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Galaxy
Achieve Your Goal

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What is important,

we cover!



1. **'Operation Namaste' has been recently launched by**

- (A) Indian Army
- (B) Indian Navy
- (C) Indian Air Force
- (D) Delhi Police

- ❖ **Army Chief** General Manoj Mukund Naravane launched initiative "**Operation Namaste**", to insulate army force from coronavirus infection and extend all possible assistance to the government in containing the pandemic.
- ❖ Under "Operation Namaste", the Army has issued series of directives to all its bases to insulate the force from the coronavirus.

2. **National Book Trust, India, recently launched a publishing series titled 'Corona Studies Series'. National Book Trust works under which Ministry?**

- (A) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (C) Ministry of External Affairs
- (D) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

- ❖ National Book Trust, India, the national body for book publishing and book promotion under the **Ministry of Human Resource Development**, Government of India, is launching a publishing series titled 'Corona Studies Series' to document and to provide relevant reading materials for all age-groups for the post-Corona readership needs.
- ❖ National Book Trust is an Indian publishing house, **founded in 1957** as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Education of the Government of India.
- ❖ **Headquarters:** New Delhi

3. **India VIX is an index that serves as a measure of market expectation of volatility in the near term. The India VIX was launched in-**

- (A) 2010
- (B) 2014
- (C) 2018
- (D) 2020

- ❖ India VIX is an index that serves as a **measure of market expectation of volatility in the near term**. Simply put, while volatility signifies the rate and magnitude of change in the stock price or index value, the movement in the **VIX index reflects the overall market volatility expectations over the next 30 days**. So, a spike in the VIX value means the market is expecting higher volatility in the near future.
- ❖ India VIX index is not the first of its kind in the world.
- ❖ The VIX index was **first created by the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE)** and introduced in 1993 based on the prices of S&P 500 index.
- ❖ Since then, it has become a globally-recognised gauge of volatility in the U.S equity markets. **The India VIX was launched with a similar intent in 2010** and is based on the computation methodology of CBOE though amended to align with the Indian markets.
- ❖ In the current calendar year, the India VIX index has jumped fivefold, from around 12 levels to the current 67 levels, which clearly hints that the market perceives that volatility will only increase in the coming days.



- ❖ Incidentally, the index is currently trading at record highs and on some days in the recent past, saw a surge of more than 20% in a single day.
4. **Azam Khan, who recently passed away due to COVID-19, was related to which sports?**
- (A) Badminton
 - (B) Chess
 - (C) Football
 - (D) Squash
- ❖ **Pakistani squash great** Azam Khan, 95, died of coronavirus at London's Ealing Hospital.
 - ❖ Azam, younger brother of the legendary Hashim Khan, **won the British Open title** successively between 1959 and 1961.
5. **Renowned Professor Arjun Dev, who passed away recently, was associated with which subject?**
- (A) Physics
 - (B) Geography
 - (C) History
 - (D) Mathematics
- ❖ Professor Arjun Dev, the legendary **educationist and historian**, passed away recently.
 - ❖ Born on November 12, 1938 in Leiah, West Punjab (now in Pakistan), he did his schooling in Ambala and then studied at Kirori Mal College, Delhi University.
 - ❖ Prof. Arjun spent the better part of his academic life working as a historian at the **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**.
 - ❖ In partnership with Indira he wrote a number of extremely popular textbooks for the NCERT on **Modern and Contemporary India and the World**.

6. **The Zoological Survey of India, founded on –**

- (A) 1 July 1916
- (B) 1 July 1946
- (C) 1 July 1976
- (D) 1 July 1966

- ❖ A recent study by scientists of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has proved that Siberian Ibex, distributed in the trans-Himalayan ranges of **Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh**, is a distinct species from the Siberian Ibex.

Siberian Ibex

Siberian Ibex is a species of wild goat and is distributed in diverse habitats, ranging from cold deserts, rocky outcrops, steep terrain, high-land flats and mountain ridges to low mountains and foothills.

- ❖ The Zoological Survey of India, founded on **1 July 1916** by Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as premier Indian organisation in zoological research and studies to promote the survey, exploration and **research of the fauna in the country**.

- ❖ **Headquarters:** Kolkata

7. **In order to provide personal protection gears to the health workers and other related officials, which state Government has recently created the 'HP COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund'?**

- (A) Haryana
- (B) Himachal Pradesh
- (C) Punjab
- (D) Gujarat



- ❖ In order to provide personal protection gears to the health workers and other related officials, the **Himachal Pradesh Government** has created the '**HP COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund**'.
- ❖ The state government has also set up Government Organisation and Non-Government Organization Coordination Platform, **GO-NGO for disaster response and Disaster Preparedness**.
- ❖ HP COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund' will also ensure a **smooth supply of essential commodities** like food items and medicines beside health equipment for health workers.

8. Which state Police have recently created a new a mobile application, called House Quarantine App for suspected exposure to the virus?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Uttar Pradesh
- (C) Andhra Pradesh
- (D) Maharashtra

- ❖ **Andhra Pradesh Police** has created a new a mobile application, called **House Quarantine App** for suspected exposure to the virus. The Police Department will collect the details of those who returned to India from different countries and upload their names on the APP.
- ❖ Their movements will be monitored by **geo-tagging** their details to prevent the spread of the epidemic. Police would collect the details through district dash boards and **track the movements of the foreign returnees**.

- ❖ Under **Virtual geo fencing**, if they cross 50 metres distance from their homes, police would get an alarm and in turn police teams will rush to the spot immediately.

9. On March 27, 2020, The Republic of North Macedonia has inducted officially newest member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). How many countries are part of NATO?

- (A) 25
- (B) 30
- (C) 33
- (D) 27

- ❖ On March 27, 2020, The Republic of North Macedonia has inducted officially as the **30th and newest member** of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- ❖ North Macedonia was granted a protocol on accession to NATO membership in February 2019.

About North Macedonia:

- ✦ Capital- Skopje
- ✦ Currency- Macedonian denar

10. The headquarters of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is located at-

- (A) Brussels
- (B) Bonn
- (C) Paris
- (D) New York

- ❖ The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, also called the **North Atlantic Alliance**, is an intergovernmental military alliance between **30 North American and European countries**.

- ❖ The organization implements the North Atlantic Treaty that was signed on **4 April 1949**.
- ❖ **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium

11. Which one among the following is not a Rabi crop?

- (A) Bajra
- (B) Wheat
- (C) Mustard
- (D) Gram

- ❖ The lakhs of migrant workers streaming to their home villages due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown have left many farmers across the country bereft of agricultural labour just before the crucial harvesting season of the **rabi or winter crop**.

Kharif Crops

- ✦ The word “Kharif” is **Arabic for autumn** since the season coincides with the beginning of **autumn or winter**.
- ✦ Kharif crops also are known as **monsoon crops**. These are the crops that are cultivated in the monsoon season.
- ✦ The Kharif season differs in every state of the country but is generally from **June to September**. These crops are usually sown at the beginning of the monsoon season around June and harvested by September or October.
- ✦ **Rice, maize, bajra, ragi, soybean, groundnut, cotton** are all Kharif types crops.

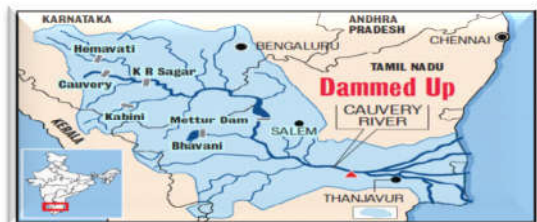
Rabi Crops

- ✦ The Arabic translation of the word “Rabi” is **spring**. These crops’ harvesting happens in the springtime hence the name.
- ✦ The Rabi season usually starts in **November and lasts up to March or April**. Rabi crops are mainly cultivated using irrigation since monsoons are already over by November. In fact, unseasonal showers in November or December can ruin the crops.
- ✦ The seeds are sown at the beginning of autumn, which results in a spring harvest.
- ✦ **Wheat, barley, mustard and green peas are some of the major rabi types of crops that grow in India.**

12. Which one among the following rivers is not tributary of Cauvery?

- (A) Kabini
- (B) Hemavati
- (C) Shimsha
- (D) Pranhita

- ❖ The strict enforcement of 21-day lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic has turned out to be a boon for the **Cauvery and other rivers in the old Mysuru region** as the prohibition of industrial and religious activities has helped reduce the pollution level in river waters.
- ❖ According to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), the quality of water in **Cauvery and tributaries like Kabini, Hemavati, Shimsha and Lakshmanathirtha** is back to what it used to be decades ago.





13. **Manolis Glezos, who passed away recently, was a great personality of which country?**

- (A) Greece
- (B) Italy
- (C) Turkey
- (D) Austria

- ❖ Manolis Glezos, who died at the age of 97, was a **Greek resistance hero** who tore down the Nazi swastika flag from the Acropolis during the **Second World War**, survived two death sentences and remained an activist even in old age.
- ❖ He opposed his government's austerity measures in the wake of the financial crisis and campaigned for Germany to repay money it had forced Greece to loan it during the war.

14. **Vincent van Gogh was a**

- (A) Famous Writer of Italy
- (B) Greece Hero of 2nd world war
- (C) Dutch painter
- (D) English scientist who discovered argon

- ❖ **A painting by Dutch master Vincent van Gogh was stolen in an overnight smash-and-grab raid on a museum that was closed to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.**
- ❖ **Almond Blossoms, Wheatfield With Cypresses, Bedroom In Arles, The Potato Eaters, Irises And The Starry Night** were the most famous paintings of Gogh.

15. **Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF-6) satellite, is recently in news, in the context of affairs of which country?**

- (A) USA
- (B) China
- (C) North Korea
- (D) Japan

- ❖ AEHF system is **series of six military communication satellites for U.S. Space Force**. Sixth satellite is launched successfully by US.

- ❖ It will circle Earth in geostationary orbit and will provide **secure, jam-proof voice and data communications for US** and international partners Canada, Netherlands, United Kingdom and Australia.

- ❖ **US space force** was established as separate military branch in 2019. It will provide freedom of operation for USA in, from, and to space and Provide prompt and sustained space operations.

16. **A Tripura MP recently donated Rs 1 Cr from MPLADs fund to PM-CARES. MPLADs statds for-**

- (A) Members of Party Local Area Development Scheme
- (B) Members of Parliament Led Area Development Scheme
- (C) Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme
- (D) Members of Party Led Area Development Scheme

- ❖ The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Division is entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)**.

- ❖ Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works to the tune of **Rs.5 Crores per annum** to be taken up in his/her constituency.

- ❖ The **Rajya Sabha Members** of Parliament can recommend works in one or more districts in the State from where he/she has been elected.



