchha and Gwalior have been selected by UNESCO under its 'Historic Urban Landscape Project.'

This project was started in the year 2011.

UNESCO's Historic Urban Landscape project for the cities of Orchha and Gwalior was launched through video conferencing by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

Six cities of South Asia, including the Indian cities of Varanasi and Ajmer, are already involved in this project.

Gwalior and Orchha have been included as the 7th and 8th cities of South Asia.

35. Standalone health insurer Max Bupa Health Insurance has rebranded itself to _____ Health Insurance.

(a) True North

(b) Niva Bupa

(c) True Bupa

(d) North Bupa

(e) True Max

Answer: B

Standalone health insurer Max Bupa Health

Insurance, backed by private equity firm True North

and Bupa, has rebranded itself to Niva Bupa Health Insurance.

Owing to a change in shareholding pattern, with the exit of Max India and entry of private equity firm

True North, Max Bupa needed to create a new

brand identity as part of the transition

Niva Bupa is one of the five pure-play health

insurers in the country. Others in the space are Start

Health and Allied Insurance, Care Health Insurance,

Manipal Cigna Health Insurance, and Aditya Birla

Health Insurance.

36. International Finance Corporation (IFC) has extended a loan of _____ million to HDFC Ltd to boost affordable housing finance in India.

(a) \$100 mn

(b) \$150 mn

(c) \$180 mn

(d) \$200 mn

(e) \$250 mn

Answer: E

International Finance Corporation (IFC), the investment arm of the World Bank group, has extended a loan of \$250 million to HDFC Ltd to boost affordable housing finance in India.

At least 25 per cent of the financing has been earmarked for green affordable housing, which is likely to encourage this market in India

Green housing is regarded as a luxury market in the country, but has climate benefits.

This partnership with HDFC offers multiple benefits for India, as it can play a leading role in developing the country's nascent green affordable housing market while delivering jobs and a climate dividend.

37. Recently, Union Home Minister, Amit Shah inaugurated the much-awaited Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme in which of the following states of India?

(a) Meghalaya

(b) Assam

(c) Andhra Pradesh

(d) Odisha

(e) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: A

Union Home Minister, Amit Shah along with chief minister Conrad K. Sangma inaugurated the much-awaited Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme at Sohra in East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya.

The Greater Sohra Water Supply Scheme was conceptualised by the Meghalaya government and an amount of Rs. 24.08 cr was sanctioned by the DoNER ministry in 2019 under North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS).

38. A book titled "An Ordinary Life: Portrait of an Indian Generation" has been authored by whom among the following?

(a) Om Prakash Rawat

(b) Ashok Lavasa

(c) Sunil Arora

(d)Nasim Zaidi

(e)Achal Kumar

Answer: B

Former election commissioner Ashok Lavasa has come out with a book titled “An Ordinary Life: Portrait of an Indian Generation.”

In this book, Ashok Lavasa narrates about his father, Udai Singh, and his own experience on how his father's principles served as a moral compass in his life, and can in ours too.

Ashok Lavasa resigned as election commissioner in 2020 to become vice-president of the Asian Development Bank.

39. Who has been named as the different abled sportsman of the year at the Indian Sports Honours for 2019?

(a)Pramod Bhagat

(b)Varun Bhati

(c)Mariyappan Thangavelu

(d)DP Singh

(e)Deepa Malik

Answer: A

World No. 1 para shuttler Pramod Bhagat was named Differently Abled Sportsman of the Year at Indian Sports Honour for 2019.

The delay in the announcement was due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indian Sports Honours are awards given annually by the RPSG Group in association with the Virat Kohli

Foundation to outstanding sports personalities of India.

The awards were founded in 2017.

Bhagat, who won two gold medals and a bronze at the Dubai Para-Badminton Tournament this year, will be participating in singles and mixed doubles events at the Paralympics which opens in Tokyo from August 24.

40. Which among the following companies has been renamed as Poonawala Fincorp with effect from July 22, 2021?

(a)Rising sun Holdings

(b)Magma Fincorp

(c)Centrum Capital

(d)Capri Global

(e)Alfred Herbert

Answer: B

Magma Fincorp has been renamed as Poonawalla Fincorp with effect from July 22 after Adar Poonawalla-led Rising Sun Holdings acquired a controlling stake in the non-banking finance company (NBFC).

Magma Housing Finance, a unit of the NBFC, has been renamed Poonawalla Housing Finance, the company said in a statement.

Rising Sun Holdings had acquired a controlling stake in the NBFC through an equity infusion of Rs 3,456 crore. The transaction was completed on May

21, and Adar Poonawalla was appointed as the company's Chairman on May 31.

Poonawalla is also the Chief Executive Officer of Serum Institute of India, which is manufacturing the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine (Covishield) against COVID-19.

41. Yusuffali MA has been appointed the vice-chairman of the apex government body for all businesses operating from Abu Dhabi. The board consists of how many members?

- (a) 15
- (b) 19
- (c) 25
- (d) 27
- (e) 29

Answer: E

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan has appointed prominent Indian businessman Yusuffali MA as the vice-chairman of the apex government body for all businesses operating from the UAE's capital city, making him the only person from India on the 29-member board. Yusuffali, 65, is the Chairman and Managing Director of Abu Dhabi-based LuLu Group which operates hypermarkets and retail companies in many countries. The ADCCI is the apex government body of all businesses established in Abu Dhabi.

42. Name the scheme launched by the Union minister Amit Shah in Assam under which the government will provide Rs 1 lakh to the next kin of deceased Covid-19 patients.

- (a) PRARTHANA
- (b) MADAD
- (c) SUVIDHA
- (d) KALYAN
- (e) PARIVAAR

Answer: A

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the Prarthana Scheme and handed over financial assistance to 100 selected beneficiaries in a programme held at Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra in Guwahati.

Under Prarthana Scheme, Rs. one lakh would be provided to 5114 next of kin of deceased Covid patients.

43. India's wrestler Priya Malik won a gold medal for the country at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship held in Hungary. She won the medal in _____ Kg category.

- (a) 49 kg
- (b) 55 kg
- (c) 61 kg
- (d) 73 kg
- (e) 87 kg

Answer: D

India's wrestler Priya Malik has won a gold medal for the country at the World Cadet Wrestling

Championship, which is taking place in Budapest, Hungary.

Malik secured the Gold medal by beating Belarus rival Kseniya Patapovich 5-0 in the 73 kg weight category.

44. Veteran actress Jayanthi passed away in July 2021. She mainly worked in the movies of which language?

- (a) Telugu
- (b) Marathi
- (c) Gujarathi
- (d) Kannada
- (e) Malayalam

Answer: D

Veteran Kannada actress Jayanthi died in her sleep at her residence (July 26). The actress, 76, was ill for a long time. Having worked in over 500 films in five languages, the actress was well known in the industry, especially in Kannada films.

She's known by the moniker Abhinaya Sharadhe or the goddess of acting in Kannada industry.

She has won six Karnataka State Film awards (four Best Actress and two Best Supporting Actress).

45. Who among the following has introduced the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2021 in the Lok Sabha?

- (a) Shaktikanta Das
- (b) Nirmal Sitharaman
- (c) Narendra Modi

(d) Amit Shah

(e) None

Answer: B

Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced a bill in the Lok Sabha to replace an ordinance that amended the insolvency law.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2021 was introduced amid Opposition ruckus over various issues.

Sitharaman is in charge of both finance and corporate affairs ministries.

46. The Centre has accredited how many academies across the country under Khelo India Scheme for the training of the Khelo India Athletes?

- (a) 236
- (b) 278
- (c) 290
- (d) 320
- (e) 360

Answer: A

The Centre has accredited a total of 236 academies across the country under Khelo India Scheme for the training of the Khelo India Athletes.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur informed that the initiative of Khelo India envisages support to national, regional and state sports academies.

He said, under this scheme, 360 Khelo India Centres (KICs) and 24 Khelo India State Centres of Excellence (KISCEs) have been notified.

47. World Mangrove Day is annually observed on 26th July. The day was first observed in which year?

- (a) 2016
- (b) 2015
- (c) 2014
- (d) 2013
- (e) 2012

Answer: A

The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially declared 26th July of each year, in response to the request of Ecuador, as the International Day of the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem.

This Day is also known as World Mangrove Day.

The first World Mangrove Day was officially held on 26 July 2016.

48. In July 2021, the government passed the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill 2021 to privatize state run general insurance companies. The law came into force in which year?

- (a) 1949
- (b) 1956
- (c) 1960
- (d) 1965
- (e) 1972

Answer: E

To facilitate privatisation of a public sector general insurance firm, the government is working on amendments to the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act (GIBNA), and a Bill.

The Act, which came into force in 1972, provided for the acquisition and transfer of shares of Indian insurance companies and undertakings of other existing insurers in order to better serve the needs of the economy by securing the development of general insurance business.

The amendments to the GIBNA are being worked out and may be tabled in the upcoming session to help privatisation of a general insurance company announced in the Budget this year, sources said

49. Government of India has announced to set up a Centre of Excellence for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics in collaboration with which of the following IITs?

- (a) IIT Pune
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Bombay
- (d) IIT Kanpur
- (e) IIT Madras

Answer: C

The Government of India has announced it will set up a Centre of Excellence for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics. This decision has been taken to create a globally acclaimed talent pool in the country so as to cater to the Indian as well as the global industry.

This Centre of Excellence will be set up in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

This announcement was made in the Rajya Sabha by Anurag Thakur, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

50. Japan's Momiji Nishiya won the gold medal in the women's street skateboarding competition in the Olympics. How old is she?

- (a) 10 years
- (b) 12 years
- (c) 13 years
- (d) 15 years
- (e) 16 years

Answer: C

Japan's Momiji Nishiya became one of the youngest individual Olympic champions in history when she won the inaugural women's skateboarding gold at the age of 13 years and 330 days.

Rayssa Leal (13 years and 203 days) of Brazil won silver and Funa Nakayama (16 years) of Japan clinched the bronze.

Nishiya's victory came after Japan's Yuto Horigome won the men's skateboarding gold

51. Flora Duffy won the first gold medal at the women's triathlon event at the Tokyo Olympics. She hails from which country?

- (a) San Marino
- (b) Vatican City

- (c) Bermuda
- (d) Nauru
- (e) Monaco

Answer: C

Bermuda just took home the gold medal in the women's triathlon in Tokyo — making it the smallest country to win gold at the Summer Olympics. Flora Duffy earned the gold medal in the event with a time of 1:55:36.

This is the first Olympic gold medal for Bermuda, which has an estimated population of 62,034. The country is so small, it only sent two athletes to the Tokyo Games – Duffy for the triathlon and rower Dara Alizadeh.

52. Billionaire businessman Najib Mikati has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which of the following countries?

- (a) Azerbaijan
- (b) Haiti
- (c) Lebanon
- (d) Syria
- (e) Tajikistan

Answer: C

Billionaire businessman Najib Mikati was appointed as Lebanon's new prime minister. Mikati ran virtually unopposed, receiving 72 votes, with former ambassador Nawaf Salam receiving just one vote.

His appointment comes just 11 days after Saad Hariri resigned as prime minister-designate,

following nine months of political deadlock and dispute with President Aoun and his son-in-law MP Gebran Bassil.

53. Recently the central government has reduced the import duty to zero percent on which of the following lentils?

- (a) Masoor dal
- (b) Arhar dal
- (c) Green Moong
- (d) Urad dal
- (e) Lobia

Answer: A

The central government reduced the import duty on masoor dal while also cutting down the Agriculture Infrastructure Development Cess (AIDC) on the commodity.

While the import duty on masur has been slashed to zero per cent, the AIDC on the lentil has been cut down by half, to 10 percent from 20.

It further stated that the basic customs duty was reduced to zero from 10 per cent on masur originating in or exported from countries other than the USA.

54. Which of the following places became the first green SEZ to achieve the IGBC Green Cities Platinum Rating ?

- (a) Okha
- (b) Kandla
- (c) Porbandar

(d) Mundra

(e) Koteswar

Answer: B

On 26th July 26, 2021 Kandla SEZ (KASEZ) became the first green SEZ to achieve the IGBC Green Cities Platinum Rating for Existing Cities after it was awarded the IGBC Platinum Rating.

The efforts of KASEZ team were applauded, especially noting the fact that this was accomplished in the Bhuj region where water conservation and afforestation are critical interventions.

CII's Indian Green Building Council awards the IGBC Platinum rating for policy initiatives, green master planning and implementation of green infrastructures.

This recognition will inspire all the other SEZs in the country to emulate the efforts and green initiative that has been achieved by Kandla SEZ.

55. Which city became the first city in the country to implement the Drink from Tap project?

- (a) Amritsar
- (b) Puri
- (c) Indore
- (d) Panji
- (e) Bhubaneswar

Answer: B

Puri in Odisha became the first city in the country to implement the Drink from Tap project.