- ❖ The **Nominated Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha** may select any one or more Districts from any one State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme.
 - ❖ It is a scheme formulated by Government of India on **23 December 1993**.
 - ❖ Initially, this scheme was administered by Ministry of Rural Development. Later, in October 1994, **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI)** has been looking into its working.
- 17. Which state Government has recently launched a mobile app PRAGYAAM to issue e-passes to everyone associated with delivery of essential services?**
- (A) Jharkhand
 - (B) Odisha
 - (C) Madhya Pradesh
 - (D) Maharashtra
- ❖ The **Jharkhand Government** has launched a mobile app PRAGYAAM to issue **e-passes to everyone associated with delivery of essential services** during the national lockdown to combat COVID-19.
 - ❖ The android platform based app can be downloaded from Google Play store and has been designed locally.
 - ❖ **District Transport Officers** have been given authority to issue e-passes to vehicles through online mode after verification of the documents uploaded through the app.
- ❖ These passes will be issued to those involved in the **regular supply services, medical, banking and other necessary services**.
- 18. Asian Development Bank (ADB) recently announced a 100 million US Dollars funding for the Indian infrastructure sector. ADB was established on-**
- (A) 19 December 1962
 - (B) 19 December 1964
 - (C) 19 December 1966
 - (D) 19 December 1968
- ❖ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank **established on 19 December 1966**.
 - ❖ ADB is **headquartered in Manila, Philippines**.
 - ❖ It aims to promote social and economic development in Asia.
 - ❖ From 31 members at its establishment in 1966, ADB has grown to encompass **68 members—of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside**.
- 19. Which state of India is largest state in accordance by Total Area (Census 2011)?**
- (A) Rajasthan
 - (B) Uttar Pradesh
 - (C) Madhya Pradesh
 - (D) Maharashtra
- ❖ Every year, **Rajasthan** celebrates its Statehood Day on March 30. Popularly known as **“Land of the Kings”**, it is the largest Indian state in area.



Top 10 Largest States of India by Total Area

2011 Census				
Rank	State	Area(Km ²)	Population	Density
1	Rajasthan	342239	68548437	200
2	Madhya Pradesh	308252	72626809	236
3	Maharashtra	307713	112374333	365
4	Andhra Pradesh	275045	84580777	308
5	Uttar Pradesh	240928	199812341	829
6	Jammu and Kashmir	222236	12541302	56
7	Gujarat	196244	60439692	308
8	Karnataka	191791	61095297	319
9	Orissa	155707	41974218	270
10	Chhattisgarh	135192	25545198	189

20. The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) has recently suspended all planned events till June 30. The Headquarters of the Federation is located in-

- (A) Sweden (B) Austria
(C) Japan (D) Switzerland

❖ **The International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) has suspended all planned events till June 30 and froze the world rankings due to the upheaval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

❖ **The ITTF is the governing body of all the national table tennis associations spread all over the world. The Headquarters of the Federation is located in Switzerland. It was founded in 1926.**

21. RBI has recently introduced a separate channel, to enable non-residents to invest in Government securities of 5-year, 10-year and 30-year tenors from the financial year 2020-21. What is the name of this channel?

- (A) Fully Accessible Route'(FAR)
(B) Direct Accessible Route (DAR)
(C) Partial Accessible Route (PAR)
(D) NRI Accessible Route (NAR)

- ❖ RBI has introduced a separate channel, namely **'Fully Accessible Route' (FAR)**, to enable non-residents to invest in Government securities of **5-year, 10-year and 30-year tenors** from the financial year 2020-21.
- ❖ Move follows Union Budget announcement that certain specified categories of government bonds would be opened fully for non-resident investors without any restrictions.
- ❖ FPIs, Non-Resident Indians Overseas Citizens of India and other entities permitted to invest in **Government Securities under the Debt Regulations** can invest under this route.
- ❖ However, these securities will continue to be eligible for investment by residents. For FPIs the earlier limit of investment in **G-secs (6%) has not been changed.**
- ❖ This is first step towards Indian G-Secs being listed on global bond indices to access cheap liquidity in the overseas markets.
- ❖ It will help bring in stable foreign investment in government bonds, as a result more domestic capital would be available for industry as crowding out to that extent would be reduced.

Government securities

G-Sec is a tradable instrument issued by Central Government or State Governments. It acknowledges the Government's debt obligation.



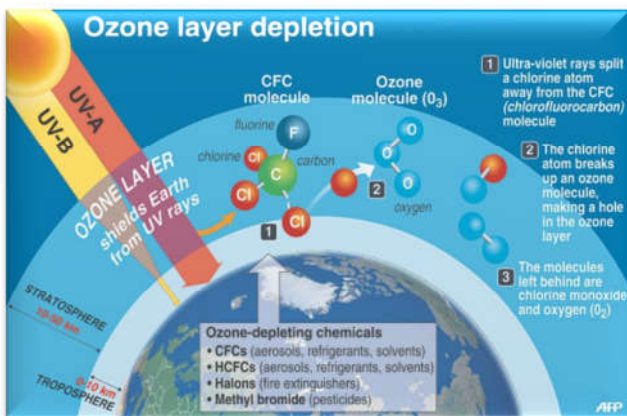
22. **Most ozone gas (about 90%) is located in the atmospheric layer of -**

- (A) Ionosphere (B) Troposphere
(C) Stratosphere (D) Mesosphere

- ❖ A research, published in journal Nature notes that ozone layer is continuing to heal and could recover completely.
- ❖ The recovering ozone hole might have been a result of the 1987 **Montreal Protocol**. Study notes that ozone depletion triggered a change in atmospheric circulation.
- ❖ Ozone depletion cools the stratospheric air (when it's intact, the ozone layer absorbs **UV light**, which warms the stratosphere), strengthening the winds of polar vortex and affecting winds down to lowest layer of Earth's atmosphere.
- ❖ Ultimately, ozone depletion has shifted the mid-latitude jet stream and dry regions at the edge of tropics toward South Pole.
- ❖ Ozone layer in **stratosphere** keeps out harmful ultraviolet radiation from sun.

23. **Montreal Protocol is related to-**

- (A) Greenhouse Gas Emission
(B) Ozone Depleting Substances
(C) Mercury Pollution
(D) Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides



- ❖ Montreal Protocol is a global agreement **to protect the stratospheric ozone layer** by phasing out ozone-depleting substances (ODS) such as chlorofluorocarbons.

24. **NASA recently announced Sun Radio Interferometer Space Experiment (SUNRISE) mission. The mission will study**

- (A) Giant Solar Particle Storms
(B) Sun's outer corona
(C) Planet Saturn and its system
(D) Planet Jupiter

- ❖ US space agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has announced that it has selected a new mission **to study giant solar particle storms**.
- ❖ The **Sun Radio Interferometer Space Experiment (SunRISE)** will look into how Sun generates and releases the giant weather storms, known as the solar particle storms, into space.
- ❖ The mission will help in greater understanding of the solar system. The findings would safeguard astronauts from solar storms while they travel to Mars or the Moon.
- ❖ SunRISE contains **six CubeSats** which will work together as a large radio telescope. Each of the CubeSats would run on solar power and would be of the size of a toaster oven.

25. **The Ministry of Tourism has recently launched a portal to help foreign tourists who are stuck in various parts of the country. What is the name of this Portal?**

- (A) Stranded in India portal
(B) Imported in India portal
(C) Travel in India portal
(D) India care U portal



- ❖ The **Ministry of Tourism** has launched a portal “**Stranded in India**” to help foreign tourists who are stuck in various parts of the country.
- ❖ It will disseminate information regarding the services that can be availed by foreign tourists who are stuck far away from their home land.
- ❖ The portal consists of information around Covid-19 helpline numbers and call centres that foreign tourists can reach out for help, information around **Ministry of External Affairs control centers** along with their contact information and information around state-based/regional tourism support infrastructure.

26. Nidhi Prayas program is related to which department?

- (A) Department of Biotechnology
- (B) Department of science and technology
- (C) Department of Atomic Energy
- (D) Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

Scitech Airon

- ✦ JClean Weather Technologies, an incubatee company in Pune's Scitech Park has developed a new technology to disinfect closed spaces and rooms.
- ✦ The technology, named **Scitech Airon**, was developed under the **Nidhi Prayas program initiated by the Department of Science and Technology (DST)**.
- ✦ It reduces the viral load of a closed space by 99.7 per cent within an hour, depending on the room size.
- ✦ It has developed a negative ion generator that can reduce the viral load in an infected area.

- ❖ **National Initiative for developing and harnessing Innovation - PRomoting and Accelerating Young and ASpiring innovators & startups (NIDHI-PRAYAS)** Program is to help - young and aspiring innovators. The focus is to provide support/funding from idea to prototype.

27. Which one among the following countries is not part of Baltic States?

- (A) Estonia
- (B) Latvia
- (C) Lithuania
- (D) Cuba

- ❖ Hundreds of grey seal pups are dying on the shores of the Baltic Sea in Estonia and Latvia as the Nordic coastline faced the first winter without ice in decades.

Grey seals

- ✦ Grey seals need ice - which helps them keep a distance from predators like wolves or foxes - in order to breed pups during the winter.
- ✦ Without it, they have been forced onto islets they would not normally inhabit, causing overcrowding, disrupting the breeding season and reducing the survival rate of newborns.

- ❖ Baltic states, the northeastern region of Europe, includes the countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, on the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea.



28. Which one among the following funds is not part of major funds under National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)?

- (A) Master Fund
- (B) Fund of funds
- (C) Strategic Investment Fund
- (D) Foreign Investment Fund

❖ Multilateral institution Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced a 100 million US Dollars funding for the Indian infrastructure sector through the government-promoted **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund-NIIF**.

❖ National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIFL) is an investor-owned fund manager, anchored by the Government of India (GoI) in collaboration with leading global and domestic institutional investors.

❖ **NIIF manages three funds: Master Fund, Fund of Funds and Strategic Fund.** The funds were set up to make infrastructure investments in India by raising capital from domestic and international institutional investors

29. The Government of India has launched a Coronavirus risk-tracking Application (app) called “Corona Kavach”. The app was developed by

- (A) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- (B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (C) Ministry of Ayush
- (D) A and B both

❖ The Government of India has launched a Coronavirus risk-tracking Application (app) called “Corona Kavach”. The app was jointly developed by the **Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) & the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)**.

❖ The app is designed to provide information about COVID-19 and capture information.

❖ The app tracks the data of the users every one hour to alert the people whether they have crossed paths with any person who has tested positive for the infection. **This helps in identifying the relevant chain of contact.** The app uses a colour code to figure out whether the user has come in contact with a COVID-19 carrier or not.