This was stated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik while inaugurating the project yesterday said, Puri is

now placed in the big league of global cities like London, New York and Singapore in providing potable water directly from the tap.

The project will benefit about 2.5 lakh residents of Puri city in addition to about two crore tourists who visit the holy city every year.

56. Which of the following states has launched the 'MyGov-Meri Sarkar' portal to receive feedback from the people about the schemes launched by the state government?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Rajasthan

Answer: C

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the 'MyGov-Meri Sarkar' portal.

The Chief Minister said that through this portal, the government will receive feedback from the people and also inform them about the various schemes of the government.

It would be a major platform to disseminate the schemes of governance and to know the opinion of common citizens on them.

57. Karnataka became the first state in India to provide reservation for transgenders community in all government services. What percentage of reservation is provided to the community?

- (a) 1%
- (b) 2%
- (c) 3%
- (d) 4%
- (e) 5%

Answer: A

Karnataka has become the first state in the country to provide one per cent reservation for the 'transgender community in all the government services.

The government submitted a report to the High Court in this regard informing that a notification had already been issued after amending the Karnataka Civil Service (General Recruitment) Rule, 1977. The specifies one per cent reservation in all general as well as reserve categories for the third gender.

58. The Ministry of Science and Technology will set up a first-of-its-kind Centre of excellence in which of the following states?

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Tripura
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh
- (e) Assam

Answer: D

The Ministry of Science and Technology will set up a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence in the Northeast.

The prestigious project for establishing the Centre for Bio-Resources and Sustainable Development as

a Centre of Excellence was sanctioned by the Department of Biotechnology and is complete for formal inauguration shortly.

The location of the project is at Kimin in district Papum Pare in Arunachal Pradesh.

59. Astronomers have discovered evidence of water vapour in the atmosphere of the moon Ganymede for the first time. Ganymede is the moon of which planet ?

- (a) Mars
- (b) Jupiter
- (c) Saturn
- (d) Neptune
- (e) Uranus

Answer: B

Astronomers have discovered evidence of water vapor in the atmosphere of Jupiter's moon Ganymede for the first time.

Ganymede, the largest moon in the Solar System, is covered in an icy crust. Scientists believe Ganymede may have a liquid ocean 100 miles (161 km) beneath its surface, and that such an ocean could host aquatic alien life.

Primary tag: science & technology

Secondary tag: In-depth

60. Which edition of Indo-Russia joint military Exercise INDRA-2021 will held at Volgograd, Russia?

- (a) 11th

(b) 12th

(c) 15th

(d) 17th

(e) 19th

Answer: B

12th Edition of Indo-Russia joint Military Exercise INDRA-2021 will be held at Volgograd, Russia from 1st to 13th of next month. The exercise will entail conduct of counter terror operations under the United Nations mandate by a joint force against international terror groups.

Two hundred fifty personnel from both the nations would form part of the exercise.

The Indian Army contingent comprising a Mechanised Infantry Battalion underwent rigorous training at different locations in India to refine their drills for participation in the joint exercise.

61. Which of the following Indian Naval Ships participated in the Exercise Cutlass Express 2021, along the East Coast of Africa, to improve combined maritime law enforcement capacity?

- (a) INS Talwar
- (b) INS Kuthar
- (c) INS Sagardhwani
- (d) INS Darshak
- (e) INS Makar

Answer: A

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Talwar participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 2021, which commenced on July 26 along the East Coast of Africa, to improve

combined maritime law enforcement capacity and increase interoperability between the regional navies.

The exercise concluded on August 6.

The exercise is an annual maritime exercise conducted to promote national and regional maritime security in East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean.

62.The Central Reserve Police Force observed its _____ raising day on 27th July 2021.

- (a)75th
- (b)67th
- (c)83rd
- (d)89th
- (e)92nd

Answer: C

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), observed its 83rd Raising Day on 27 July 2021. CRPF is India's largest Central Armed Police Force, under the authority of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Its headquarter is located in New Delhi. It came into existence as the Crown Representative's Police on 27 July 1939.

After Indian Independence, it became the Central Reserve Police Force on the enactment of the CRPF Act on 28 December 1949.

63.On July 22, INS Tabar participated in the 325th Navy Day celebration of which navy?

- (a)Russian Navy
- (b)US Navy
- (c)Indonesian Navy
- (d)Colombian Navy
- (e)Iranian Navy

Answer: A

INS Tabar reached St Petersburg, Russia on 22 July 2021 to participate in the 325th Navy Day celebrations of the Russian Navy.

On 23 July, Mr D B Venkatesh Varma, Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation visited the ship and was briefed by the Commanding Officer regarding the present deployment.

The Ambassador conveyed his appreciation for the role played by the Indian Navy in guarding our sea frontiers and in further strengthening the friendly India-Russia relations.

Post Navy Day celebrations, Tabar will participate in Exercise INDRA scheduled to be held on 28 and 29 July 2021 in the Baltic sea with two Russian Navy ships.

64.India and which country will jointly host a webinar series titled 'Shoto Borsho Shoto Asha-Rise Up' on Startup Landscapes of Both the countries?

- (a)Sri lanka
- (b)Nepal
- (c)Bangladesh
- (d)Afghanistan
- (e)Mauritius

Answer: C

A 6-part webinar series named 'Shoto Borsho Shoto Asha- Rise Up' was inaugurated by the Bangladesh State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak and High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami.

The RiseUp platform will bring together mentors, innovators, entrepreneurs and investors from India and Bangladesh.

65. Recently, the Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 passed in Lok Sabha recently. What is the aim of the bill?

- (a) Help MSME
- (b) Amend Factory laws
- (c) Improve Startup India scheme
- (d) Help National Institutes
- (e) Reshuffle Cabinet

Answer: A

The Lok Sabha passed the Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and The National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2021.

The Factoring Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2021 – aims at helping MSMEs tide over problems of delayed payments as it seeks to broaden the participation of entities undertaking factoring. The second Bill aims at declaring certain institutions of national importance.

66. Indian Railways recently conducted a trial run connecting Vangaichungpao railway station in

Tamenglong, Manipur with Jiribam Railway station.

The train was flagged off from which railway station?

- (a) Mizoram Railway Station
- (b) Imphal Railway Station
- (c) Guwahati Railway Station
- (d) Silchar Railway Station
- (e) Manipur Railway Station

Answer: D

Closing in on Imphal, Indian Railways has successfully conducted a trial run connecting Vangaichungpao railway station in Tamenglong, Manipur with Jiribam Railway station.

The connection of the railway line will be giving a range of benefits to the people in the State. The Vangaichungpao railway station will be linked to Silchar and to the rest of the country. Flagged off from Silchar railway station.

67. Which of the following sites recently named as the 40th Indian site on UNESCO's World Heritage list?

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Ramappa Temple
- (c) Hampi
- (d) Rameshwaram Temple
- (e) Lothal

Answer: A

The Harappan city of Dholavira, in present-day Gujarat named the 40th Indian site on UNESCO's World Heritage list.

Located in the Kutch district, Dholavira is the larger of the two most remarkable excavations of the Indus Valley Civilisation dating back to about 4,500 years ago.

This archaeological site is one of the best-preserved urban settlements from the period in Southeast Asia, comprising a fortified city and a cemetery.

UNESCO also declared Mexico's Tlaxcala Cathedral, a cathedral and monastery as a World Heritage site. Hampi is also one of the UNESCO's World Heritage Sites.

68.The Marine Aids to the Navigation Bill, 2021 was recently passed in parliament. The new bill will replace which of the following bills?

- (a) Dockyard Act, 1938
- (b) Royal Marine Act, 1935
- (c) Lighthouse Act, 1927
- (d) Royal Naval Act, 1925
- (e) British Dockyard Act, 1930

Answer: C

Parliament passed a bill that will replace an over nine-decade-old law governing lighthouses and provide a fresh framework to establish and manage vessel traffic services.

The Bill will provide for the development, maintenance and management of aids to navigation in India; for training and certification of the operator of aids to navigation, development of its historical, educational and cultural value.

This bill repeals the 90-year-old colonial Lighthouse Act, 1927.

69.Which among the following former Chief Justice of India has conferred with the degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws by Maharashtra Governor?

- (a) Ranjan Gogoi
- (b) Sharad Arvind Bobde
- (c) Dipak Misra
- (d) Prashant bhushan
- (e) Rajendra Mal Lodha

Answer: B

Former Chief Justice of India, Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde was conferred with the degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws (LLD) by Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari at the 108th convocation of the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (RTMNU).

70.What percentage growth rate does the IMF project for India in 2022?

- (a) 9.5%
- (b) 7%
- (c) 8.5%
- (d) 10%
- (e) 9.8%

Answer: C

IMF projects 9.5% growth rate for India in 2021 and 8.5% for 2022. India's economy is gradually recovering from a deep contraction in the fiscal year

ended March 31, 2021 (7.3 per cent) and a subsequent severe second wave of COVID-19.

71. Which state has prepared the Ayush-based economic upgradation scheme called Devaranya Yojana to improve people's health and livelihood of tribals?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Uttarakhand
- (e) Rajasthan

Answer: A

The MP Government has prepared the Ayush-based economic upgradation scheme – Devaranya Yojana with the twin objectives of improving people's health and livelihood of tribals.

AYUSH and tourism will be brought together to boost employment opportunities in tribal areas under the scheme.

A complete value chain for the production of AYUSH medicines will be developed in the state through Devarnya Yojana. Self-help groups will also play an important role in this work.

72. Name the newly elected Chief Minister of Karnataka.

- (a) SR Bommai
- (b) Basavaraj Bommai
- (c) R Ashoka
- (d) Tejasvi Surya

(e) YS Yediyurappa

Answer: B

Basavaraj Bommai is the three-time MLA from Shegaon in Haveri district in North Karnataka and was the Home Minister and Parliamentary Affairs Minister in the Yeddyurappa Cabinet.

This came after the resignation of the former CM Y.S Yediyurappa

73. Typhoon In-Fa recently made landfall in which of the following Countries?

- (a) China
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) Cambodia
- (d) Canada
- (e) Australia

Answer: A

Typhoon In-Fa made the second landfall in the coastal area of Pinghu City, east China's Zhejiang Province, packing winds of up to 28 meters per second at its center, according to the provincial flood control headquarters.

The typhoon which is the sixth of this year landed in the coastal waters near Pinghu, a county-level city under the administration of Jiaxing City.

74. Which of the following companies launched a new Robotics company 'Intrinsic' which would focus on building softwares for industrial robots?

- (a) Oracle
- (b) Microsoft

(c)Alphabet

(d)IBM

(e)Space X

Answer: C

Google-parent Alphabet will launch a new robotics company - Intrinsic, which will focus on building software for industrial robots. Intrinsic is developing software tools with an aim to make industrial robots easier to use, less costly and more flexible. The segment comes out of X, Alphabet's Moonshot factory that houses futuristic firms such as Waymo, Wing and Verily.

CEO of Intrinsic: Wendy Tan White,

Alphabet CEO: Sunder Pichai

75.World Natural Conservation Day is observed every year on 28th July. What is the theme of this year's World Natural conservation Day?

(a)Nature on your mind: understanding our values

(b)Nature for Water

(c)Connect with Nature

(d)Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet

(e)Go Wild for Life

Answer: D

World Natural Conservation Day is celebrated every year on July 28 to raise awareness about the importance of working for a healthy environment and protecting nature and conserving natural resources.

The Theme of the World Nature Conservation Day 2021 is 'Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet'.

76.Name the anti-poverty organisation which released the report titled 'the Hunger Virus Multiplies'.

(a)UNICEF

(b)Greenpeace

(c)UNDF

(d)Oxfam

(e)Global Citizen

Answer: D

The anti-poverty organisation Oxfam in its report titled as 'the Hunger Virus Multiplies' said 11 people die of hunger each minute and that the number facing famine-like conditions around the globe has increased six times over the last year.

The report listed a number of countries as "the worst hunger hot spots" including Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen

77.The UN General Assembly has approved its first-ever resolution on vision. The resolution is sponsored by which among the following countries?

(a)Bangladesh

(b)Ireland

(c)Antigua

(d)All of the above

(e) only A & B

Answer: D

The U.N. General Assembly has approved its first-ever resolution on vision.

It calls on the assembly's 193 member nations to ensure access to eye care for everyone in their countries, which would contribute to a global effort to help at least 1.1 billion people with vision impairment by 2030.

The "Vision for Everyone" resolution, sponsored by Bangladesh, Antigua and Ireland, and co-sponsored by over 100 countries, was adopted by consensus by the world body.

According to the resolution, "at least 2 billion people are living with vision impairment or blindness" and 1.1 billion people have unaddressed vision impairment.

78.The Garima Grihas for transgender persons is being set up with the help of community-based organizations. In which among the following states the shelter home has not been set up?