30. The book “Backstage: The Story Behind India’s High Growth Years” is written by

- (A) Montek Singh Ahluwalia
- (B) Y. V. Reddy
- (C) Bimal Jalan
- (D) Urjit Patel



- ❖ **Montek Singh Ahluwalia** authored a book titled “Backstage: The Story Behind India’s High Growth Years” which captures the essence of policymaking between 1985 and 2014.
- ❖ He is an Economist, civil servant & **Deputy Chairman of the Indian Planning Commission**, with the rank of Cabinet Minister, from July 2004 to May 2014 & Padma Vibhushan awardee (2011).

31. Nizamuddin Auliya was a Sufi saint of which Sufi order?

- (A) Chishti Order
 - (B) Suhrawardi Order
 - (C) Qadri Order
 - (D) Naqshbandi Order
- ❖ Concerns that a Tablighi Jamath event in Hazrat Nizamuddin in Delhi has led to a spike in coronavirus cases are increasing across the nation.
 - ❖ Nizamuddin Dargah is the dargah of one of the Sufi saints, Khwaja Nizamuddin Auliya, situated in the Nizamuddin West area of Delhi.
 - ❖ He was a Sunni Muslim scholar, Sufi saint of the **Chishti Order**, and unarguably one of the most famous Sufis on the Indian Subcontinent.
 - ❖ Many of his disciples achieved spiritual height, including **Shaikh Nasiruddin Chirag Delhavi, and Amir Khusro**, noted scholar/musician, and the royal poet of the Delhi Sultanate.

MAJOR TEACHERS OF THE CHISHTI SILSILA

SUFI TEACHERS	YEAR OF DEATH	LOCATION OF DARGAH
Shaikh Muinuddin Sijzi	1235	Ajmer (Rajasthan)
Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki	1235	Delhi
Shaikh Fariduddin Ganj-i Shakar	1265	Ajodhan (Pakistan)
Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya	1325	Delhi
Shaikh Nasiruddin Chiragh-i Dehli	1356	Delhi

32. “Domicile clause”, is recently in news, in the context of the affairs of which state/UT?

- (A) Punjab
 - (B) Kerala
 - (C) Nagaland
 - (D) Jammu and Kashmir
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs issued the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Adaptation of State Laws) Order, 2020**, through which it amended 109 laws and repealed 29 laws of the erstwhile State and inserted the — **‘domicile clause’** in the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services Decentralisation and Recruitment Act, 2010.
 - ❖ Under the 2010 Act, the clause for “permanent resident of the State” has been substituted by “Domicile” of the Union Territory.
 - ❖ The Act pertained to employment in the civil services, comprising **“district, divisional and State” cadre posts**. Only permanent residents of J&K were eligible to apply for the gazetted and non-gazetted posts. The amendment allows non-domiciles to apply to these posts.
 - ❖ The domicile status applies to “children of such residents of J&K who reside outside J&K in connection with their employment or business or other professional or vocational reasons but their parents should fulfil any of the conditions provided”.



33. X is the capital to be kept by a bank to meet business cycle related risks. It is aimed to protect the banking sector against losses from changes in economic conditions. What is X?

- (A) Cash Reserve Ratio
- (B) Statutory liquidity ratio
- (C) Counter Cyclical Capital buffer
- (D) Incremental Capital-Output Ratio

- ❖ Recently RBI, the central bank, has also deferred the implementation of **counter cyclical capital buffer (CCyB)** for banks.
- ❖ “Based on the review and empirical analysis of CCyB indicators, it has been decided that it is not necessary to activate CCyB for a period of one year or earlier, as may be necessary,” the RBI said.
- ❖ Counter Cyclical Capital buffer **is the capital to be kept by a bank to meet business cycle related risks.**
- ❖ It is aimed to protect the banking sector against losses from changes in economic conditions. Banks may face difficulties in phases like recession when the loan amount doesn't return.
- ❖ **The Basel III countercyclical capital buffer** is calculated as the weighted average of the buffers in effect in the jurisdictions to which banks have a credit exposure.
- ❖ It is implemented as an extension of the capital conservation buffer.

- ❖ It consists entirely of **Common Equity Tier 1 capital** and, if the minimum buffer requirements are breached, capital distribution constraints will be imposed on the bank.

34. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gives temporary loan facilities to the central and state governments to meet mismatches in the receipts and payments of the government. This loan facility is called –

- (A) Ways and Means Advances
- (B) Marginal cost of funds-based lending rate
- (C) Counter Cyclical Capital buffer
- (D) Cash Reserve Ratio

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced more measures to fight economic disruptions caused by COVID-19, including extension of the realisation period of export proceeds and allowing States to borrow more.
- ❖ The central bank has also formed an advisory committee to review the ways and means limit for State governments and union territories. Till the panel submits its report, **the central bank has increased the ways and means advances limit by 30% for States and union territories.**
- ❖ The ‘Ways and Means Advances’ is a scheme that **helps meet mismatches in receipts and payments of the government.**
- ❖ Under this scheme, a government can avail itself of **immediate cash from the RBI.**
- ❖ The Ways and Means Advances scheme was introduced in **1997.**



- ❖ The limits for Ways and Means Advances are **decided by the government and RBI mutually and revised periodically.**
- ❖ There are **two types** of Ways and Means Advances — **normal and special.**
- ❖ **Special WMA** or Special Drawing Facility is provided against the collateral of the government securities held by the state. After the state has exhausted the limit of SDF, it gets normal WMA. The interest rate for SDF is one percentage point less than the repo rate.
- ❖ The number of loans under **normal WMA** is based on a three-year average of actual revenue and capital expenditure of the state.

35. Penguin with which online parenting community have recently jointly launched a web-only initiative called #OnceUponABookWithPenguin ?

- (A) Momspesso
 - (B) Just4kids
 - (C) Golflan
 - (D) Centum Learning
- ❖ Penguin and online parenting community — **Momspesso** have jointly launched an web-only initiative called **#OnceUponABookWithPenguin.**
 - ❖ On till 14th April, the programme will witness a children's book author go live on video on the Momspesso Facebook every evening at 6:30 p.m.
 - ❖ They will tell kids an interesting story from their book. The intent is to make playtime fun for kids even if they are indoors and the focus will be on **animated storytelling and reading.**

36. Where is the headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission located?

- (A) Belur Math
 - (B) Bhandarakeri Math
 - (C) Baligaru Math
 - (D) Gokarna Math
- ❖ BCCI president Sourav Ganguly recently visited **Belur Math, the headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission,** in Howrah to extend his helping hand to the needy people during the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - ❖ It is located on the west bank of Hooghly River, Belur, **West Bengal, India** and is one of the significant institutions in Kolkata.

Swami Vivekananda

- ❖ Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902) redefined religion as **service to the poor.**
- ❖ He set up the **Ramakrishna Mission in 1897** named after his famous mentor Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1834-1886) to work for the provision of education and health care.
- ❖ The schools and hospitals of the Mission are rendering yeomen service. Through his efforts at a cultural resurgence, Swami Vivekananda laid strong foundations for the nationalist movement.



37. **Ramnavami festival falls on the ninth day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) in the Hindu calendar month of-**

- (A) Chaitra
- (B) Vaisakha
- (C) Asadha
- (D) Shravana

- ❖ On 2 April, 2020 Ramnavami festival is celebrated in India. Rama Navami is a spring Hindu festival that celebrates the **birthday of God Rama**.
- ❖ The festival is a part of the spring Navratri, and falls on the ninth day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) in the Hindu calendar **month of Chaitra**.

38. **Dr. Sree Sree Sree Sivakumara Swamigalu was related to which religious sect?**

- (A) Lingayat
- (B) Digambara
- (C) Svetambara
- (D) Vajrayana

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tributes to Indian spiritual leader, humanitarian and educator Dr. Sree Sree Sree Sivakumara Swamigalu on his Jayanti.
- ❖ He was a **Lingayat religious figure**, he joined the **Siddaganga Matha** in 1930 Karnataka and became head seer from 1941.
- ❖ He also founded the **Sri Siddaganga Education Society**. Described as the most esteemed adherent of Lingayatism, he was referred to as **Nadedaaduva Devaru (walking God)** in the state.

- ❖ Before his death at the age of 111 years, 295 days, he was one of the oldest people living in India.
- ❖ In 2015, he was awarded by the Government of India the **Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian award**.

39. **In which state, a unique radio school has been recently started to mitigate the impact of Coronavirus outbreak?**

- (A) Haryana
- (B) Bihar
- (C) Madhya Pradesh
- (D) Kerala

- ❖ In **Madhya Pradesh**, a unique radio school has been started to mitigate the impact of Coronavirus outbreak. Under Radio School, all the centers of All India Radio in Madhya Pradesh will be broadcasting programs from Monday to Saturday from 11 am to 12 pm.
- ❖ Radio School is being started by the State Education Center with the help of AIR.
- ❖ The purpose of this special educational radio program is to **provide regular study to students of the state at home** during the lockdown period. The School Education Department has asked all the students to listen to this program regularly and continue their studies.
- ❖ Apart from this radio program, **class-wise and subject-wise interesting educational material** will also be made available to students from time to time through teachers.



40. On March 31, 2020, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) launched global painting competition. What is title of this competition?

- (A) United against CORONA-Express through
- (B) Art Express through Art
- (C) Fight against CORONA through Art
- (D) CORONA- Art to Fight

❖ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has decided to launch a global painting competition entitled "**United against CORONA- Express through Art.**"

❖ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations with its focus on building cultural links with countries around the world and connecting people to people through Cultural and Educational exchanges, calls on Indians and citizens of the world to express these emotions through a competition entitled United against CORONA-Express through Art.

41. The Department of Telecommunication and C-DOT in coordination with Telecom Service Providers have developed and tested an application which automatically triggers an email or SMS if any identified corona positive person moves away from their quarantine location. This system is known as –

- (A) COVID-19 Quarantine Alert System
- (B) COVID-19 Quarantine Information System
- (C) COVID-19 Quarantine geo-fencing System
- (D) COVID-19 Quarantine geo-fencing Alert System

❖ The Centre is using powers under the **Indian Telegraph Act** to “fetch information” from telecom companies every 15 minutes to track COVID-19 cases across the country.

❖ **The “geo-fencing” is accurate by up to 300 m.**

❖ **Kerala** was one of the first States to use geo-fencing to track COVID-19 cases.

❖ On March 29, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) shared a standard operating procedure (SOP) with all telecom service providers regarding the application called **COVID-19 Quarantine Alert System (CQAS).**

❖ The system will collate phone data, including the device’s location, on a common secured platform and alert the local agencies in case of a violation by COVID-19 patients under watch or in isolation.

42. **Ellis Marsalis, who passed away recently, was an acclaimed**

- (A) American pianist
- (B) American trumpeter
- (C) American saxophonist
- (D) Italian pianist

❖ **Jazz great Ellis Marsalis** died at the age of 85 after contracting the coronavirus, his son Branford said. The acclaimed **American pianist and teacher** — who featured on dozens of records over a musical career spanning several decades — was the father of trumpeter Wynton and saxophonist Branford.