- (a)Maharashtra
- (b)Rajasthan
- (c)Bihar
- (d)Tamil Nadu
- (e)Uttar Pradesh

Answer: E

The Garima Grihas for transgender persons is being set up with the help of community-based organizations.

Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment A. Narayanaswamy informed Lok

Sabha, 12 pilot shelter homes have been initiated with the aim of providing safe and secure shelter to transgender persons.

Such shelter homes have been set up in the states of Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha.

79.The GI tagged king chilli 'Raja Mircha' belongs to which state?

- (a)Mizoram
- (b)Sikkim
- (c)Nagaland
- (d)Manipur
- (e)Tripura

Answer: C

Geographical Indications (GI) products from the north-eastern region, a consignment of 'Raja Mircha' also referred as king chilli from Nagaland was exported to London for the first time.

Naga king chilli has been considered as the world's hottest chilli and is constantly on the top five in the list of the world's hottest chilies based on the Scoville Heat Units.

80.Which country has recently ratified the framework agreement for the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and is now a member of the global platform?

- (a)Sweden
- (b)France
- (c)Israel

(d)Russia

(e)Canada

Answer: A

Sweden has ratified the framework agreement for the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and is now a member of the global platform, which is an initiative of India aimed at promoting renewable energy and sustainable development.

Sweden hopes to bring its expertise and its experience in renewable energy and clean energy technologies to discussions in the ISA to contribute to meeting the challenges related to climate change

About ISA

Headquarters: Gurugram;

Founded: 30 November 2015

Director-General: Ajay Mathur

81.IIT Hyderabad has developed the country's first Rapid Electronic Covid RNA test kit . Name the kit.

(a)COVIHOME

(b)E-COVID

(c)COMFORT

(d)E-KIT

(e)None of the above

Answer: A

India's first Rapid electronic Covid-19 RNA Test kit that allows self-testing at home called 'COVIHOME' has been developed by a research group at the Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH).

The Project Incharge, Govind Singh, said the kit has been validated by the Centre for Cellular and

Molecular Biology and can be used to check for Covid-19 trace at the comfort of home with no harm, in about 20 minutes.

82.Jitendra P Verma has been appointed as the new CFO of Voltas Ltd. He will succeed whom among the following?

(a)Pradeep Bakshi

(b)Anil George

(c)Satyendra Jain

(d)Priti Rani

(e)Navneet Kaur

Answer: B

Tata groups consumer durables major Voltas Ltd said it has appointed Jitender P Verma as its chief financial officer (CFO).

Verma, who was the senior Executive Vice President and Group CFO and a Member of the Board and Executive Committee of Thoresen Thai Agencies Public Ltd Company, Thailand, will succeed Anil George, who has decided to separate from the services of the company due to personal commitments, Voltas Ltd said in a regulatory filing. His appointment is with effect from July 19, 2021, it added.

83.International Tiger Day or World Tiger Day is observed on July 29 every year. In which year, the day was initiated?

(a)2010

(b)2014

(c)2015

(d)2006

(e)2002

Answer: A

International Tiger Day or World Tiger Day is observed on July 29 every year to spread awareness about dangers and problems faced by tigers across the globe.

International Tiger Day was first marked and celebrated in the year 2010 at the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia.

The theme for this year's International Tiger Day is- "Their Survival is in our hands".

84.Nandu M Natekar passed away recently. He was related to which of the following sports?

(a)Cricket

(b)Hockey

(c)Football

(d)Badminton

(e)Tennis

Answer: D

Legendary badminton player Nandu Natekar, the first Indian to win an international title in 1956, died in Pune.

He won over 100 national and international titles in his career. 6-time national champion & first Indian to win an international title when he claimed the Sellanger International title in Malaysia in 1956.

85.Ramesh Nair has been appointed as the CEO of which property consultant company?

(a)Makaan

(b)Square Yards

(c)SMC Reality

(d)Address Of Choice

(e)Colliers

Answer: E

Property consultant Colliers has appointed Ramesh Nair as the chief executive officer (CEO) for India and managing director, market development, for Asia.

Nair joined Colliers from JLL India, where he held the position of CEO & country head.

The Asia Pacific CEO of Colliers is John Kenny.

86.C Vijaykumar has been appointed as the CEO of HCL Technologies for a period of how many years?

(a)1 year

(b)2 year

(c)3 year

(d)4 year

(e)5 year

Answer: E

HCL Technologies founder Shiv Nadar will take on the role of Chairman Emeritus and Strategic Advisor to the company's board. Shiv Nadar, Chief Strategy Officer and Managing Director of the company, has tendered his resignation as the MD and the Director of the company.

The company has appointed C Vijayakumar - President and CEO of the company - as the Managing Director with the title of CEO and MD for five years.

87. Who among the following has been crowned as Miss India USA 2021?

- (a) Mira Kasari
- (b) Vaidehi Dongre
- (c) Arshi Lalani
- (d) Diana Hayden
- (e) Aga Khan

Answer: B

25-year-old Vaidehi Dongre from Michigan was crowned Miss India USA 2021 while Arshi Lalani from Georgia was declared the first runner up at the beauty pageant.

The winner of Miss India USA is the only delegate from USA at the Miss India Worldwide Pageant, which is organised by Indian Festival Committee (IFC).

88. CBSE has collaborated with which company to launch the Artificial Intelligence For All initiative?

- (a) IBM
- (b) Intel
- (c) Infosys
- (d) Oracle
- (e) TCS

Answer: B

Intel has collaborated with the CBSE, Ministry of Education to announce the launch of the AI For All initiative. With this, the company aims to create a basic understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) for everyone in India.

Based on Intel's AI For Citizens program, AI For All is a 4-hour, self-paced learning program that demystifies AI in an inclusive manner.

89. Recently PM Narendra Modi has launched SAFAL, a competency based assessment framework for Grades 3, 5 and 8 in CBSE schools. What does 'S' stand for in SAFAL?

- (a) Structured
- (b) Systematic
- (c) Suggested
- (d) Summing
- (e) Supplementary

Answer: A

PM announced the launching of several initiatives undertaken under the National Education Policy 2020 including Academic Bank of Credit and the Artificial Intelligence programme to make the youth future-oriented and open the way for an AI-driven economy.

He also launched Structured Assessment For Analysing Learning Levels (SAFAL) a competency based assessment framework for Grades 3, 5 and 8 in CBSE schools and a website dedicated to Artificial Intelligence.

PM launches NISHTHA 2.0 to train teachers as per their needs and they will be able to give their suggestions to the department

90.The Union Cabinet approved continuation of the National Ayush Mission as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for another five years with a financial implication of _____. Crores to be spent during the period.

- (a)3507.30 cr
- (b)4607.30 cr
- (c)5707.30 cr
- (d)6807.30 cr
- (e)7907.30 cr

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet approved continuation of the National Ayush Mission as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for another five years till 2026, Union minister Anurag Thakur said.

The scheme would continue from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2026 with a financial implication of Rs 4,607.30 crore to be spent during the period.

Under the scheme, old and traditional medicinal systems would be promoted and Ayush wellness centres, medical colleges, hospitals and dispensaries set up and upgraded.

91.UK and which other country will co-host the two-day Global Education Summit in London?

- (a)Russia
- (b)USA

- (c)Kenya
- (d)South Africa
- (e)Japan

Answer: C

The United Kingdom and Kenya are co-hosting a two-day Global Education Summit in London to raise US\$5 billion for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), which funds public education in up to 90 countries and territories.

These countries are home to more than 80% of the world's out-of-school children

92.The Rajasthan government has recently launched the 'Mission Nirvyatak Bano'. The mission aims to promote _____.

- (a)Folk Dancers of the state
- (b)Aspiring Exporters in the state
- (c)Culture of the state
- (d)Cuisine of the state
- (e)Employment in the state

Answer: B

The Rajasthan government's industries department and the Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) have launched the "Mission Nirvyatak Bano" campaign to promote aspiring exporters in the state.

The campaign is aimed at registering and handholding the local traders willing to expand their business to foreign countries.

93. RBI has imposed a penalty of 5 crore on which bank for non-compliance with certain provisions of the central bank?

- (a) HDFC bank
- (b) Axis bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (e) Dhanlaxmi Bank

Answer: B

The Reserve Bank of India imposed a monetary penalty of Rupees five crore on Axis Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions.

The statutory Inspections for Supervisory Evaluation (ISE) of the bank were conducted by RBI with reference to its financial position.

The related correspondence revealed non-compliance with the above-mentioned directions issued by RBI.

94. Who among the following has been recently awarded with the prestigious Will Eisner Award?

- (a) Harvinder Mannkar
- (b) Pratap Mulick
- (c) Anand Radhakrishna
- (d) Aabid Surti
- (e) Anupam Sinha

Answer: C

Mumbai-based graphic artist Anand Radhakrishnan, 32, has won the prestigious Will Eisner Comic Industry Award, considered the Oscars equivalent of the comics world.

The Eisner Awards are given out annually and the award won by Radhakrishnan -- Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art) -- recognises the creator of a graphic novel's art and images.

95. The RBI has given its nod to the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh to acquire how much percent of the paid-up equity capital of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd?

- (a) 7.3%
- (b) 10.1%
- (c) 5.5%
- (d) 8.23%
- (e) 9.15%

Answer: D

The RBI has accorded its approval to the Government of the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh to acquire 8.23 per cent of the paid-up equity capital of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd as on the date of enforcement of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

This is subject to compliance with the relevant provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949

96. Which city became the only city in India to be selected for the International Clean Air Catalyst Programme?

- (a) Ujjain
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Gwalior

(e)Indore

Answer: E

Clean Air Catalyst Programme is an initiative by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), WRI and the Environmental Defense Fund to expedite clean air solutions in cities.

The only Indian city to be selected in this international project is Madhya Pradesh's Indore, which is also known as the cleanest city in the country.

The project will be in operation for five years to purify the air of the city.

97.Boxer Lovlina Borgohian has assured India of first boxing medal at Tokyo Olympics. She thus became the _____ Indian woman boxer to clinch an Olympic medal.

- (a)2nd
- (b)3rd
- (c)4th
- (d)5th
- (e)6th

Answer: A

Lovlina Borgohain outsmarted former World champion Nien-Chin Chen to reach the women's 69 kg semifinal and assure India of another medal at the Tokyo Olympics

Lovlina will be the second Indian woman boxer after Mary Kom, and third overall(after Mary Kom and Vijender Singh), to clinch an Olympic medal.

98. The 36th edition of India and Indonesia

Coordinated Patrol took place recently. From which year the coordinated patrol is being carried out by the two countries?

- (a)2010
- (b)2005
- (c)2007
- (d)2002
- (e)1999

Answer: D

The 36th edition of IND-INDO CORPAT took place recently. The Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel is undertaking coordinated patrol (CORPAT) with Indonesian Naval Ship KRI Bung Tomo from July 30 to 31.

India and Indonesia have been carrying out Coordinated Patrols along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) twice a year since 2002.

99.LIC Cards Services Limited (LIC CSL) has partnered with which bank to launch two variants of co-branded RuPay Credit Cards?

- (a)SBI
- (b)IDBI
- (c)Canara bank
- (d)BOB
- (e)Yes bank

Answer: B

LIC Cards Services Limited (LIC CSL) and IDBI Bank partnered to launch two variants of co-branded

RuPay Credit Cards - LIC CSL 'Lumine' Platinum Credit Card and LIC CSL 'Eclat' Select Credit Card powered by IDBI Bank.

Initially, the card variants are targeted to LIC Policyholders, LIC Agents, and Employees of LIC of India and its Subsidiaries/Associates.

100. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has directed the states and UTs not to register cases under which section of the Information Technology Act, 2000?

- (a) Section 66A
- (b) Section 63B
- (c) Section 70
- (d) Section 53A
- (e) Section 41

Answer: A

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has directed the states and Union Territories (UTs) to tell all police stations under their jurisdiction not to register cases under the repealed Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

In its advisory, the MHA stated that the Supreme Court in its judgment on March 24, 2015, in the matter of Shreya Singhal Vs Union of India, struck down Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000. This made the section null and void with effect from the date of the order and hence no action could be taken under it.

101. The 36th edition of CORPAT has been held between India and which among the following country from 30 to 31 July 2021?

- (a) France
- (b) Mongolia
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Kazakhstan
- (e) Russia

Answer: C

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu, an indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel is undertaking coordinated patrol (CORPAT) with Indonesian Naval Ship KRI Bung Tomo from 30 to 31 July 2021. The 36th edition of CORPAT between India and Indonesia will also witness participation of Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both nations.

India and Indonesia have been carrying out Coordinated Patrols along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) twice a year since 2002.

102. How many Tiger Reserves in India have received the accreditation of the Global Conservation Assured|Tiger Standards (CA|TS)?