- ❖ Born in New Orleans —**the epicenter of the jazz world** — in November 1934, Mr. Ellis recorded with heavyweights such as Cannonball and Nat Adderley, Marcus Roberts and Courtney Pine. Mr. Ellis was inducted into The **Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2018**.

43. Tony Lewis, who passed away, recently was associated with which of the following?

- (A) Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method
 - (B) Nelson score
 - (C) Nelson –Lewis method
 - (D) Nelson –Stern method
- ❖ Tony Lewis, one of the men behind the **Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method** used in weather-affected limited-overs matches, has died aged 78.
 - ❖ Tony, alongside fellow mathematician **Frank Duckworth**, devised the Duckworth-Lewis method which was introduced in 1997 and adopted officially by the **ICC (International Cricket Council) in 1999**.
 - ❖ Renamed the **Duckworth-Lewis-Stern Method in 2014**, the mathematical formula continues to be used in rain reduced limited overs cricket games across the globe.
 - ❖ Lewis received an MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) for his services to cricket and mathematics in 2010.
 - ❖ The **big difference** between the DLS and previous methods was that it gave credit to sides defending a target for taking wickets as well as chasing sides for scoring runs.

44. Who is the current president of All India Chess Federation (AICF)?

- (A) Vijay Deshpande
 - (B) Bharat Singh Chauhan
 - (C) P.R. Venketrama Raja
 - (D) Ajay H Patel
- ❖ The **newly nominated secretary** of the All India Chess Federation (AICF), **Vijay Deshpande**, has refuted the charges made by predecessor Bharat Singh Chauhan and has also questioned his actions.
 - ❖ **AICF president P.R. Venketrama Raja** had removed Chauhan from the post of secretary, recently.

All India Chess Federation

- ❖ The All India Chess Federation is central administrative body for the game of chess in India.
- ❖ **Founded:** 1951
- ❖ **Headquarters:** Chennai

45. Magnus Carlsen, is related to which sports?

- (A) Chess
 - (B) Football
 - (C) Badminton
 - (D) Cricket
- ❖ With scores of **chess** tournaments cancelled worldwide owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, World champion Magnus Carlsen has come up with a **\$250,000- online event for eight elite players**.
 - ❖ The Magnus Carlsen Invitational will be played from April 18 to May 3 with shorter time controls.



46. The Government of India recently launched a mobile app developed in public private partnership to bring the people of India together in a resolute fight against COVID-19. What is the name of this App?

- (A) AarogyaSetu
- (B) COVIDSetu
- (C) IndCov19 App
- (D) AayushmanSetu

- ❖ The Government launched a mobile app developed in **public-private partnership** to bring the people of India together in a resolute fight against COVID-19.
- ❖ The App, called 'AarogyaSetu' joins Digital India for the health and well - being of every Indian. The App will enable people to assess themselves the risk for their catching the Coronavirus infection. It will calculate this based on their interaction with others, using cutting edge Bluetooth technology, algorithms and artificial intelligence.
- ❖ The App's design ensures privacy-first. The personal data collected by the App is encrypted using state-of-the-art technology and stays secure on the phone till it is needed for facilitating medical intervention.
- ❖ It is available in **11 languages**; the App is ready for pan-India use from day-1 and has highly scalable architecture. This app is a unique example of the nation's young talent coming together and pooling resources and efforts to respond to a global crisis.
- ❖ It is at once a bridge between public and private sectors, digital technology and health services delivery and the potential of young India with a disease-free and healthy future of the nation.

47. Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar recently launched new features of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) Platform. one is warehouse based trading module in e-NAM software. What is the name of second one?

- (A) Farmer Producer Organisation trading module in e-NAM
- (B) Anaj Mandi trading module in e-NAM
- (C) Commission Agents module in e-NAM
- (D) Government bodies module in e-NAM

- ❖ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched new features of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) Platform. It will help strengthen agriculture marketing by farmers which will reduce their need to come to wholesale mandis for selling their harvested produce, at a time when there is critical need to decongest mandis to effectively fight against COVID-19.
- ❖ **These software modules are warehouse based trading module in e-NAM software and Farmer Producer Organisation trading module in e-NAM.**
- ❖ e-NAM is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing Agricultural produce market committee (APMC) mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
- ❖ **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)** is the lead agency for implementing eNAM under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India.



48. National Cooperative Development Corporation is a statutory Corporation set up on

- (A) 13 March 1963
- (B) 13 March 1967
- (C) 13 March 1971
- (D) 13 March 1975

- ❖ On the appeal of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and Indian Potash Limited have jointly contributed a sum of 11 crore towards the PM CARES Fund to tackle the Covid-19 threat.
- ❖ The National Cooperative Development Corporation is a statutory Corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on **13 March 1963**.
- ❖ Headquarters location: **New Delhi**

49. United Nation's COP 26 climate change summit recently postponed till next year due to COVID-19. It was scheduled to hold in which city?

- (A) Bristol
- (B) Glasgow
- (C) Dublin
- (D) Cardiff

- ❖ United Nation's COP 26 climate change summit due to take place in the **Scottish city of Glasgow** in November has been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. British government said that dates for a rescheduled conference in 2021 would be announced later.
- ❖ Global CO2 emissions needed to drop 45 per cent by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050, to limit temperature rise to the safe cap of 1.5 degrees Celsius set as a goal in the Paris accord.

50. National Cadet Corps (NCC) has offered a helping hand to civilian authorities in the country's fight against COVID-19 by extending the services of cadets under

- (A) Exercise NCC Yogdan
- (B) Exercise NCC stands against CORONA
- (C) Exercise NCC's fight against COVID-19
- (D) Exercise NCC Yoddha

- ❖ National Cadet Corps (NCC) has offered a helping hand to civilian authorities in the country's fight against COVID-19 by extending the services of cadets under **Exercise NCC Yogdan**. It has issued guidelines for temporary employment of its cadets to augment relief efforts and functioning of various agencies involved in battling the pandemic.

- ❖ The NCC, which operates under Ministry of Defence, is the largest uniformed youth organisation of the country and has been engaged in conducting various social service and community development activities. The National Cadet Corps is the youth wing of Armed Forces with its Headquarters at New Delhi.

❖ **Founded: 16 April 1948**

❖ **Motto: Unity and discipline**

51. Associations representing IAS, IPS officers' form an initiative to support and supplement the government's efforts in fighting coronavirus. Name this Initiative?

- (A) CareUcan
- (B) Caruna
- (C) UKnow
- (D) CorCase



- ❖ Associations representing officers of Central Civil Services, including the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS), have formed an initiative called '**Caruna**' to support and supplement the government's efforts in fighting coronavirus.
- ❖ The acronym '**Caruna**' stands for **Civil Services Associations Reach to Support in Natural Disasters and represents a collaborative platform**, on which civil servants, industry leaders, NGO professionals and IT professionals among others have come together to contribute their time and abilities.

52. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was set up in

- (A) November 1941
- (B) November 1945
- (C) November 1949
- (D) November 1953

- ❖ In order to provide help and support students during the lockdown period, All India Council for Technical Education, AICTE has come out with a unique MHRD AICTE COVID-19 Student Helpline Portal to address the issues. The website with URL **https://helpline.aicte-india.org** was today launched by Minister for Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.
- ❖ Chairman AICTE Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe and student interns Shivanshu and Akash of Graphic Era University, who developed this portal in a single day, were also present.

- ❖ The nature of support includes accommodation, food, on line classes, attendance, examinations, scholarships, health, transport, harassment etc.
- ❖ The Minister informed that more than 6500 colleges have already come forward to provide support at such a crucial juncture.
- ❖ All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was set up in **November 1945** as a national-level apex advisory body to conduct a survey on the facilities available for technical education and to promote development in the country in a coordinated and integrated manner.
- ❖ It works under **Department of Higher Education**, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

53. Minister of State Human Resource Development and IT Sanjay Dhotre recently launched an Online Hackathon to find working solutions for overcoming COVID-19 pandemic. What is the name of this Online Hackathon?

- (A) Hack the Crisis – India
 - (B) Hack the COVID – India
 - (C) Hack the CORONA – India
 - (D) Hack what we can- India
- ❖ Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in association with FICCI FLO Pune, Robotex international announces **Hack the Crisis – India**.



- ❖ Minister of State Human Resource Development and IT Sanjay Dhotre today launched 'Hack the Crisis - India, an Online Hackathon to find working solutions for overcoming COVID-19 pandemic. This hackathon is part of a global initiative and is being organised by '**Hack A Cause - India**'.
- ❖ The aim of this hackathon is to strengthen fight against COVID-19.
- ❖ Mr Dhotre said that over 2,000 teams and over 15,000 participants will be enhancing their working prototypes in 48 hour hackathon.

54. Who recently became the first Judge of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh to take oath under the Indian Constitution?

- (A) Justice Rajnesh Oswal
- (B) Justice Gita Mittal
- (C) Justice Shripathi Ravindra Bhat
- (D) Justice Sanjiv Khanna

- ❖ **Justice Rajnesh Oswal** was sworn in as a permanent Judge of the common High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He was administered oath of office by Chief Justice Jammu and Kashmir High Court, Justice Gita Mittal.
- ❖ **He is the first Judge of the High Court to take oath under the Indian Constitution.**
- ❖ All previous Judges of High Court had taken oath under the constitution of Jammu and Kashmir, which ceased to have effect since August 5, 2019.

55. The Olympic Council of Asia's 19th Asian Games will be held in which city from September 10 to 25, 2022?

- (A) Hangzhou
- (B) Shanghai
- (C) Wuhan
- (D) Beijing

- ❖ The official mascots of the 19th Asian Games were unveiled at a digital launch ceremony in **Hangzhou, China. The three robots**, which are going to be the mascots for the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games are collectively known as the smart triplets.
- ❖ The Olympic Council of Asia's 19th Asian Games will be held in Hangzhou from September 10 to 25, 2022. It will be the **third Asian Games to be hosted by China** following Beijing in 1990 and Guangzhou in 2010, with the participation of 45 NOCs of Asia in 42 sports.

56. The FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup, which was scheduled to be played in between November 2nd and 21st, has been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Which country is hosting this event?

- (A) China
- (B) Japan
- (C) India
- (D) Saudi Arabia

- ❖ The FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup, which was scheduled to be played in **India** between November 2nd and 21st, has been postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.



- ❖ Under-17 Women's World Cup was scheduled to be played in India across five host cities - **Navi Mumbai, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Bhubaneswar.**

57. Bill Withers, who passed away recently, was a

- (A) Singer
- (B) Painter
- (C) Footballer
- (D) Politician

- ❖ Bill Withers, the legendary soul **singer** behind 1970s hits like Lean on Me, Lovely Day and Ain't No Sunshine, died on Monday in Los Angeles.