- (a) 25
- (b) 21
- (c) 19
- (d) 20
- (e) 14

Answer: E

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupendra Yadav said that Tiger

Conservation is a symbol of conservation of forests and under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Shri Yadav was speaking at a virtual event on the occasion of Global Tiger Day.

The event also showcased, the 14 Tiger Reserves in India which received the accreditation of the Global Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS).

The 14 tiger reserves which have been accredited are Manas, Kaziranga and Orang in Assam, Satpura, Kanha and Panna in Madhya Pradesh, Pench in Maharashtra, Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar, Dudhwa in Uttar Pradesh, Sunderbans in West Bengal, Parambikulam in Kerala, Bandipur Tiger Reserve of Karnataka and Mudumalai and Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu.

103. Anand Radhakrishnan has won the prestigious Will Eisner Comic Industry Award for which among the following category?

- (a) Best Painter
- (b) Best Novelist
- (c) Best Journalist
- (d) Best Singer
- (e) Best Lyricist

Answer: A

Mumbai-based graphic artist Anand Radhakrishnan, 32, has won the prestigious Will Eisner Comic Industry Award, considered the Oscars equivalent of the comics world.

The Eisner Awards are given out annually and the award won by Radhakrishnan -- Best

Painter/Multimedia Artist (interior art) -- recognises the creator of a graphic novel's art and images.

Radhakrishnan shares the award with UK-based colourist John Pearson. They won for their work on UK-based author Ram V's 145-page graphic novel Blue In Green, published in October 2020 by Image Comics.

104. Under the All India Quota Scheme for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, which among the following course students of Economically Weaker Sections would receive 10% Reservation?

- (a) Architecture Course
- (b) Engineering Course
- (c) Commerce Course
- (d) Medical Course
- (e) Computer Course

Answer: D

The medical and dental courses in India will now have a 27 reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs), 10 per cent for Economically Weaker Sections under the All India Quota Scheme for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced.

This decision would benefit nearly 1,500 OBC students in MBBS and 2,500 OBC students in postgraduation and also around 550 EWS students in MBBS and around 1,000 EWS students in postgraduation

105. Which among the following organisation has designated July 30 as World Day Against Trafficking in Persons?

- (a) WHO
- (b) UNGA
- (c) UNESCO
- (d) UNSC
- (e) UNIDO

Answer: B

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is marked every year on July 30 to create awareness around people who are being trafficked and are taken away against their will. The theme for this year for the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is 'Victims' voices lead the way.'

This day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly as a means to combat the issues that are caused due to human trafficking. The UN wanted to make the trafficked people aware of their protection and rights. Since 2003, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has been working on identifying and saving people from the rackets that kept them captive.

106. Which among the following book of Kunal Basu has set to release next year by Penguin Random House India?

- (a) The Japanese wife
- (b) Tejasvinī o Śabanama
- (c) The Endgame
- (d) In An Ideal World

(e) The Opium Clerk

Answer: D

Renowned novelist Kunal Basu's new work of fiction, "In An Ideal World", will be released next year, Penguin Random House India (PRHI) announced.

The book, scheduled to release under the publishing house's 'Viking' imprint, is touted to be a "powerful, gritty and fast-paced literary novel" exploring a variety of themes relevant to the current times -- college, politics, family, crime investigation and fanaticism.

107. Which among the following ship maker has launched five vessels, three 'Floating Border Outpost Vessels for the Border Security Force?

- (a) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (b) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers
- (c) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- (d) Goa Shipyard Limited
- (e) Mazagon Dock Limited

Answer: A

Ship maker Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) launched five vessels at one go from its building dock at Kochi.

CSL achieved this rare feat, amidst the Covid -19 pandemic and the lockdown restrictions, said Madhu S Nair, CMD, CSL. The vessels launched are three 'Floating Border Outpost Vessels (FBOP)' for the Border Security Force and two 8000 DWT mini general cargo ships for JSW Shipping & Logistics.

CSL in November 2020 also had launched five vessels at one go

108. How much monetary Penalty has been imposed on Axis Bank by the Reserve Bank of India?

- (a) Rs 3 crore
- (b) Rs 1.5 crore
- (c) Rs 5 crore
- (d) Rs 4 crore
- (e) Rs 2 crore

Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 5 crore on Axis Bank for contravention of certain provisions of directions issued by the RBI, encompassing those on cyber security framework.

The directions include 'Strengthening the Controls of Payment Ecosystem between Sponsor Banks and SCBs/UCBs as a Corporate Customer', 'Cyber Security Framework in Banks', 'RBI (Financial Services provided by Banks) Directions, 2016', 'Financial Inclusion- Access to Banking Services - Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account' and 'Frauds - Classification and Reporting'.

109. Which among the following Organisation has issued an executive order to allow 100 per cent FDI under automatic route for oil and gas PSU's after strategic disinvestment has been approved by the government?

- (a) Ministry of Commerce
- (b) EPFO
- (c) RBI
- (d) SEBI
- (e) DPIIT

Answer: E

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) issued an executive order to allow 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) under automatic route for oil and gas PSUs, in case an in-principle approval for strategic disinvestment has been approved by the government.

The development was followed by the Union Cabinet's approval regarding the same on July 22. The move will expand the scope for FDI in the privatisation of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and enable the sale of the government's 52.98 per cent stake in the company to a foreign buyer. It will also open the door for FDI in other public sector companies in the oil sector put up for privatisation.

110. Mike Hendrick has passed away recently. He associated with which among the following sports?

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Cricket
- (c) Golf
- (d) Football
- (e) Hockey

Answer: B

The former England and Derbyshire seamer Mike Hendrick has died at the age of 72, the county have announced. He had been living with bowel cancer in recent years.

A fast-medium bowler who also played for Nottinghamshire, Hendrick took 87 wickets for England in 30 Tests between 1974 and 1981 at an average of 25.83. He was a member of two Ashes-winning sides and also appeared in 22 one-day internationals, including the 1979 World Cup final.

111. Which among the following bank has launched the 'Dukandar Overdraft Scheme' for small retailers in partnership with the government's e-governance services delivery arm CSC SPV?

- (a) ICICI Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) IDBI Bank
- (d) Yes Bank
- (e) HDFC Bank

Answer: E

India's largest private lender HDFC Bank launched an overdraft facility for small retailers in partnership with the government's e-governance services delivery arm CSC SPV that enables government schemes and services through common service centres (CSCs). The 'Dukandar Overdraft Scheme' by HDFC Bank is aimed at helping shopkeepers and merchants ease their cash crunch.

HDFC Bank will approve an overdraft limit from a minimum of Rs 50,000 to a maximum of Rs 10 lakhs

based on the statements. Importantly, HDFC Bank won't seek collateral security, business financials, and income tax returns from retailers who apply for the scheme.

112. Rakesh Asthana has been appointed as the Commissioner of which among the following state/UT?

- (a) Pondicherry
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Maharashtra

Answer: C

Rakesh Asthana, senior IPS officer of Gujarat cadre, took charge as the Commissioner of Delhi Police. He was accorded the ceremonial guard of honour by the police force upon his arrival at the Delhi Police headquarters at Jai Singh Marg here. His appointment came just days before his superannuation on July 31. He will have a tenure of one year.

113. LIC Cards Services Limited has been partnered with which among the following bank to launch 'Lumine' Platinum Credit Card and 'Eclat' Select Credit Card on the RuPay platform?

- (a) IDBI Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) Yes Bank

(e) HDFC Bank

Answer: A

LIC Cards Services Limited (LIC-CSL) has partnered with IDBI Bank to launch 'Lumine' Platinum Credit Card and 'Eclat' Select Credit Card on the RuPay platform. The cards will initially be available to LIC policyholders, agents, as well as employees of the corporation and its subsidiaries. The cards will offer a wide range of benefits to users. Lumine and Eclat cardholders will have a credit limit that suits their lifestyles. The cardholders will earn 3 'delight' points on every spend of Rs 100 via the Lumine card and 4 points on the Eclat card. The cards also offer special benefit of 2x reward points while paying renewal insurance premium of LIC.

114. Billionaire Rakesh Jhunjhunwala has decided to invest _____ million to launch 70 aircraft within the next four years, as a part of his ultra-low-cost airline Akasa Air.

- (a) \$30 million
- (b) \$20 million
- (c) \$25 million
- (d) \$35 million
- (e) \$15 million

Answer: D

Investor and billionaire Rakesh Jhunjhunwala is considering investing \$35 million to launch 70 aircraft within the next four years, as a part of his

ultra-low-cost airline Akasa Air, Jhunjhunwala told Bloomberg.

115. The RBI has cancelled the licence of The Madgaum Urban Co-operative Bank Limited. The bank is located in which state?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Goa
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Haryana

Answer: B

The RBI cancelled the licence of The Madgaum Urban Co-operative Bank Limited, Margao, Goa, as the bank with its current financial position would be unable to pay its present depositors in full.

The RBI further said that as per the data submitted by the bank, about 99 per cent of the depositors will receive full amounts of their deposits from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).

116. Guido Bellido has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Peru. Who is the President of Peru?

- (a) Pedro Castillo
- (b) Vladimir Roy
- (c) Martín Alberto Vizcarra
- (d) Ollanta Humala
- (e) Beto Ortiz

Answer: A

Peruvian President Pedro Castillo named Guido Bellido, a member of his Marxist party, as prime minister, dimming hopes of a moderate administration, and swore in most of his cabinet, but did not name a finance minister.

Prime minister Bellido, a congressman, is a member of the Free Peru party, with which Castillo won the presidency this year.

117. The World Ranger Day has been observed on which among the following day?

- (a) July 30
- (b) July 29
- (c) July 27
- (d) July 28
- (e) July 31

Answer: E

World Ranger Day recognises and celebrates the accomplishments and work done by rangers around the world, giving their lives to protect natural and cultural resources, and commemorates rangers killed or injured in the line of duty.

While some are exposed to hazardous environmental conditions such as floods, fires, illnesses or dangerous animals, others are targeted because they stand up to poachers. This year alone, at least 149 rangers were lost.

On World Ranger Day, 31 July 2019, the International Ranger Federation (IRF) and its charity arm The Thin Green Line Foundation (TTGLF) invite you again to 'Stand With The World's Rangers'.

118. The Reserve Bank of India has announced the Digital Payments Index. How many Parameters do RBI-DPI comprised of?

- (a) Three
- (b) Seven
- (c) Five
- (d) Two
- (e) Six

Answer: C

The Reserve Bank of India had earlier announced the construction of a composite Reserve Bank of India – Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) with March 2018 as base to capture the extent of digitisation of payments across the country.

The index for March 2021 stands at 270.59 as against 207.84 for March 2020, announced while launching the index on January 1, 2021. The RBI-DPI comprises of 5 broad parameters that enable measurement of deepening and penetration of digital payments in the country over different time periods. These parameters are – (i) Payment Enablers (weight 25%), (ii) Payment Infrastructure – Demand-side factors (10%), (iii) Payment Infrastructure – Supply-side factors (15%), (iv) Payment Performance (45%) and (v) Consumer Centricity (5%).

119. Indian boxer Lovlina Borgohain has won bronze medal in Tokyo Olympics 2020. She hails from which state?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Assam
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Nagaland
- (e) Bihar

Answer: B

Indian boxer Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) signed off with a bronze medal in her debut Olympic Games after a comprehensive 0-5 loss to reigning world champion Busenaz Surmeneli, bringing an end to the country's campaign in the sport.

Up against quite literally a bully in the ring, Borgohain was completely out-punched by the gold medal favourite Turkish boxer, who produced a thoroughly dominating performance.

Borgohain, who hails from Assam, also coped a one point deduction in the second round for not paying attention to the referee's instructions despite a couple of cautions.

120. The NABARD has sanctioned Rs 445.89 crore for drinking water projects in some of the districts of Punjab. Which among the following district is not among them?

- (a) Ferozepur
- (b) Rupnagar
- (c) Fazilka
- (d) Jalandhar
- (e) Hoshiarpur

Answer: D

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development said it has sanctioned Rs 445.89 crore for drinking water projects in Ferozepur, Fazilka, Hoshiarpur and Rupnagar districts of Punjab. The funds have been sanctioned under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).

These projects envisaged to provide 70 litres per capita per day potable drinking water at the consumer-end through functional household tap connections covering a rural population of 10.39 lakh in 700 villages, said Rajiv Siwach, chief general manager of NABARD (Punjab), in an official statement here.

121. According to National Mineral Inventory data, India has 501.83 million tonnes of gold ore reserves as of 2015. Which among the following state has largest reserves of gold ores in India?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Bihar

Answer: E

India has 501.83 million tonnes of gold ore reserves as of April 1, 2015, according to National Mineral Inventory data. Out of these, 17.22 million tonnes were placed under reserves category and the rest under remaining resources category.

The largest reserves of gold ores are located in Bihar (44 per cent), followed by Rajasthan (25 per

cent), Karnataka (21 per cent), West Bengal (3 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (3 per cent), Jharkhand (2 per cent).

The remaining 2 per cent reserves are in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The cost of extraction of any mineral, including gold, varies from mine to mine, said Union minister of mines Pralhad Joshi in the Rajya Sabha 26 July, 2021.

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) is actively engaged in geological mapping, followed by mineral exploration and surveys, of various mineral commodities with an aim to identify potential mineral rich zones and establish resources.

122. India along with which country would virtually co-host the fourth annual Indo-Pacific Business Forum?

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Mexico
- (c) US
- (d) Italy
- (e) Brazil

Answer: C

India and the US will virtually co-host the fourth annual Indo-Pacific Business Forum (IPBF) in October, the State Department has announced. The IPBF, now in its fourth year, is the leading event to promote trade, investment and economic cooperation between the United States and its partners throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

The two-day online event from October 28 will be co-hosted by the US and India in partnership with the US Chamber of Commerce, the Confederation of Indian Industry, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and the US-ASEAN Business Council (USABC).

123. Yes bank has partnered with which among the Housing Finance company to offer home loans to homebuyers at competitive interest rates?

- (a) Indiabulls Housing Finance
- (b) Piramal Housing Finance
- (c) LIC Housing Finance
- (d) HDFC
- (e) PNB Housing Finance

Answer: A

Yes Bank and Indiabulls Housing Finance entered into a strategic co-lending agreement which, the companies said, aim to offer home loans to homebuyers at competitive interest rates.

The co-lending framework laid down by Reserve Bank of India provides a collaboration tool to benefit from the low-cost funding model of a bank and the cost-efficient sourcing and servicing capabilities of a non-bank, the bank said.

124. Which among the following power sector has entered into a framework agreement with Australia's Fortescue Future Industries for the production of green hydrogen?

- (a) NTPC

- (b) Tata Power
- (c) Power Grid Corporation of India
- (d) JSW Future Energy
- (e) Adani Power

Answer: D

JSW Future Energy has entered into a framework agreement with Australia's Fortescue Future Industries (FII) for potential projects relating to the production of green hydrogen. A statement from JSW Energy said this agreement is for assessing the potential of green hydrogen for green steel making, hydrogen mobility, green ammonia and other mutually agreed industrial applications in India. While Hydrogen production and its utility has been established, many companies are now working on the manufacturing processes to make it cleaner. This Green Hydrogen is being touted as a future fuel and the Budget 2020-21 has announced a National Hydrogen Energy mission to boost prospects.

125. Which among the following bank has not get connectivity from the Satellite broadband services firm Hughes Communications India Pvt Ltd?

- (a) Aryavart Bank
- (b) Bank of Baroda
- (c) Madhya Pradesh Gramin Bank
- (d) Bank of India
- (e) Vidharbha Konkan Gramin Bank

Answer: B

Satellite broadband services firm Hughes Communications India Pvt Ltd (HCIPL) has bagged

a deal to connect 1,800 branches of Bank of India across the country.

The project will provide satellite connectivity to Aryavart Bank, Madhya Pradesh Gramin Bank (MPGB), Vidharbha Konkan Gramin Bank (VKGB), and Bank of India (BoI) branches that serve rural customers.

126. According to the data from the periodic labour force survey by the ministry of statistics and programme, the unemployment rate for women workforce has dropped to _____% for 2019-20.

- (a) 3.9%
- (b) 5.1%
- (c) 4.8%
- (d) 5.7%
- (e) 4.2%

Answer: E

The participation of female workforce in India's labour market has seen a year-on-year growth, resulting in a dip in the unemployment rate for women workforce, the labour ministry said.

Data from the periodic labour force survey by the ministry of statistics and programme implementation shows PLFS for women aged 15 years and above stands at 30% in 2019-20 compared to 24.5% in 2018-19 and 23.3% in 2017-18, it said in response to a question in Lok Sabha

Consequently, the unemployment rate for women workforce has dropped to 4.2% for 2019-20 as against 5.1% in 2018-19 and 5.6% for 2017-18. The

overall unemployment rate for 2019-20 stands at 4.8% as per the PLFS.

127. Which among the following company has partnered with UK Government and the UK India Business Council to address the digital skills gap in that country?

- (a) FICCI
- (b) NASSCOM
- (c) CII
- (d) QCI
- (e) ASSOCHAM

Answer: B

IT industry body Nasscom said it has collaborated with the UK Government's Department for International Trade (DIT) and the UK India Business Council (UKIBC) to address the digital skills gap in that country.

A two-day virtual university tour, focusing on talent acquisition for the Indian tech industry, was organised. This covered several of the UK's top universities such as University of Nottingham, University of Glasgow and Durham University.

128. The Reserve Bank of India has allowed the non-banks to participate in its Centralised Payment Systems through _____ in a phased manner.

- (a) NEFT
- (b) RTGS
- (c) BHIM
- (d) Both A & B

(e) Both A & C

Answer: D

The Reserve Bank of India said that it has allowed non-banks to participate in its Centralised Payment Systems (CPS) through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) systems, in a phased manner.

To be sure, RBI in April had already said that non-banks would be allowed access to CPS viz. RTGS, NEFT in a phased manner. Till now, only banks were allowed to use RTGS and NEFT payments facilities.

129. The ICT Working Group of which country along with Indian CEO Forum has launched a report titled the Future of Connectivity in India?

- (a) UK
- (b) Italy
- (c) France
- (d) US
- (e) Russia

Answer: D

The ICT Working Group of the US-India CEO Forum, launched a report titled the Future of Connectivity in India, at a virtual event hosted by the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). The US-India CEO Forum serves as a bilateral platform for companies from India and the United States to collaborate with the governments of the two nations and strengthen economic and commercial ties.

130. The government has aimed at creating federated National Farmers Database using _____ to offer proactive and personalised services to farmers.

- (a) Krishi Vikas Kendras
- (b) Digitised land records
- (c) Farmers Producers Organisation
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: B

The government is aiming to create a federated National Farmers Database using digitised land records that will help to offer proactive and personalised services to farmers, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar informed Parliament. The agriculture ministry has already commenced the work of creating 'Agristack' -- a digital ecosystem of agriculture -- in the country that should help the government in effective planning towards increasing the income of farmers in particular and improving the efficiency of the agriculture sector as a whole.

131. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has set up a committee to start ferry service between Karaikal Port and Kankesanthurai Port. The Kankesanthurai Port is located in which country?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Maldives

- (c) Nepal
- (d) Bhutan
- (e) Bangladesh

Answer: A

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has set up a committee to firm up a comprehensive plan to start ferry service between Karaikal Port, India and Kankesanthurai Port, Sri Lanka, Parliament was informed. Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said the Puducherry government has informed that King Lear Ltd has submitted a proposal regarding starting of ferry service between Karaikal Port and KKS Port. The Puducherry government has been directed to obtain necessary clearances from the Ministry of Home Affairs and other relevant central government organisations, wherever applicable, he added.

132. The Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce & Investment has partnered with FTCCI for promoting cooperation between the business communities in Afghanistan and which state of India?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Telangana
- (e) Gujarat

Answer: D

Industry body FTCCI and the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce & Investment (ACCI) entered into an

Agreement of Cooperation for promoting cooperation between the business communities in Afghanistan and Telangana. The two Chambers will exchange market information necessary for companies, enterprises and organisations investing and operating in one or both countries.

133. US solar panel maker First Solar, Inc would set up a solar module plant in Tamil Nadu worth \$684 million. What is the capacity of the Module plant?

- (a) 5.3 GW
- (b) 3.3 GW
- (c) 2.3 GW
- (d) 4.3 GW
- (e) 1.3 GW

Answer: B

US solar panel maker First Solar, Inc. said it will invest \$684 million to build a 3.3 gigawatt (GW) solar module plant in Tamil Nadu, in yet another example of India's import barriers on solar gear inspiring local manufacturing.

Apart from Mukesh Ambani controlled Reliance Industries Ltd's plans to set up an integrated solar photovoltaic (PV) module gigafactory, Vikram Solar recently opened a 1.3GW plant in Tamil Nadu, and Premier Energies set up a 750 megawatt (MW) each of solar cell and module capacity in Telangana.

134. Which among the following state government has signed an MoU with edu-tech platform Jio

Embibe for adaptive learning based on Artificial Intelligence for students?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Assam
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Goa

Answer: E

The Goa government has signed an MoU with edu-tech platform Jio Embibe for adaptive learning based on Artificial Intelligence for students, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant told the Legislative Assembly. In a written reply, Sawant stated the MoU covers students of classes 6 to 12 with an exclusive portal for learning subjects like mathematics and science.

135. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the nation to mark the first anniversary of the new National Education Policy 2020. In which among the following year the old National Policy on Education was established?

- (a) 1985
- (b) 1988
- (c) 1986
- (d) 1983
- (e) 1980

Answer: C

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the nation to mark the first anniversary of the new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. This is the

first education policy of the 21st century and replaces the thirty-four year old National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986.

PM Modi would launch multiple key initiatives in the anniversary event. National Digital Education Architecture (NDEAR) and National Education Technology Forum (NETF), which are among the ambitious programs of the NEP 2020, would be launched.

136. The World Health Organization has warned that ENDS use among children and adolescents increases the chance of their use of conventional cigarettes and other tobacco products in the future.

What does 'E' mean in ENDS?

- (a) Earning
- (b) Easing
- (c) Electronic
- (d) Endless
- (e) Extremely

Answer: C

The electronic nicotine delivery systems' (ENDS) use among children and adolescents increases the chance of their use of conventional cigarettes and other tobacco products in the future, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on July 27, 2021.

ENDS affects brain development in adolescents and has a damaging impact on the cardiovascular and respiratory health of regular smokers and those who

engage in dual use or delay overall quitting, the new WHO report claimed.

The progress made by countries in the fight against the tobacco epidemic is threatened by the tobacco industry's ongoing efforts to introduce new nicotine and tobacco products, it added.

137. "In The Most Incredible Olympic Stories" has written by Luciano Wernicke. Luciano Wernicke hails from which country?

- (a) Ukraine
- (b) Austria
- (c) Netherland
- (d) Oman
- (e) Argentina

Answer: E

A new book maps down the phenomenal journey of the Olympics through time immemorial – from its genesis to its glory days – with the lore of myth, magic and gallantry in every turn of its long-walked path.

In The Most Incredible Olympic Stories, Argentinian writer Luciano Wernicke curates the oldest sporting legends – a tale that becomes the narrative of a modern civilisation.

138. Which among the following minister has proposed to set up a National Research Foundation NRF to strengthen the research ecosystem in the country?

- (a) Dharmendra Pradhan

- (b) Narendra Singh Tomar
- (c) Prakash Javadekar
- (d) Nirmala Sitharman
- (e) Harshavardan

Answer: A

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has said that the Government proposes to set up a National Research Foundation NRF to strengthen the research ecosystem in the country.

NRF is being envisaged as an umbrella structure that will improve linkages between Research and Development, academia and industry. In a written reply in the Lok Sabha today, Mr Pradhan said, the total proposed outlay of NRF is 50 thousand crore rupees over a period of five years.

139. The DBS and Temasek has announced an agreement to launch a \$500 million growth stage debt financing platform called EvolutionX Debt Capital. EvolutionX Debt Capital is headquartered in which country?

- (a) Malaysia
- (b) Hongkong
- (c) Italy
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Singapore

Answer: E

DBS and Temasek announced an agreement to jointly launch a \$500 million growth stage debt financing platform EvolutionX Debt Capital or EvolutionX.

Headquartered in Singapore, EvolutionX will provide non-dilutive financing to growth stage technology-enabled companies across Asia, with focus on China, India, and Southeast Asia.

140. The Ministerial Statement in the Pre-Summit of United Nations Food System Summit has been launched by Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar. Who among the following country has organised the Summit?

- (a) India
- (b) Italy
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both B & C

Answer: B

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar virtually delivered the Ministerial Statement in the Pre-Summit of United Nations Food System Summit 2021 . It was organised by the UN and Italy in Rome, Italy.

Minister emphasized the importance of Agriculture in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 as 12 out of 17 SDGs are directly dependent on agriculture.

In this regard, he mentioned the journey of Indian agriculture from a state of food shortages to that of a food grain exporter through Green, White and Blue revolutions. The Minister said India's public distribution system and price support system for farmers is unique in the world.

141. According to a recent research study conducted by Deloitte and commissioned by Autodesk Foundation, which among the following countries are most at risk and least prepared for the coming wave of automation?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) India
- (d) All the above
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

According to a recent research study conducted by Deloitte and commissioned by Autodesk Foundation.

It explores the state of automation and future of work across 12 Asia Pacific countries including Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The research finds India, Bangladesh and Pakistan are most at risk and least prepared for the coming wave of automation.

142. According to a Personnel Ministry order, Nasir Kamal has been appointed the Director General of which among the following organisation?