- ❖ He was **three-time Grammy winner**. He released his last album in 1985, after many battles with music industry executives — Withers entered the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1999. He was inducted into the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2015 by Stevie Wonder.**

58. India has recently invoked the peace clause for exceeding the ceiling on support it can offer farmers for rice for the marketing year 2018-2019. —Peace clause is related to the affairs of

- (A) World Trade Organization
- (B) World Health Organization
- (C) Food and Agriculture Organization
- (D) International Labour Organization

- ❖ India has invoked the peace clause of **WTO** for exceeding the ceiling on support it can offer farmers for rice for the marketing year 2018-2019.

- ❖ India informed WTO that the value of its rice production was \$43.67 billion in 2018-19 and it gave subsidies worth \$5 billion which is 11.46% of the value of production.

- ❖ WTO rules put restrictions of 10% on support that developing countries can offer their farmers as the WTO looks at such support measures as trade distorting.

❖ **Peace Clause of WTO**

- ❖ Peace clause protects a **developing country's food procurement programmes against action from WTO members in case subsidy ceilings are breached.**

- ❖ At 2013 Bali Ministerial Conference, members agreed that, on an interim basis, public stockholding programmes would not be challenged legally even if a country's agreed limits for trade-distorting domestic support were breached.

- ❖ India's breach of commitment for rice arises from support provided in pursuance of public stockholding programmes for food security purposes. Government did not undertake exports on a commercial basis from public stockholdings.

❖ **India is first country that has invoked peace clause.**

59. The students and scientists of IISc Bengaluru have developed indigenous ventilators under

- (A) Project Prana
- (B) Project Prahar
- (C) Project Saans
- (D) Project Sparsh



- ❖ A group of Scientists and students in Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru have developed an indigenous ventilator prototype under **project Prana**.
- ❖ The project is a voluntary effort to help the nation at the time of crisis. The team in the Electrical Communication Engineering Department of Indian Institute of Science, led by Associate Professor Gaurab Banerjee has designed the ventilator using materials readily available in India.
- ❖ The prototype has mass flow sensors and controllers which accurately tell how much oxygen is flowing and what volume the patient is inhaling in one breath. Pneumatics is built around mass produced water filter hardware. The control system is built around open source industrial controller.

60. International Atomic Energy Agency was established as an autonomous organisation on-

- (A) 29 July 1957
- (B) 29 July 1967
- (C) 29 July 1977
- (D) 29 July 1987

- ❖ The U.N. atomic agency is sending an initial batch of equipment to about 40 countries with which they will be able to perform a standard test for the coronavirus involving a Technique derived from nuclear science.
- ❖ The technique, real time reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction or real time RT-PCR, is commonly used in developed countries to tell whether someone is infected. It detects the coronavirus's RNA, its genetic fingerprint, on a swab sample.

- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency is known for its nuclear inspection work in countries like Iran but it also has a mandate to help countries use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. It has received requests for assistance with coronavirus testing from 90 member states.
- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency is an international organization that seeks to **promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy**, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons. **The IAEA was established as an autonomous organisation on 29 July 1957.**
- ❖ **Headquarters: Vienna, Austria.**

61. Recently, a low-cost energy efficient ventilator is made by the Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. The prototype named as

- (A) Jeevan
- (B) Praan
- (C) Sparsh
- (D) Saans

- ❖ The Railways Rail Coach Factory (RCF) in Kapurthala came out with a prototype that has an original design and will cost a fraction of what regular ventilators cost.
- ❖ The first such breakthrough by a production unit, the prototype named **Jeevan** will now go for final testing at the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) before being put to production to aid the country's fight against COVID-19.
- ❖ It has a **microprocessor-based controller** and the circuit has been designed by the RCF team.



62. The National Health Authority has partnered with which company to provide dedicated transport services to the health care workers that are involved in that are involved in treating COVID-19 patients?

- (A) Uber
- (B) Ola
- (C) Rapido
- (D) Zoomcar

- ❖ Ride-hailing platform **Uber** has partnered with the National Health Authority (NHA) to provide transport service to frontline healthcare workers in the country, who are engaged in the treatment of COVID-19 patients.
- ❖ Uber will initially facilitate the provision of 150 cars free of cost to support medical facilities in New Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Prayagraj and Patna through its recently launched UberMedic service.

63. Which apex body is responsible for implementing India's flagship public health insurance/ assurance scheme 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana'?

- (A) National Health Authority
- (B) Central Drugs Standard Control Organization
- (C) All India Institute of Medical Sciences
- (D) National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation

- ❖ **National Health Authority (NHA)** is the apex body responsible for implementing India's flagship public health insurance/ assurance scheme called "Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana."

- ❖ National Health Authority is the successor of the National Health Agency, which was functioning as a registered society since **23rd May, 2018**. Pursuant to Cabinet decision for full functional autonomy, National Health Agency was reconstituted as the National Health Authority on **2nd January 2019**.

64. The Indian Air Force recently delivered 6.2 million tonnes of essential medicines to Maldives under

- (A) Operation Sanjeevani
- (B) Operation Jeevan
- (C) Operation Praan
- (D) Operation Madad

- ❖ An Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130J transport aircraft delivered 6.2 tonne of essential medicines and hospital consumables to Maldives under **Operation Sanjeevani**.

- ❖ These medicines and consumables were procured from eight suppliers in India.

- ❖ these medicines include influenza vaccines, anti-viral drugs such as lopinavir and ritonavir — which have been used to treat patients with COVID-19 in other countries — medicines for cardiac conditions, kidney ailments, hypertension, high blood pressure, diabetes, arthritis, allergies and cancer treatment, anticonvulsants, as well as consumables such as catheters, nebulisers, urine bags and infant feeding tubes.



65. Recently India's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) listed Green Bonds of \$100 million. In India, which bank was the first bank to come out with green bonds?

- (A) Yes Bank
- (B) Punjab National Bank
- (C) ICICI Bank
- (D) HDFC Bank

❖ India's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) listed Green Bonds of \$100 million under its \$10 billion Global Medium Term Note Programme on India INX's Global Securities Market Green Platform (GSM).

SBI LISTS \$100 MILLION GREEN BONDS

What is a Green Bond?

1. A lender, like Fransabank, announces it will issue a green bond.
2. Investors, like IFC, buy those bonds.
3. Like other securities, investors earn interest on their bonds.
4. Meanwhile, the bank lends the investor money to borrowers who want to finance "green" infrastructure projects.
5. Borrowers use the money to build solar plants, wind farms, and other facilities that help fight climate change.
6. When the bond matures, investors get their capital back.
7. A lender, like Fransabank, announces it will issue a green bond.

- Green bonds are designated bonds intended to encourage sustainability and to support climate-related or other types of special environmental projects.
- > **SEBI's indicative list** where these funds can be invested includes renewable and sustainable energy such as wind and solar, clean transportation, sustainable water management, climate change adaptation, energy efficiency, sustainable waste management and land use and biodiversity conservation.
- In 2007, green bonds were launched by few development banks such as the European Investment Bank and the World Bank. Subsequently, in 2013, corporates too started participating.
- In India, Yes Bank was the first bank to come out with a green bonds issue in 2015.
- > According to the Economic Survey 2019-20, India has become the second-largest market globally for green bonds in the first half of 2019.
- **Benefits**
 - > Enhances an issuer's reputation, as it helps in showcasing their commitment to wards sustainable development.
 - > Provides issuers access to specific set of global investors who invest only in green ventures.
 - > With an increasing focus of foreign investors towards green investments, it could also help in reducing the cost of capital.

66. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries founded on-

- (A) 14 September 1960
- (B) 14 September 1963
- (C) 14 September 1966
- (D) 14 September 1969

❖ OPEC and Russia have postponed a meeting. The meeting's delay came despite pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump for the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies, known as **OPEC+**, to urgently stabilise global oil markets.

❖ The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is an intergovernmental organization of 14 nations, founded on **14 September 1960** in Baghdad by the first five members, and **headquartered since 1965 in Vienna, Austria.**

67. Kobe Bryant is related to which sport?

- (A) Basketball
- (B) Football
- (C) Badminton
- (D) Archery

❖ Five-time NBA champion Kobe Bryant, who died in a helicopter crash in January, headed a star-studded list of players named in **basketball's 2020 Hall of Fame.**

❖ He was among the nine who will be enshrined at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on August 29.

68. International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance is observed on

- (A) April 4
- (B) April 2
- (C) April 3
- (D) April 1

❖ International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance is observed on **April 4** each year. It was first observed on April 4, 2006.



69. Which country will host the third edition of the Asian Youth Games (AYG) in November 2021?

- (A) China
- (B) India
- (C) Japan
- (D) Russia

- ❖ **China** is to host the third edition of the Asian Youth Games (AYG) in Shantou in November 2021. The announcement was made by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) on 1 April 2020. The third edition was supposed to be held in 2017. But was postponed to 2021 by OCA.

70. Navatnalu-Pedalandariki Illu programme, which is in news recently, is related to which state?

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

- ❖ **Andhra Pradesh** State government issued modified guidelines for the distribution of 25 lakh house sites to the poor in urban and rural areas under **Navatnalu-Pedalandariki Illu (Houses for all the poor) program.**

- ❖ Under the scheme, house sites are to be allotted to the poor at **Rs 1** to the poor with white ration cards. The State Government is to collect Rs 20 from the people (Rs 10 for stamp paper charges and Rs 10 for lamination charges).

71. Vardhamana Mahavira was born in

- (A) Pavapuri
- (B) Kundagrama
- (C) Sarnath
- (D) Lumbini

- ❖ Mahavir Janma Kalyanak is one of the most important religious festivals in Jainism. It celebrates the birth of Mahavir, the **twenty-fourth and last Tirthankara.**
- ❖ Vardhamana Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara, was born in 540 B.C. in a village called **Kundagrama** near Vaishali.
- ❖ He belonged to the **Jnatrika clan** and was connected to the royal family of Magadha.
- ❖ His father **Siddharta** was the head of the Jnathrika Kshatriya clan and his mother **Trishala** was a sister of Chetaka, the king of Vaishali.
- ❖ At the age of 30 years, he renounced his home and become an ascetic.
- ❖ He practised austerity for **12 years** and attained the highest spiritual knowledge called **Kaivalya (i.e conquered misery and happiness) at the age of 42 years.**
- ❖ He delivered his **first sermon at Pava.**
- ❖ A symbol was associated with every Tirthankara and **Mahavira's symbol was a lion.**
- ❖ His missions took him **Koshala, Magadha, Mithila, Champa etc.**
- ❖ He passed away at the age of 72 in 468 B.C. at the **Pavapuri in Bihar.**



72. Bharatiya Janata Party was founded on

- (A) 6 April 1980
- (B) 6 April 1981
- (C) 6 April 1982
- (C) 6 April 1983

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended his greetings on the 40th Foundation Day of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- ❖ President: Jagat Prakash Nadda
- ❖ **Founded: 6 April 1980**

73. Jagjivan Ram was inducted into the Interim Government on 2 September, 1946, as the

- (A) Minister of education
- (B) Minister of defence
- (C) Minister of finance
- (D) Minister of Labour

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to freedom fighter and former Deputy Prime Minister Babu Jagjivan Ram on his 112th birth anniversary.
- ❖ Babu Jagjivan Ram, who was affectionately known as **Babuji**, was born on the 5th of April, 1908.
- ❖ He was a member of the First Cabinet of Jawaharlal Nehru's Interim Government where he was the **youngest Minister and a member of the Constituent Assembly of India.**
- ❖ Babu Jagjivan Ram as a crusader of social justice was instrumental in the establishment of the **All Indian Depressed Classes League** in the year 1935.
- ❖ He became the **Deputy Prime Minister** of India from 1977 to 1979.