- (a) ITBP
- (b) BCAS
- (c) CAPF
- (d) BSF

(e) CRPF

Answer: B

Senior IPS officer Nasir Kamal has been appointed the Director General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), according to a Personnel Ministry order issued.

Kamal is a 1986-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre. He has served in various role before this appointment. More recently, he was Director of National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Kamal's appointment to the post of Director General in BCAS for a tenure up to his superannuation on July 31, 2022, the order said.

143. According to weekly data from the RBI, Which among the following country has become second largest country with foreign exchange reserves?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) Switzerland
- (e) India

Answer: B

India's foreign exchange reserves rose by \$835 million to touch a record high of \$612.73 billion in the week ended July 16, 2021, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed. According to weekly data from the RBI, forex reserves rose to a record \$612.73 billion in the reporting week, helped by a

rise in Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves.

Currently, China has the largest reserves followed by Japan and Switzerland. India has overtaken Russia to become the fourth largest country with foreign exchange reserves.

1. China – \$3,349 Billion
2. Japan – \$1,376 Billion
3. Switzerland – \$1,074 Billion
4. India – \$612.73 Billion
5. Russia – \$597.40 Billion

India's forex reserves cover Foreign Currency Assets (FCAs), Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), Gold Reserves and the country's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

144. The government has launched a secured logistics document exchange platform for digital exchange of logistics-related papers along with a calculator for _____ for choosing the sustainable and right mode of transport for freight movements.

- (a) Ozone depletion
- (b) Deforestation
- (c) Glaciers Melting
- (d) Greenhouse gas emissions
- (e) None of these

Answer: D

The government launched a secured logistics document exchange platform for digital exchange of logistics-related papers and a calculator for

greenhouse gas emissions for choosing the sustainable and right mode of transport for freight movements.

The digital initiative is now set to improve logistics efficiency, reduce logistics cost and promote multi-modality and sustainability in a big way, the commerce ministry said in a statement.

145. Noopur Chaturvedi has been appointed as the new Chief executive officer of Bharat Bill Payment System. She formerly worked as executive in which among the following companies?

- (a) PayU
- (b) Airtel Payments Bank
- (c) Samsung
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: D

Bharat Bill Payment System, NPCI's flagship bill payments platform that was hived off into a separate subsidiary in April, has appointed former PayU and Airtel Payments Bank executive Noopur Chaturvedi as its new chief executive officer.

Chaturvedi, prior to this appointment, was the country head for small and medium business at PayU. In a career spanning nearly two decades, she has worked with Airtel Payments Bank, Samsung, ING Vysya Bank and Citibank in various senior roles, according to her profile on professional networking platform LinkedIn.

146. The Satpura Tiger Reserve of which among the following State has received the Natwest Group Earth Heroes Award in the Earth Guardian category for best management?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Jharkhand
- (e) Odisha

Answer: A

Madhya Pradesh has made another achievement in the field of nature conservation. The Satpura Tiger Reserve of the State has received the Natwest Group Earth Heroes Award in the Earth Guardian category for best management. Forest Minister Kunwar Vijay Shah has congratulated the staff associated with the management of Satpura Tiger Reserve.

It is noteworthy that the Satpura Tiger Reserve has also been included in the potential list of World Heritage. Satpura Tiger Reserve in Hoshangabad district is spread over an area of 2130 square kilometer. It is part of the Deccan Bio-Geographic Region. It is the oldest forest wealth of the country, full of unmatched natural beauty, which has been carefully preserved.

147. Prest Loans has signed up a strategic alliance agreement with U GRO Capital to provide secured business loans to Micro SME business units. Prest Loans is _____based digital lender.

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Vadodara
- (c) Bangalore
- (d) Jaipur
- (e) New Delhi

Answer: E

Delhi based, MSME focused, digital lender Prest Loans has signed up a strategic alliance agreement with Mumbai based U GRO Capital, a BSE listed technology enabled NBFC, to provide secured business loans to Micro SME business units.

Under this arrangement Prest Loans shall offer U GRO Capital's 'GRO Micro' product to its small businesses and MSME customers in tier 3 and tier 4 cities who lack the access to formal credit at affordable price without requirement of too many documents.

148. IFC Asset Management Company has acquired _____% stake in Federal Bank Limited for Rs 916 crore.

- (a) 7%
- (b) 5%
- (c) 3%
- (d) 4%
- (e) 6%

Answer: B

IFC and two investment funds managed by IFC Asset Management Company--IFC Financial Institutions Growth Fund, LP and IFC Emerging Asia

Fund, LP--have picked 4.99% stake in Federal Bank Limited (FBL) for Rs 916 crore, the lender said.

The investment will aid Federal Bank's commitment towards maintaining environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards, and strengthen its Tier-1 capital adequacy ratio. It will also held the lender expand its micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSME) and climate finance portfolios.

149. Pham Minh Chinh has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of which among the following country?

- (a) Singapore
- (b) Japan
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) China

Answer: D

The 15th National Assembly (NA) of Vietnam re-elected Pham Minh Chinh as the Vietnamese prime minister for the 2021-2026 tenure, according to voting results.

Chinh, also a member of the Politburo of the 13th Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee (CPVCC), was re-elected with a 95.99-percent approval rate among deputies at the ongoing first session of the 15th NA, according to a statement on the NA's website.

150. Which among the following has launched India's first Visa Prepaid Card for teenagers with personalized doodles?

- (a) TamPay
- (b) PamPay
- (c) FamPay
- (d) VamPay
- (e) NamPay

Answer: C

FamPay has launched India's first Visa Prepaid Card for teenagers with personalized doodles on it. The card will allow teens to make NFC-enabled contactless payments on the Visa network in India. The card will be available in two different designs - the FamCard and FamCard Me.

With FamPay, teens can make online and offline payments using the FamCard and the FamPay App. FamPay crossed 2 million registered users within 8 months of its launch and recently raised a Series A funding of \$38 Million with Elevation Capital and Sequoia Capital as lead investors.

151. What is the theme of the World Hepatitis Day 2021 celebrated every year on July 28?

- (a) Hepatitis Can't Wait
- (b) Hepatitis-free future
- (c) Eliminate Hepatitis
- (d) Invest in eliminating hepatitis
- (e) Test. Treat. Hepatitis

Answer: A

World Hepatitis Day (WHD) is celebrated every year on July 28 in order to spread awareness about viral hepatitis, an inflammation of the liver that can cause severe liver disease and hepatocellular cancer. This day is marked on July 28 on the birthday of Nobel Prize-winning scientist Dr Baruch Blumberg to honour him. He discovered the Hepatitis B virus (HBV). He also developed a diagnostic test and vaccine to treat the Hep-B virus.

In 2021, the theme is 'Hepatitis Can't Wait', conveying the urgency of efforts needed to eliminate hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030.

152. Which among the space Center would launch EOS-3, a geo-imaging satellite, capable of near-real-time monitoring of natural disasters like floods and cyclones?

- (a) NASA
- (b) Roscosmos
- (c) ISRO
- (d) ESA
- (e) JAXA

Answer: C

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch EOS-3, a geo-imaging satellite, capable of near-real-time monitoring of natural disasters like floods and cyclones.

The EOS-3 satellite is efficient in imaging the country four to five times a day. Apart from scanning for natural disasters, the satellite will also be able to monitor the level and condition of water bodies,

crops, agricultural conditions, and forest cover changes among others.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also informed that the first developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) is scheduled to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2021, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

153. Avigna Industrial & Logistics Park has signed an MOU with which among the following state government for an investment of Rs 837 crore to develop modern industrial development parks?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Answer: E

Avigna Industrial & Logistics Park, part of Chennai-based Avigna Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu government for an investment of Rs 837 crore in the state.

The agreement has been signed between Managing Director Rajasekaran S and Executive Director Abhijit Verma from Avigna Group and Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin. Avigna will utilize the proposed investment to develop modern industrial development parks in various parts of Tamil Nadu in the coming years.

154. Byjus has acquired Great Learning for USD 600 million to strengthen its position in the professional and higher education segment. Great Learning is a _____ based Edtech.

- (a) US
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Australia
- (d) UK
- (e) Japan

Answer: B

Edtech major Byju's said it has acquired Singapore-headquartered Great Learning for USD 600 million (about Rs 4,466 crore), and will invest an additional USD 400 million to strengthen its position in the professional and higher education segment.

The development comes just days after Byju's had announced the acquisition of US-based digital reading platform Epic for USD 500 million (around Rs 3,729.8 crore), and an additional USD 1 billion (about Rs 7,459.7 crore) investment in the North American market.

155. Which among the following IIT has launched the first technology innovation hub to find cyber security solutions for anti-drones technologies, intrusion detection system, block-chain and cyber physical system?

- (a) IIT Madras
- (b) IIT New Delhi
- (c) IIT Bombay
- (d) IIT Kanpur

(e) IIT Ropar

Answer: D

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) launched the first technology innovation hub to find cyber security solutions for anti-drones technologies, intrusion detection system, block-chain and cyber physical system.

As many as 13 start-ups and 25 research and development principal investigators were selected after a rigorous application process. "The presence of cutting-edge technology in cyber security is accompanied by an increasing need to protect digital assets and deploy solutions for the common public as well as government and industry,"

156. Which among the following country has become the world's first country to approve the commercial production of genetically modified "golden rice"?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Philippines
- (c) South Korea
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) Thailand

Answer: B

The Philippines has become the world's first country to approve the commercial production of genetically modified "golden rice".

Crops such as rice, wheat, and soybeans, as well as fruits and vegetables have a naturally occurring "glitch" in the way they photosynthesize that causes

the plants to use up energy and resources, drastically suppressing productivity.

157. How much collateral-free working capital loans has been provided by the InCred to Amazon merchants?

- (a) Rs 10 lakh
- (b) Rs 20 lakh
- (c) Rs 30 lakh
- (d) Rs 40 lakh
- (e) Rs 50 lakh

Answer: E

InCred has entered into a strategic partnership with Amazon India to provide collateral-free, working capital loans of up to Rs 50 lakh to Amazon merchants via its seller portal.

Owing to the ongoing pandemic, more consumers have made a shift to online shopping, leading to a surge in e-commerce. However, this development is adding to the pressure of e-tailers as they are not able to match the supply with demand on ground.

158. Which among the following country has unveiled plans for constructing a world's first experimental nuclear reactor that does not need water for cooling?

- (a) South Korea
- (b) Japan
- (c) Denmark
- (d) Vietnam
- (e) China

Answer: E

Chinese government scientists have unveiled plans for a first-of-its-kind, experimental nuclear reactor that does not need water for cooling.

The molten-salt nuclear reactor, which runs on liquid thorium rather than uranium, is expected to be safer than traditional reactors because the molten salt cools and solidifies quickly when exposed to the air, insulating the thorium, so that any potential leak would spill much less radiation into the surrounding environment compared with leaks from traditional reactors.

The prototype reactor is expected to be completed next month, with the first tests beginning as early as September. This will pave the way for the building of the first commercial reactor, slated for construction by 2030.

159. How many Indian-based enterprises were among the winners of world competitors of 'Greatest Small Companies' introduced by the United Nations?

- (a) Two
- (b) Five
- (c) Three
- (d) Seven
- (e) Six

Answer: C

Three India-based enterprises are among the many winners of a USD 100,000 world competitors of 'Greatest Small Companies' introduced by the

United Nations which can be offering inspiring, various and impactful options in bettering entry to wholesome and sustainable meals.

Fifty small and medium-sized enterprises around the globe have been introduced because the Greatest Small Companies of the “Good Meals for All” competitors held together with the UN Meals Programs Summit. From India, the winners are Edible Routes Non-public Restricted, Oorja Growth Options India and Taru Naturals.

160. JSW Renew Energy has signed a PPA with Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd to supply _____ MW of energy from its 810 MW wind capacity.

- (a) 270 MW
- (b) 250 MW
- (c) 210 MW
- (d) 290 MW
- (e) 200 MW

Answer: A

JSW Renew Energy has inked power purchase agreement (PPA) with Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI) for supply of 270 MW from its 810 MW wind capacity. With the signing of this PPA, the entire 810 MW awarded capacity is tied up with SECI, a BSE filing stated.

JSW Renew Energy (JSWREL) has signed a PPA with SECI for the balance contracted capacity of 270 MW out of the total awarded capacity of 810 MW, it stated.

161. Which among the following IoT based solutions provider has partnered with the National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives in India to improve the safety of fishermen, increase their profitability?

- (a) Skylo
- (b) Puloli
- (c) Kepler
- (d) Iridium
- (e) ORBCOMM

Answer: A

Skylo, an internet of things (IoT)-based solutions provider, said it has partnered with the National Federation of Fishers Cooperatives in India (FISHCOPFED) to improve the safety of fishermen, increase their profitability and bolster ecosystem sustainability.

Skylo will provide IoT-based solutions to marine fishing and aquaculture sectors, including monitoring oxygen and pH levels of water in ponds across the states (aquaculture and inland fisheries) and enhancing fish yields and profitability for the fish farmers.

162. Tata Power Central Odisha Distribution Ltd has partnered with which among the following organisation to facilitate online payment of electricity bills in rural areas?

- (a) FICCI
- (b) Planning Commission
- (c) CSC

(d) QCI

(e) DPIIT

Answer: C

Tata Power Central Odisha Distribution Ltd has partnered with authorities of Common Service Centres (CSCs) under the Digital India Programme to facilitate online payment of electricity bills in rural areas.

The collaboration will help rural consumers of the joint venture company between Tata Power and the Odisha government pay their power bills to CSCs and Village Level Entrepreneurs

163. Which among the following bank has not picked up stake in a newly incorporated fintech firm IBBIC Pvt Ltd?

(a) Kotak Mahindra Bank

(b) Indusland Bank

(c) Axis Bank

(d) ICICI bank

(e) HDFC bank

Answer: B

Kotak Mahindra Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC bank and ICICI bank said that they have picked up stake in a newly incorporated fintech firm IBBIC Pvt Ltd (IBBIC).

ICICI bank picked up 5.44% whereas KMB, HDFC bank and Axis Bank have each picked up 5.55% stake in IBBIC. IBBIC is a financial technology company with an objective of providing a platform for exploring, building and implementing Distributed

Ledger Technology (DLT) solutions for the Indian financial services sector, the banks said in separate filings to exchanges.

164. As per the Reserve Bank of India Report, which among the following bank has become second Public Sector Banks in writing off loans in FY21?

(a) State Bank of India

(b) South Indian Bank

(c) Punjab National Bank

(d) Kotak Mahindra Bank

(e) Union Bank of India

Answer: E

State Bank of India (SBI) topped the list of Public Sector Banks (PSB) writing off loans in FY21 Followed by Union Bank of India (UB).

Top 3 list of PSBs wrote off bad loans in FY21:

| S.no | Public Sector Bank | Written off value |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | SBI | Rs 34,402 crore |
| 2 | UBI | Rs 16,983 crore |
| 3 | Punjab National Bank (PNB) | Rs 15,877 crore |

As per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Report, the reduction in NPAs through write-off by PSBs in FY21 stood at Rs 1,31,894 crore from Rs 1,75,877 crore in FY20. The NPAs of banks in FY21 declined by Rs 61,180 crore to Rs 8.34 lakh Crore.

165. Steven Weinberg has passed away recently.

He was a _____ by his profession.

- (a) Chemist
- (b) Geologist
- (c) Scientist
- (d) Physicist
- (e) Biologist

Answer: D

The American theoretical particle physicist Steven Weinberg, who has died aged 88, was one of the leading 20th century figures in the field. In 1979 he won a Nobel prize for his work uniting two of nature's fundamental forces, which became a foundation of the standard model of particle physics, the theory that describes all known fundamental particles and forces in the universe.

166. SWIFT has launched which among the following service to enable small businesses and consumers to send fast, predictable, highly secure, and low-value cross-border payments anywhere in the world, direct from their bank accounts?

- (a) SWIFT Run
- (b) SWIFT Go
- (c) SWIFT Fast
- (d) SWIFT Write
- (e) SWIFT Quick

Answer: B

SWIFT, a provider of secure financial messaging services, announced the launch of SWIFT Go which enables small businesses and consumers to send

fast, predictable, highly secure, and low-value cross-border payments anywhere in the world, direct from their bank accounts.

Seven global banks, which collectively handle 33 million low-value cross-border payments per year, are already live with the service.

167. Which among the following Country's has not collaborated to develop or repurpose drugs against COVID-19?

- (a) India
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Brazil
- (d) Russia
- (e) China

Answer: E

Scientists from India, Russia, Brazil and South Africa will collaborate on research that will help develop or repurpose drugs against COVID-19. According to an official statement, the collaborative effort involving experts from bioinformatics, organic chemistry, medicinal chemistry, drug screening and parasitologists would be of great value for the search of new efficient drugs against COVID-19.

168. According to the NSE data, the government has selling up to _____% stake sale in HUDCO at a floor price of Rs 45 apiece.

- (a) 8%
- (b) 11%
- (c) 9%

(d) 2%

(e) 7%

Answer: A

The government's offer for sale of HUDCO shares to institutional investors was over-subscribed. Of the base issue size of over 9.90 crore shares, institutional investors put in bids for over 12.59 crore shares, or 1.27 times, till 2.30 pm, according to the NSE data.

Bidding will continue till close of the market hours.

The government is selling up to 8 per cent stake sale in HUDCO at a floor price of Rs 45 apiece.

Institutional investors are bidding, and bids would open for retail investors.

169. What is the amount provided for the children when they reaches 23 years of age under the 'PM Cares for Children' program launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development?

(a) 19 lakhs

(b) 11 lakhs

(c) 14 lakhs

(d) 10 lakhs

(e) 17 lakhs

Answer: D

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the web-based portal 'pmcaresforchildren' to identify children eligible for support under the 'PM Cares for Children' program.

The portal will assist in submitting and processing applications for benefits. The PM Cares for Children program was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in support of orphans who have lost parents / legal guardians / foster parents due to COVID-19. The scheme will enable them to implement their well-being through health insurance and empower them through education and 10 lakhs, when he reaches 23 years of age.

170. Which among the following rating agency has reported that India's GDP has likely to be 8.8 to 9 per cent in the current financial year driven by agriculture and industry sectors?

(a) Fitch

(b) S&P

(c) Care Ratings

(d) Ind-Ra

(e) Nomura

Answer: C

The country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth is likely to be 8.8 to 9 per cent in the current financial year, driven by agriculture and industry sectors, Care Ratings said in a report. The country's economy had contracted by 7.3 per cent in fiscal 2020-21.

"GDP growth for the year (FY22) is expected to be 8.8-9 per cent with GVA (gross value added) growth of 7.8 per cent. The main drivers of the economy would be agriculture and industry," the ratings agency said in its Economic Outlook for 2021-22.

171. ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company has partnered with SVAAS Wellness to offer cashless outpatient services to health insurance policyholders. This pilot project has been launched in which among the following city?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Visakhapatnam
- (c) Cochin
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: D

ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company and Dr Reddy's Laboratories-owned SVAAS Wellness have joined hands to offer cashless outpatient services to health insurance policyholders.

"The partnership marks the launch of Dr Reddy's digital health solution SVAAS and demonstrates ICICI Lombard's deeper foray into the wellness space".

It is a first-of-its-kind integrated and cashless digital health solution in India. To begin with, there will be pilot launch of the service in Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam.

172. The Ministry of Science and Technology has set up a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence in the Northeast with an outlay of nearly Rs 50 crore in which among the following state?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Nagaland

- (c) Sikkim
- (d) Meghalaya
- (e) Assam

Answer: A

The Ministry of Science and Technology is setting up a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence in the Northeast. The project for establishing the Centre for Bio-Resources and Sustainable Development as a Centre of Excellence was sanctioned by the Department of Biotechnology and is complete for formal inauguration soon, it said.

Built at a cost of nearly Rs 50 crore, the project will come up at Kimin in Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh and the construction of the new building as well other infrastructure has been completed.

173. The Researchers from which among the following city has discovered a new wingless insect has been published in international journal Biologia published by Springer Nature?

- (a) Waynad
- (b) Kodaikanal
- (c) Coorg
- (d) Shimla
- (e) Nilgiris

Answer: E

Researchers from the molecular biodiversity laboratory in the department of Zoology and Wildlife Biology in the Government Arts College in Ooty

have discovered a new wingless insect in the Nilgiris.

A research paper on the new species has been published in international journal Biologia published by Springer Nature. "The 1mm-long flightless insect has been named Bionychiurus tamilensis as it was recorded in Tamil Nadu," said associate professor and laboratory head R Sanil. "There are only six species under this genus reported so far across the world and reported only from cold high-altitude regions of Switzerland, China and Korea."

The insect was first observed in 2018 in the soil samples collected from Ooty Government Arts College campus. Further surveys showed its presence in grasslands and unpolluted humus soil samples.

174. How much financial assistance has been allotted by the government to set up over 42 virology research and diagnostic laboratories under a central scheme during the period of 15th Finance Commission?

- (a) Rs 325 crore
- (b) Rs 322 crore
- (c) Rs 324 crore
- (d) Rs 329 crore
- (e) Rs 320 crore

Answer: C

The Union government will set up over 42 virology research and diagnostic laboratories under a central

scheme during the period of 15th Finance Commission (2021-22 to 2025-26) at a cost of Rs324 crore.

The scheme under the Department of Health Research (DHR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) aims to help boost coverage of timely diagnosis and identification of viruses during an epidemic outbreak, generation of data about viral diseases for facilitating quick deployment of resources and measures to save human lives.

175. LOHUM has announced to set-up 3GWh capacity single-location integrated Li-ion battery manufacturing and recycling factory in which among the following City?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Greater Noida
- (c) Raipur
- (d) Nainital
- (e) Nagpur

Answer: B

LOHUM, has announced that it will set-up 3GWh capacity single-location integrated Li-ion battery manufacturing and recycling factory in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh within the next 18 months.

The integrated factory will integrate the battery manufacturing capacity of 1 GWh/ 1,000 MWh and 2GWh/ 2,000 MWh of recycling per annum.

Lohum plans to undertake investments to the tune of Rs. 300 crores to set up this integrated factory. At present LOHUM operates two co-located factories of

300 MWh capacity for manufacturing and recycling Li-ion batteries.

In order to further increase their refining efficiency, LOHUM is also setting up a smaller recycling unit in Kandla, Gujarat.

176. Which among the following company has signed a 10-year partnership deal with Bangalore International Airport to provide IT solutions to create a new "Airport in a Box" platform?

- (a) Microsoft
- (b) Tata Power
- (c) Adani group
- (d) Reliance Industries
- (e) IBM

Answer: E

IBM and Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which operates Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (KIAB/BLR Airport), announced a 10-year partnership under which IBM and Kyndryl will provide IT solutions to create a new "Airport in a Box" platform that will support transforming the end-to-end travel experience for passengers at BLR Airport. The financial details of the deals were not disclosed.

IBM and BIAL will work to ensure that the platform supports BIAL's commitment to sustainability and the community at large. BIAL recently achieved its goal of net energy neutral status in the financial year 2020-21, consuming energy from renewable sources.

177. "Renegades: Born in the U.S.A", a book has released by whom among the following via Higher Ground/Penguin Random House?

- (a) Barack Obama
- (b) Hilary Clinton
- (c) Bruce Springsteen
- (d) Both A & B
- (e) Both A & C

Answer: E

President Barack Obama and Bruce Springsteen will release a joint book, Renegades: Born in the U.S.A., on October 26th globally via Higher Ground/Penguin Random House.

The tome is described as "a collection of candid, intimate, and entertaining conversations," which began in Spotify's co-produced podcast of the same name. Published in an oversized, fully illustrated format, the book will also feature rare and exclusive photographs from the authors' personal collections and never-before-seen archival material, including Springsteen's handwritten lyrics and Obama's annotated speeches.

178. 'Kashmir Ki Kyari Mein Aag Ki Lapte Aakhir Kab Tak?' a book has penned by Beena Budki. Which among the following state governor has released the book?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Uttarakhand

(d) Gujarat

(e) Goa

Answer: A

Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari expressed confidence that Jammu and Kashmir will once again reclaim its lost glory and become a 'heaven on earth'.

The Governor's comments came while releasing a book -- 'Kashmir Ki Kyari Mein Aag Ki Lapte Aakhir Kab Tak?' -- penned by Kashmiri writer and social worker Beena Budki, at the Raj Bhavan here.

Budki's book makes references to the turbulence witnessed in Kashmir in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019.

179. The Norman Borlaug National Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research has been won by Kajal Chakraborty. The award was instituted by which among the following organisation?

(a) NABARD

(b) FASSAI

(c) IFFCO

(d) ICAR

(e) FCI

Answer: D

Kajal Chakraborty, Principal Scientist at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has won the Norman Borlaug National Award for Excellence in Agricultural Research instituted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

The award, which is announced once in five years, carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh. Besides this, the scientist will be given a research grant of Rs 1.5 core to conduct a challenging research project for five years.

180. Which among the following company has partnered with UNCDF, AIM and Rabo Foundation to launch the Agritech Challenge 2021?

(a) Rotary Foundation

(b) Reliance Industries

(c) Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

(d) Adani Group

(e) L&T

Answer: C

The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission - NITI Aayog, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Rabo Foundation has launched the Agritech Challenge 2021, which aims to help address challenges faced by smallholder farmers across Asia and Africa.

The challenge will help address challenges faced by smallholder farmers around productivity, climate change and supply chain, by also working alongside International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Bayer as partners, UNCDF said in a statement .