74. Headquarters of World Food Programme is located at

- (A) Bonn
- (B) London
- (C) Rome
- (D) Tokyo

- ❖ The World Food Programme (WFP) has said that rapidly growing novel Coronavirus pandemic is so far having little impact on the global food supply chain, but that could change for the worse if major food importers remain anxious.
- ❖ The World Food Programme is the food-assistance branch of the United Nations and the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.
- ❖ **Headquarters: Rome, Italy**
- ❖ **Head: David Beasley**
- ❖ **Founded: 1961**

75. A unique disinfectant named 'V Safe Tunnel' has been installed in which state to sanitize people within 20 seconds from any possible bacteria and other microbes?

- (A) Telangana (B) Kerala
- (C) Haryana (D) Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ In **Telangana**, a unique disinfectant named **'V Safe Tunnel'** has been installed at the state Director General of Police's office to sanitize People within **20 seconds** from any possible bacteria and other microbes. The Sanitising tunnel has been installed with the help of a private company.



- ❖ The **first-of-its-kind** tunnel installed in the state, is aimed at reducing the local transmission of Coronavirus in the state. It may be recalled that 334 people tested positive for Coronavirus so far with 11 cases of fatality.

76. Food Corporation of India was founded on-

- (A) 14 January 1969
- (B) 14 January 1973
- (C) 14 January 1965
- (D) 14 January 1977

- ❖ Food Corporation of India (FCI) has set a new record in single day movement by moving 70 rakes carrying one lakh 93 thousand Metric Tonnes food grains continuously for two days.
- ❖ It is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.**
- ❖ **Founded: 14 January 1965**

77. Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna was launched on 23rd September, 2018 in

- (A) Jaipur
- (B) Kota
- (C) Ranchi
- (D) Bhopal

- ❖ The Central government has decided to provide free testing and treatment of COVID-19 under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme.
- ❖ The second component under Ayushman Bharat is the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna or PM-JAY as it is popularly known. This scheme was launched on **23rd September, 2018 in Ranchi, Jharkhand** by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.
- ❖ **Key Features of PM-JAY**

- ❖ PM-JAY is the **world's largest health insurance / assurance** scheme fully financed by the government.
- ❖ It provides a cover of **Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care** hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.
- ❖ Over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable entitled families (**approximately 50 crore beneficiaries**) are eligible for these benefits.
- ❖ PM-JAY provides **cashless access** to health care services for the beneficiary at the point of service, that is, the hospital.
- ❖ PM-JAY envisions to help mitigate catastrophic expenditure on medical treatment which **pushes nearly 6 crore Indians into poverty each year.**
- ❖ It covers up to 3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses such as diagnostics and medicines.
- ❖ There is **no restriction on the family size, age or gender.**
- ❖ **All pre-existing conditions** are covered from day one.

78. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation was founded on

- (A) 4 March 1956
- (B) 4 March 1954
- (C) 4 March 1952
- (D) 4 March 1958

- ❖ The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will accept the **date of birth recorded in Aadhaar as a valid proof** for those applying for changing the date, as long as the difference is less than three years.



- ❖ This will enable EPFO to validate the date of birth of members online with UIDAI instantaneously, thus authenticating and reducing the processing time of change requests
 - ❖ EPFO is one of the **World's largest Social Security Organisations** in terms of clientele and the volume of financial transactions undertaken. At present it maintains 19.34 crore accounts (Annual Report 2016-17) pertaining to its members.
 - ❖ It works under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.**
 - ❖ **Founded: 4 March 1952, New Delhi**
- 79. Which two countries are recently banned from sending weightlifters to the Tokyo Olympics by International Weightlifting Federation?**
- (A) Vietnam and Malaysia
 - (B) Vietnam and Thailand
 - (C) Thailand and Malaysia
 - (D) Cambodia and Malaysia
- ❖ **Thailand and Malaysia** have been banned from sending weightlifters to the Tokyo Olympics. The International Weightlifting Federation said in a statement that the Thai Amateur Weightlifting Association (TAWA) has been suspended for **three years**, while the Malaysian Weightlifting Federation (MWF) has been given a **one-year ban.**
- 80. Stephen O'Keefe is related to which sport?**
- (A) Badminton
 - (B) Football
 - (C) Cricket
 - (D) Chess
- ❖ **Former Australia Test spinner Stephen O'Keefe** retired from First Class cricket after being omitted from New South Wales' list of contracted players for the next domestic season.
- ❖ The 35-year-old left-armers took 35 wickets in nine Tests, including 12 in a match against India at Pune in 2017.
- 81. Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) is located in which one of the following states?**
- (A) Madhya Pradesh
 - (B) Gujarat
 - (C) Rajasthan
 - (D) Himachal Pradesh
- ❖ The spectre of COVID-19 has made its appearance in one of India's most storied tiger reserves. The death of a 10-year-old ailing male tiger, in the Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) — the country's most munificent reserve — that succumbed to a 'respiratory illness' last Saturday would have been a routine affair.
- ❖ But a report of a confirmed COVID-19 infection in a tiger at the Bronx Zoo, in New York, United States and advisories by divisions of the Environment Ministry that deal with the protection of the cats in zoos, as well as in Tiger Reserves has officials in the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)—the organisation that manages the protection of India's 3,000-odd tigers — puzzling on whether the tiger should be tested for the novel coronavirus disease.



- ❖ **Pench Tiger Reserve or Pench National Park is one of the premier tiger reserves of India and the first one to straddle across two states - Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.**

82. Recently a report confirmed COVID-19 infection in a tiger at the Bronx Zoo. Bronx Zoo is located in which city?

- (A) London
- (B) New York
- (C) Tokyo
- (D) Paris

- ❖ Global pandemic COVID-19 has not even left animal kingdom untouched. A tiger at **New York's Bronx Zoo** has tested positive for COVID-19 and is believed to have contracted the virus from a caretaker who was asymptomatic at the time.

- ❖ There is no evidence that any person has been infected with COVID-19 in the US by animals, including by pet dogs or cats. In late March a pet cat was discovered infected with the novel coronavirus in Belgium, following similar cases in Hong Kong where two dogs tested positive for COVID-19.

83. ISSF Shooting World Cup 2020 has cancelled recently. It was scheduled to be held at-

- (A) Tokyo (B) Dubai
- (C) New Delhi (D) New York

- ❖ The ISSF Shooting World Cup, which was scheduled to take place in two separate legs in **Delhi** in the month of May, was officially cancelled amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

- ❖ Rifle and Pistol events were planned to be held from 5th to 13th May and Shotgun from 20th to 29th May.

84. Every year World Health Day is celebrated on-

- (A) 7 April
- (B) 6 April
- (C) 5 April
- (D) 4 April

- ❖ World Health Day is celebrated on **7 April every year to mark the anniversary of the founding of World Health Organization.**

- ❖ The tagline for World Health Day is: **Support nurses and midwives.**

- ❖ On World Health Day, WHO will launch of the **first ever State of the World's Nursing Report 2020**. The report will provide a global picture of the nursing workforce and support evidence-based planning to optimize the contributions of this workforce to improve health and wellbeing for all.

World Health Organization

The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health. It is part of the U.N. Sustainable Development Group.

- ❖ **Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland**

- ❖ **Founded: 7 April 1948**

85. National Highway Authority of India, was constituted in-

- (A) 1986 (B) 1988
- (C) 1990 (D) 1992

- ❖ National Highway Authority of India, NHAI has achieved **highest ever construction of National Highways** in financial year 2019-20. In a statement, NHAI said, it has accomplished construction of three thousand



979 kilometres of national highways and this is the highest ever highway construction achieved in a financial year by NHAI. The authority said, in 2018-19, NHAI had constructed three thousand 380 Kilometre.

- ❖ The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is an **autonomous** agency of the Government of India, **set up in 1988**.
- ❖ It is a **nodal agency of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.
- ❖ It works under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.
- ❖ **Headquarters: New Delhi**

86. Who recently has taken charge as the Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs?

- (A) Anurag Srivastava
- (B) Sanjeev Ranjan
- (C) Raveesh Kumar
- (D) Jasdeep Singh

- ❖ Senior diplomat **Anurag Srivastava** took charge as the Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, succeeding Mr Raveesh Kumar. Mr Srivastava, a 1999-batch Indian Foreign Service Officer, was serving as **India's Ambassador to Ethiopia** before this appointment.

87. Which state has recently installed Walk in Sample Kiosks (WISK) for mass collection of samples for Covid-19 testing?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Odisha
- (D) Maharashtra

- ❖ **Kerala** has installed Walk in Sample Kiosks (WISK) for mass collection of samples for Covid-19 testing in Ernakulam district based on South Korean model.
- ❖ A Walk-in Sample Kiosk or WISK is a mobile cubicle with a sealed glass front, and have extended gloves attached in the front, through which a medical practitioner standing in the cubicle can collect samples. The healthcare professionals in the kiosk can collect throat swabs of people who will stand outside the kiosk.
- ❖ The Walk-in Sample Kiosks, are being developed by **Doctors of Kalamessry Medical College**. Presently two kiosks are being installed at **Ernakulam Medical College** and will be placed in other hospitals too which isolation wards and testing facility.

88. Who is recently appointed as the Chairman of Nasscom for 2020-21?

- (A) Keshav Murugesw
- (B) UB Pravin Rao
- (C) Rekha M Menon
- (D) SS Mallikarjuna Rao

- ❖ IT services industry body Nasscom has appointed **UB Pravin Rao**, chief operating officer, Infosys, as the chairman for the current financial year.
- ❖ The National Association of Software and Services Companies said Rao, who was previously vice-chairman of Nasscom, would succeed Keshav Murugesw, Group CEO, WNS Global Services.



- ❖ The industry body has also announced the **appointment of Rekha M. Menon, chairman and senior managing director**, India at Accenture, as the vice-chairperson for 2020-21.
- ❖ The National Association of Software and Service Companies is a trade association of Indian Information Technology and Business Process Outsourcing industry.

NASSCOM

- ❖ Established in 1988, NASSCOM is a non-profit organisation.
- ❖ NASSCOM initiated a program called '**10000 Startups**' in 2013.
- ❖ Founded: 1 March 1988
- ❖ Founders: Dewang Mehta, Nandan Nilekani
- ❖ Headquarters location: **New Delhi**

89. Chernobyl reactor, which is recently in news, is located in which country?

- (A) Ukraine
- (B) Australia
- (C) Japan
- (D) China

- ❖ **Ukrainian** government agencies denied an official's claim that a forest fire in the Chernobyl exclusion zone caused a spike in radiation levels.
- ❖ Firefighters are battling a blaze that broke out at the weekend in the zone around the ruined **Chernobyl reactor that exploded in 1986 in the world's worst nuclear accident.**

90. Recently, the Ministry of Civil Aviation launched an initiative under which flights were operated in transporting essential equipment and medicines all over the country to help India fight against COVID-19. What is name of this initiative?

- (A) Jeevan UDAN
- (B) Lifeline UDAN
- (C) COVID UDAN
- (D) Life UDAN

- ❖ '**Lifeline Udan**' flights are being operated by Ministry of Civil Aviation to transport essential medical cargo to remote parts of the country to support India's war against COVID-19.

- ❖ Under Lifeline UDAN, **116 flights have been operated by Air India, Alliance Air, IAF, Pawan Hans and private carriers.** 79 of these flights have been operated by Air India and Alliance Air. Cargo transported till date is around 161 tons. Aerial distance covered by Lifeline Udan flights till date is over 112,178 km.

- ❖ On the International platform, Air India will be operating dedicated scheduled cargo flights to China for the uplifting of critical medical equipment as per the requirement.

91. Brahm Kanchibotla, who had died recently because of COVID-19, was related to –

- (A) Politics
- (B) Sports
- (C) Cinema
- (D) Journalism



- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed grief over passing away of **Indian-American journalist** Brahm Kanchibotla.
- ❖ He was a **correspondent for United News of India**.
- ❖ During his 28-year career in the U.S., he had worked for 11 years as a content editor for Merger Markets, a financial publication; he also did a stint with News India-Times weekly newspaper.

92. Which organisation is associated with Samadhan challenge to fight COVID-19?

- (A) All India Council for Technical Education
- (B) Innovation Cell of the Human Resource Development Ministry
- (C) Forge and InnovatioCuris
- (D) All of the above

- ❖ The **All India Council for Technical Education and the Innovation Cell of the Human Resource Development Ministry in collaboration with Forge and InnovatioCuris** has launched Samadhan - a mega online challenge to test the ability of the students' innovative skills. Students interested to apply for the Samadhan challenge can do until April 14, 2020.
- ❖ The Samadhan challenge will have two sections. **The first section also known as Track 1 is called Ideate-Simulate-Win** where applications are invited by innovators, educators and researchers along with startups to share their ideas to solve the challenges posed by the pandemic.

- ❖ The second section also known as **Track 2 called Validate-pitch-Deploy** invites applications from student innovators, researchers, educators, and startups with a working prototype of technologically advanced solution which can be validated and deployed immediately to support the fight against the pandemic.

93. Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal was founded on-

- (A) 29 May 2000
- (B) 29 May 2004
- (C) 29 May 2008
- (D) 29 May 2012

- ❖ The Supreme Court recently **extended by three months the tenure of chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal**, TDSAT which is scheduled to end on 20th of this month.
- ❖ The Telecommunications Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal, was established to adjudicate disputes and dispose of appeals with a view to protect the interests of service providers and consumers of the telecom sector and to promote and ensure orderly growth of the telecom sector.
- ❖ **Founded: 29 May 2000**
- ❖ **Headquarters: New Delhi**
- ❖ **Chairperson- Shiva Kirti Singh**



94. Which Municipal Corporation came out with a unique initiative of using the Integrated Command and Control Centre set up under Smart City Mission as a war room to fight COVID-19, recently?

- (A) Surat Municipal Corporation
- (B) Delhi Municipal Corporation
- (C) Bhopal Municipal Corporation
- (D) Indore Municipal Corporation

❖ In Gujarat, **Surat Municipal Corporation** is using the Integrated Command and Control Centre set up under Smart City Mission as a war room to fight COVID-19. AIR correspondent reports that Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) has taken various unique initiatives under Smart City Mission to deal with COVID-19.

❖ SMC is using this **COVID-19 war room to carry out CCTV surveillance of public spaces**, and containment clusters. SMC is also using a mobile application to track the movement of quarantined people on real-time basis.

95. Headquarters of Small Industries Development Bank of India is located at-

- (A) Mumbai
- (B) Lucknow
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Jaipur

❖ The Small Industries Development Bank of India - SIDBI has said that it will provide emergency working capital of up to one crore rupees to small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) against their confirmed government orders.

❖ Small industrial Development Bank of India is a development financial institution in India, **headquartered at Lucknow** and having its offices all over the country.

❖ **Headquarters location: Lucknow**

❖ **Founded: 2 April 1990**

96. "SAFE PLUS" initiative is related to which bank?

- (A) State Bank of India
- (B) Punjab National Bank
- (C) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- (D) Reserve Bank of India

❖ The Small Industries Development Bank of India - SIDBI has said that it will provide emergency working capital of up to one crore rupees to small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) against their confirmed government orders.

❖ The SIDBI Assistance to Facilitate Emergency response against Corona virus - **SAFE PLUS will be offered collateral free and disbursed within 48 hours.**

❖ In a press release, SIDBI informed that the loans will be offered at an **interest rate of five per cent**. Meanwhile, the bank further informed that the limit of SAFE loans, announced a few days back has been enhanced from 50 lakh rupees to two crore rupees.



- ❖ The scheme was launched to provide financial assistance to MSMEs engaged in manufacturing of hand sanitizers, masks, gloves, head gear, bodysuits, shoe-covers, ventilators and goggles used in dealing with COVID-19.

97. Cabinet recently approved Non-operation of MPLADS for two years (2020-21 and 2021-22) for managing COVID 19. MPLADS is related to which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- (B) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- (D) Ministry of Finance

- ❖ As a part of Government's continued efforts to contain spread of COVID 19, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has decided not to operate Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for two years (2020-21 and 2021-22). These funds will be used to strengthen Government's efforts in managing the challenges and adverse impact of COVID19 in the country.
- ❖ It was announced in **December 1993** and initially came under the control of the Ministry of Rural Development. Later, in October 1994, it was transferred to the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.**

- ❖ The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Division is entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).
- ❖ Under the scheme, each MP has the choice to suggest to the District Collector for works to the tune of **Rs.5 Crores per annum** to be taken up in his/her constituency.
- ❖ The **Rajya Sabha Members of Parliament** can recommend works in one or more districts in the State from where he/she has been elected.
- ❖ The **Nominated Members** of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may select any one or more Districts from any one State in the Country for implementation of their choice of work under the scheme. The Ministry has issued the guidelines on MPLADS Scheme including implementation and monitoring of the scheme. The Department has initiated all necessary steps to ensure that the scheme is successfully implemented in the field.

98. "5T plan", to control COVID-19, is recently in news, in context of-

- (A) New Delhi Government
- (B) Uttar Pradesh Government
- (C) Rajasthan Government
- (D) Haryana Government

- ❖ **Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced a "5T plan" created by his government to contain COVID-19 spread in Delhi.** These five Ts are **testing, tracing, treatment, teamwork and tracking-monitoring.**

- ❖ The **first T is testing**, which when done on a mass scale enables the actual data of people affected by novel coronavirus.

PREPARING FOR LARGER CONTAGION
CM Arvind Kejriwal announced a set of measures — he called them the 5 Ts — that are in the Delhi government's action plan to battle Covid-19

<p>TESTING</p> <p>Scaling up mass testing and random testing in the Capital's hot spots. "We should take lessons from South Korea. Unless we do more tests, how do we learn about the scale of the spread?" Kejriwal said.</p> <p>50,000 Kits ordered for testing of people in the Capital</p> <p>100,000 kits to be procured for rapid of antibody testing</p>	<p>TREATMENT</p> <p>Boosting health infrastructure in the city-state to isolate and treat up to 30,000 patients if the virus spreads. Involves roping in hotels and banquet halls apart from private hospitals</p> <p>8,000 hospital beds</p> <p>12,000 hotel rooms to be made ready</p> <p>10,000 patients can be isolated in banquet halls and dharamshalas</p> <p>2,950 hospital beds are currently available</p>	
<p>TRACING</p> <p>Emphasis on contact tracing, and tracking and sealing areas that emerge as clusters of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19)</p> <p>27,000 people are under self-quarantine and their locations are being traced through cellphones</p>	<p>TEAMWORK</p> <p>Focus on coordination with the central government and other states to prevent spread of virus. Social distancing measures should be practised even if restrictions are relaxed</p>	<p>TRACKING</p> <p>All-round monitoring to keep a look out for clusters and spread of the outbreak in Delhi. "The responsibility is mine," chief minister Kejriwal said</p>

- ❖ The **second T is tracing**, which involves identifying and quarantining people who have come in contact with infected persons.
- ❖ The **third component is treatment**. The LNJP and GB Pant hospitals had been declared primary hospitals for COVID-19 treatment with 1,500 and 500 beds respectively. While the Rajiv Gandhi hospital has 450 beds, 2,450 beds are available in government hospitals and 450 beds at private ones.
- ❖ The **fourth element of the five-point plan is teamwork** and collective efforts are being made to fight the virus. All State governments must learn from each other and work together.
- ❖ The **fifth T is tracking and monitoring**. It is responsibility to ensure that all these measures are in place and all the systems are functioning smoothly.

99. Radomir Antic, who passed away recently, was related to which sport?

- (A) Badminton
- (B) Chess
- (C) Golf
- (D) Football

- ❖ Radomir Antic was a **Serbian professional football manager** and player.
- ❖ Serbian coach Radomir Antic, the only person to manage Atletico Madrid, Real Madrid and Barcelona, died.
- ❖ His first stint at one of Spain's big clubs came during a 10-month spell with Real in 1991-92. Antic managed Atletico across three different spells between 1995 and 2000 and Barcelona during the second part of the 2002-03 campaign.