181. Bhageerathi Amma the oldest learner who passed the literacy examination at the age of 105

has passed away recently. She hailed from which state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Tamil Nadu

Answer: B

Kerala's oldest learner Bhageerathi Amma, who passed the literacy examination at the age of 105 two years ago and won the praise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, family sources said.

Hailing from Prakkulam in Kollam district, the centenarian was a recipient of the prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskar by the Central government for her exceptional contribution towards women's empowerment.

182. How many judge bench of the Supreme Court have quashed part of the 97th Amendment Act and Part IX B of the Constitution which governs the "Cooperative Societies" in the country?

- (a) 3
- (b) 6
- (c) 2
- (d) 4
- (e) 5

Answer: A

A three-judge bench of the Supreme Court quashed part of the 97th Amendment Act and Part IX B of the

Constitution which governs the "Cooperative Societies" in the country.

The issue gains significance as the central government during recent expansion of the Council of Ministers created a separate "Ministry of Cooperation" under Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

183. Tata Boeing Aerospace Ltd has announced the delivery of the 100th fuselage for the AH-64 Apache combat helicopter to Boeing from which among the following manufacturing unit city?

- (a) Cochin
- (b) Vishakhapatnam
- (c) Jaipur
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) Kolkata

Answer: D

Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited announced the delivery of the 100th fuselage for the AH-64 Apache combat helicopter to Boeing from its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility Hyderabad.

According to a press release issued by Tata Advanced Systems Limited, the fuselage will be transported to Boeing's AH-64 Apache manufacturing facility in Mesa, Arizona, USA, for integration into the final assembly line.

184. The Border Roads Organisation has conducted the last blast of escape tube of the under-construction Sela Tunnel Pradesh to facilitate its

faster completion. The tunnel is located in which state?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Himachal Pradesh
- (e) Odisha

Answer: C

Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Director General Lt Gen Rajeev virtually conducted the last blast of escape tube of the under-construction Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh to facilitate its faster completion.

This breakthrough (last blast) will facilitate faster completion of Sela Tunnel by undertaking simultaneous activities in two tubes i.e. a two-way tube of 1,555 meters and an escape tube of 980 meters, besides 8.8 kms of approach roads.

185. Which among the following organisation has clarified that IDFC Limited can exit as the promoter of IDFC First Bank Limited as the five year lock-in period comes to an end?

- (a) SEBI
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) SIDBI
- (d) IRDAI
- (e) RBI

Answer: E

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has clarified that IDFC Limited can exit as the promoter of IDFC First

Bank Limited as the five year lock-in period comes to an end, the bank said in a statement to exchanges . This could pave the way for a potential reverse merger between IDFC Limited and IDFC First Bank Limited.

186. GE and Intel, Multinationals of US have joined hands with SERB to conduct fundamental research in the areas of the companies' interest. What does B mean in SERB?

- (a) Business
- (b) Basic
- (c) Board
- (d) Buy
- (e) Banking

Answer: C

US-headquartered multinationals, GE and Intel, have (separately) joined hands with Government of India's research funding agency Science and Technology Research Board (SERB), to conduct fundamental research in the areas of the companies' interest.

SERB is a statutory body established through an Act of the Parliament, meant to support basic research in science and technology.

This joint collaboration is under SERB's latest initiative called Fund for Industry Research Engagement (FIRE)—an umbrella program under which industry and SERB issue calls for proposals for scientists to take up specific research projects.

187. What is the position of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research globally among universities and institutions as part of its '50 Rising Institutions' list?

- (a) 20th
- (b) 25th
- (c) 22nd
- (d) 21st
- (e) 23rd

Answer: E

The Jawaharlal Nehru Centre For Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru, has been placed in the top 50 institutions worldwide for advances in materials science by the prestigious Nature Index.

The list which includes 18 institutes from China, 12 from the United States and two from the United Kingdom places the JNCASR in the 23rd position globally among universities and institutions as part of its '50 Rising Institutions' list.

The centre is also the only Indian institute on the list and shares the privilege with others such as Shanghai Jiao Tong University which is in the first place, the University of Texas Austin (fourth), the University of Berkley (12th) and the University of Cambridge (27th).

188. The National Fragile X Awareness Day has been celebrated in which among the following date?

- (a) July 22
- (b) July 23

- (c) July 24
- (d) July 25
- (e) July 26

Answer: A

Each year on July 22nd, National Fragile X Awareness Day celebrates those impacted by Fragile X syndrome. The day also raises support for research, education and awareness.

Fragile X syndrome is a mutation of the FMR1 gene and is the most common form of inherited intellectual disability. It impacts men more than women, and while a person may have the gene mutation, sometimes they do not have any apparent signs. Those who do show signs may have mild or severe symptoms. Physical, intellectual and behavioral symptoms may appear, and they vary between males and females. Women tend to have similar but milder symptoms or none at all.

189. Who among the following has released the book, 'Shifting Orbits: Decoding the Trajectory of the Indian Start-up Ecosystem'?

- (a) Sunil Arora
- (b) Amitabh Kant
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Rajiv Gauba
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer: B

NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant at the book launch ceremony has said that iVEAIN is a consortium of some of India's finest institutes. This

book, which is a comprehensive guide for start-ups, is authored by some of the most prominent voices in the Indian start-up ecosystem.

The book titled, 'Shifting Orbits: Decoding the Trajectory of the Indian Start-up Ecosystem', co-edited by Professor Rohan Chinchwadkar, a finance professor at the Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management at IIT Bombay, was launched yesterday evening by Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.

190. According to the first World Health Organization regional assessments on drowning prevention over 61 per cent of global drowning deaths in which among the following region?

- (a) Eurasia
- (b) Indo Pacific
- (c) South Asia
- (d) Asia Pacific
- (e) Central Asia

Answer: D

Over 1,44,000 people drowned in the Asia Pacific region in 2019, accounting for 61 per cent of global drowning deaths, according to the first World Health Organization regional assessments on drowning prevention.

The reports, which have been released ahead of World Drowning Prevention Day, stated that drowning claimed the lives of an estimated 70,000 and 74,000 people in the South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions.

The Regional Status Report on Drowning in the Western Pacific and Regional Status Report on Drowning in South-East Asia, also warn that climate change, to which the Asia Pacific region is particularly vulnerable, puts already vulnerable communities and individuals at increased drowning risk.

191. The World IVF Day has been observed on which among the following day to commemorate the birth of the 'First IVF baby', Louise Joy Brown?

- (a) July 25
- (b) July 22
- (c) July 27
- (d) July 23
- (e) July 29

Answer: A

Thirty-nine years ago the world was introduced to its first test-tube baby when Louise Brown was born through the IVF technique at Bourn Hall.

The World In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Day is annually observed across the globe on 25th July to commemorate the birth of the 'First IVF baby' Louise Joy Brown, medical experts and members of Bourn Hall Fertility Centre came together on July 24, 2017 to celebrate the occasion of the World IVF Day.

192. Corteva Agriscience has signed a project with the 2030 Water Resources Group to promote sustainable rice cultivation in 40,000 acres in Uttar

Pradesh. 2030 Water Resources Group is hosted by which among the following organisation?

- (a) AIIB
- (b) ADB
- (c) IBRD
- (d) World Bank
- (e) RBI

Answer: D

Global agricultural firm Corteva Agriscience said it has signed a three-year project with the 2030 Water Resources Group (2030 WRG) hosted by the World Bank Group, to promote sustainable rice cultivation in 40,000 acres in Uttar Pradesh.

The project provides a framework for Corteva, 2030 WRG and a task force of multiple stakeholders to work towards transforming 40,000 acres of land from traditional methods of transplanting rice to the Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) technique.

193. Who among the following has been appointed as the National Brand Ambassador for SDG Choupal?

- (a) Pashu Chikitsalaya
- (b) Sanjay Rai 'Sherpuria'
- (c) Saurabh Mishra
- (d) Avanish Rai
- (e) Mahesh Kumar Singh

Answer: B

Well-known social worker and entrepreneur Sanjay Rai 'Sherpuria' was named National Brand Ambassador for SDG Choupal at an event .

Sanjay Rai 'Sherpuria' was felicitated at the event held here this evening for his remarkable contributions in the wake of COVID.

On this occasion, SDG Choupal a collective community member of UN habitat, WHO, NITI Ayog and MSME ministry honored Sanjay Rai 'Sherpuria' by appointing him the National Brand Ambassador for his commendable contributions.

194. The prestigious Alexander Dalrymple award has been conferred to Vinay Badhwar for his works in areas of hydrography and nautical cartography. The award was issued by which among the following country?

- (a) Australia
- (b) England
- (c) Italy
- (d) France
- (e) Britain

Answer: E

India's chief hydrographer Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar was conferred with the prestigious Alexander Dalrymple award by the British government in recognition of his works in areas of hydrography and nautical cartography.

Vice Admiral Badhwar received the award from British High Commissioner Alex Ellis at a brief ceremony here.

Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar was conferred with the award in 2019 but the award ceremony was delayed due to the ongoing Covid pandemic. The Alexander

Dalrymple award has been named after the first hydrographer of the Admiralty and was instituted in 2006.

195. Which among the following organisation has designated July 25 of every year as the World Drowning Day?

- (a) UNESCO
- (b) UNSC
- (c) UN
- (d) UNIDO
- (e) UNGA

Answer: C

The United Nations has designated July 25 every year as the World Drowning Day. The global organisation dedicated this day for the global advocacy of drowning prevention in April this year through a resolution, moving towards a more sustainably developed world.

This year, the World Health Organisation (WHO) will lead the preparations for World Drowning Prevention Day by hosting a global launch event of the special day. WHO will be producing related advocacy materials and support national and local activities in countries and communities around the world.

The WHO has also suggested a special activity that some organizations may wish to undertake, "Going Blue for World Drowning Prevention Day".

196. In which among the following year the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem was adopted by UNESCO?

- (a) 2015
- (b) 2016
- (c) 2017
- (d) 2018
- (e) 2019

Answer: A

UNESCO is engaged deeply in supporting the conservation of mangroves, while advancing the sustainable development of their local communities. The inclusion of mangroves in Biosphere Reserves, World Heritage sites and UNESCO Global Geoparks contributes to improving the knowledge, management and conservation of mangrove ecosystems throughout the world.

The International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 2015 and celebrated each year on 26 July, aims to raise awareness of the importance of mangrove ecosystems as "a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem" and to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses.

197. The "Vision for Everyone" resolution, a first-ever resolution on vision has been approved by the UNGA. Which among the following countries acts as a Sponser?

- (a) Bangladesh

- (b) Ireland
- (c) Antigua
- (d) None of these
- (e) All the above

Answer: E

The UN General Assembly approved its first-ever resolution on vision, calling on its 193 member nations to ensure access to eye care for everyone in their countries which would contribute to a global effort to help at least 1.1 billion people with vision impairment who currently lack eye services by 2030.

The "Vision for Everyone" resolution, sponsored by Bangladesh, Antigua, and Ireland, and co-sponsored by over 100 countries, was adopted by consensus by the world body.

198. Which among the following state government has signed an MOU with government advisory firm Sapio Analytics, to provide licenses of automation software Accloud, worth Rs. 72 crores, to 20,000 MSMEs?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Gujarat
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B

Department of MSME, Government of Uttar Pradesh, signed an MoU with government advisory firm Sapio Analytics, to provide licenses of automation software Accloud, worth Rs. 72 crores,

to 20,000 MSMEs of the state. The software licenses shall be provided free of cost to the MSMEs who can apply for the same

In an event marking the launch of this initiative by the government, Navneet Sehgal, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of MSME and Export Promotion, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and Pravin Singh, Managing Director, UP Industrial Consultants Ltd., spoke about the need to revive MSMEs with automation and financing.

199. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme called "SMILE", covering comprehensive measures for welfare of beggars. What does 'E' mean in SMILE?

- (a) Enterprise
- (b) Empowerment
- (c) Education
- (d) Entertainment
- (e) Ease

Answer: A

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme "SMILE - Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and enterprise", which includes subscheme - 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'.

This scheme covers several comprehensive measures including welfare measures for persons who are engaged in the act of begging. The focus of the scheme is extensively on rehabilitation, provision

of medical facilities, counselling, basic documentation, education, skill development, economic linkages and so on.

200. Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati has been implemented by the government recently as a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana for the promotion of traditional indigenous practices. Under BPKP, financial assistance of _____ for 3 years is provided.

- (a) Rs 12300/ha
- (b) Rs 12500/ha
- (c) Rs 12900/ha

(d) Rs 12200/ha

(e) Rs 12000/ha

Answer: D

Government is implementing Bhartiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP) as a sub scheme of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) since 2020-21 for the promotion of traditional indigenous practices. Under BPKP, financial assistance of Rs 12200/ha for 3 years is provided for cluster formation, capacity building and continuous handholding by trained personnel, certification and residue analysis.

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