100. Uber Cup is related to which sport?

- (A) Badminton
- (B) Table tennis
- (C) Tennis
- (D) Golf

- ❖ The Uber Cup, sometimes called the World Team Championships for Women, is a major **international badminton competition** contested by women's national badminton teams.
- ❖ **Founded: 1956**
- ❖ **Number of teams: 16**
- ❖ **Most recent champion(s): Japan (6th title)**
- ❖ **Most titles: China (14 titles)**
- ❖ The Thomas-Uber Cup Finals were initially scheduled for May but the world body had earlier agreed with **hosts Denmark to set a new date – Aug 16-23.**



101. The Barak Valley is located in –

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Arunachal Pradesh
- (C) Punjab
- (D) Assam

❖ **Assam Chief Minister Sarbanand Sonowal recently visited Barak Valley to take account of preparedness to control outbreak of COVID-19.**

❖ The Barak Valley is located in the southern region of the Indian state of Assam. The main city of the valley is Silchar. **The region is named after the Barak river.** The Barak valley mainly consists of three administrative districts of Assam - namely **Cachar, Karimganj, and Hailakandi.**

102. **Devi Shetty Committee has recently recommended continuing lockdown at all the hotspots in the state with high prevalence of COVID-19 positive cases. Devi Shetty Committee is related to which state?**

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

❖ In **Karnataka**, a Government appointed Committee headed by cardiologist Dr. Devi Shetty has recommended to continue lockdown at all the hotspots in the state with high prevalence of COVID-19 positive cases.

❖ It has suggested that close observation of the pandemic should continue for next six months. It has recommended closure of schools and colleges till May end. It has also suggested that inter-state flight and train services and AC buses must not operate now.

103. **The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences is a premier medical institution located in**

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Chandigarh
- (C) Bengaluru
- (D) Mumbai

❖ The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences is a premier medical institution located in **Bengaluru, India.** NIMHANS is the **apex centre for mental health and neuroscience education in the country**, the institute operates **autonomously under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**

❖ **Founded: 1847**

❖ To withstand the Psychological impact of isolation during lockdown the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in Bengaluru has suggested ways to cope with anxiety. The Director of the Institute **Dr. B N Gangadhar** spoke to AIR on ways to keep good mental health during this time.

104. **Which state government has recently launched a newly developed app called COVIDCARE, in an effort to fight COVID-19?**

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Arunachal Pradesh
- (C) Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Madhya Pradesh

❖ **Arunachal Pradesh** government has launched a newly developed app called COVIDCARE, in an effort to fight COVID-19.



- ❖ This app has been developed for those people who are quarantined, asymptomatic or **COVID-19 patients to self-report their health status**, including body temperature and vital symptoms and in case of emergency, the patient will be able to call for help through the app itself.

105. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was founded in 1950 by

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (B) Sardar Patel
 - (C) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
 - (D) Rajendra Prasad
- ❖ Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has come up with a unique Art initiative amidst the global battle against novel Coronavirus.
 - ❖ The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was **founded in 1950 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, independent India's first Education Minister.** Its objectives are to actively participate in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to India's external cultural relations; to foster and strengthen cultural relations and mutual understanding between India and other countries; to promote cultural exchanges with other countries and people, and to develop relations with nations.
 - ❖ **Director General: Akhilesh Mishra**
 - ❖ **President: Vinay Sahasrabuddhe**
 - ❖ **Headquarters location: New Delhi**

106. Sanskrit phrase "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" is extracted from -

- (A) Maha Upanishad
- (B) Mundaka Upanishad
- (C) Mandukya Upanishad
- (D) Maitri Upanishad

- ❖ Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) has come up with a unique Art initiative amidst the global battle against novel Coronavirus. Affirmed with a belief to propagate **Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam, World is one family**, the Art competition entitled United against COVID is open for participants from worldwide.
- ❖ Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is a Sanskrit phrase found in Hindu texts such as the **Maha Upanishad, which means "the world is one family"**
- ❖ **It also found in the Rig Veda**, it is considered the most important moral value in the Indian society.

107. The Department of Personnel and Training has launched of a learning platform to combat Covid-19 for all frontline workers to equip them with the training and updates in coping with pandemic. What is the name of this learning platform?

- (A) iCovid e-learning platform
- (B) iCov e-learning platform
- (C) iCOR e-learning platform
- (D) iGOT e-learning platform

- ❖ The Department of Personnel and Training has launched of a learning platform to combat Covid-19 for all frontline workers to equip them with the training and updates in coping with pandemic.



- ❖ The target groups for the platform, **igot.gov.in** are Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Hygiene Workers, Technicians, Auxiliary Nursing Midwives, ANMs, Central & State Govt. Officers, Civil Defence Officials, various Police Organisations, National Cadet Corpz, NCC, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, NYKS, National Service Scheme, NSS, Indian Red Cross Society, Bharat Scouts and Guides and other volunteers.

- ❖ **iGOT platform is designed to population scale, and will provide training to around 1.50 crore workers and volunteers in the coming weeks.**

108. A biofortified carrot variety with high β -carotene and iron content developed by Shri Vallabhbhai Vasrambhai Marvaniya is recently in news in context of Gujarat farmers. What is the name of this variety?

- (A) Madhuban Gajar
- (B) Pusa Rudhira
- (C) Dhanashakti Gajar
- (D) Pusa Kesar

- ❖ **Madhuban Gajar**, a biofortified carrot variety with high β -carotene and iron content developed by Shri Vallabhbhai Vasrambhai Marvaniya, a farmer scientist from Junagadh district, Gujarat is benefitting more than 150 local farmers in the area.
- ❖ It is being planted in an area of over 200 hectares in Junagadh, and the average yield, which is 40-50 t/ha, has become the main source of income to the local farmers.

- ❖ The variety is being cultivated in more than 1000 hectares of land in **Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh** during the last three years.

109. National Innovation Foundation - India is located at-

- (A) Ahmedabad
- (B) Surat
- (C) Jaipur
- (D) New Delhi

- ❖ National Innovation Foundation (NIF) - India, an **autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology**, Govt. of India conducted validation trials for Madhuban Gajar variety at **Rajasthan Agricultural Research Institute (RARI), Jaipur**, between 2016 and 2017. In the trials, it was found that Madhuban Gajar carrot variety possesses a significantly higher root yield (74.2 t/ha) and plant biomass (275 gm per plant) as compared to check variety.

- ❖ National Innovation Foundation - India is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. **It was set up in February 2000 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat** to provide institutional support for scouting, spawning, sustaining and scaling up the grassroots innovations across the country.

110. The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) came into existence in

- (A) 1994
- (B) 1992
- (C) 1989
- (D) 1987



- ❖ The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) came into existence in **1987**. It is a national-level **apex organization functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India**.
- ❖ TRIFED has its registered and Head Office located in **New Delhi** and has a network of 13 Regional Offices located at various places in the country.
- ❖ To ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely, TRIFED has collaborated with UNICEF for developing a digital communication strategy for promoting a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs) involved in this work, highlighting the importance of Social Distancing. UNICEF would provide the necessary support to be circulated to the SHG centers in the form of Digital Multimedia content, Webinars for Virtual trainings (basic orientation on COVID response, key preventive behaviours), Social Media campaigns (on social distancing, home quarantine, etc.) and Vanya Radio.
- ❖ Additionally, TRIFED has reached out to the Art of Living Foundation's **#iStandWithHumanity Initiative** with a Stand With Tribal Families component in providing much needed food and ration for survival of the tribal community.
- ❖ The webinar, for the promotion of the campaign is scheduled to be held tomorrow i.e. on 9th April, 2020. It is aimed to reach more than 18,000 participants and would cover tribal regions across all the 27 States.

111. Jack Dorsey has made a commitment of one billion US dollars out of his personal fortune to coronavirus relief through his philanthropic fund. He is co-founder and chief executive of-

(A) Netflix
(B) Instagram
(C) LinkedIn
(D) Twitter

❖ **Twitter co-founder and chief executive Jack Dorsey** has made a commitment of one billion US dollars out of his personal fortune to coronavirus relief through his philanthropic fund.

❖ Dorsey said that he would transfer his equity in his digital payments group Square to his limited liability corporation Start Small, contributing around 28 per cent of his overall wealth.

❖ Earlier, **Amazon founder Jeff Bezos** had pledged 100 million Dollars to help food relief efforts during the pandemic while **Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg** had offered more than 25 million Dollars to help research through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation last month pledged 125 million US dollars for research.

112. Headquarters of Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is located at-

(A) The Hague
(B) Amsterdam
(C) Brussels
(D) New York



- ❖ The global chemical weapons watchdog for the **first time explicitly blamed Syria for toxic attacks**, saying President Bashar al-Assad's air force used the nerve gas sarin and chlorine three times in 2017.
- ❖ The findings came in the first report from a new investigative team set up by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to identify the perpetrators of attacks in Syria's ongoing nine-year-long civil war.
- ❖ **The OPCW won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2013** for its work in Syria and says it has eliminated 97 percent of the world's chemical weapons.
- ❖ The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is an intergovernmental organisation and the implementing body for the **Chemical Weapons Convention, which entered into force on 29 April 1997**.
- ❖ **Headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands**
- ❖ **Director General: Fernando Arias**
- ❖ **Founded: 29 April 1997**

113. Every year CRPF celebrate "Valour Day" on-

- (A) 10th April
 - (B) 9th April
 - (C) 11th April
 - (D) 12th April
- ❖ On **April 9th, 1965** a small contingent of 2nd Bn **CRPF**, successfully fought and repulsed an attack by a Pakistani Brigade on Sardar Post in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat, eliminating 34 Pakistani soldiers and capturing 4 alive.

- ❖ Never in the history of military battles have a handful of policemen fought back a full – fledged infantry Brigade in such a manner. In this conflict, six valiant CRPF men also attained martyrdom. As a tribute to the saga of the brave men of the Force, **9th April is befittingly celebrated as "Valour Day"** in the Force.

114. Good Friday festival is related to which religion?

- (A) Islam
- (B) Jainism
- (C) Hinduism
- (D) Christianity

- ❖ Good Friday is being observed on 10th April by Christians all over the world to mark the **crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death at Calvary**. It is observed on the Friday before **Easter Sunday, that marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ**.

- ❖ Prayers and masses have been organised in the Churches and Chapels. **It is also known as Holy Friday, Great Friday, Black Friday and Easter Friday**.

115. Which Ministry recently launched a revised version of Swachhata App to handle queries specific to COVID 19?

- (A) Ministry of Rural Development
- (B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- (C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (D) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation



- ❖ **The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** announced the launch of a revised version of the existing Swachhata-MoHUA App.
- ❖ The Swachhata-MoHUA App, a highly popular grievance redressal tool for citizens under the ambit of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) already has over **1.7 Crore+ urban users across the country**. This app has now been modified and strengthened further in order to enable citizens to get their COVID-related complaints also redressed by their respective ULBs.

116. Which state recently became first State to extend lockdown till April 30?

- (A) Odisha
- (B) Maharashtra
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Haryana

- ❖ **Odisha** recently became first State to extend lockdown till April 30.
- ❖ State would recommend to the Central government to extend the national lockdown up to April 30.
- ❖ Educational institutions in the State would remain closed till June 17.

117. "Operation SHIELD" is recently in news, in the context of affairs of –

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Kerala

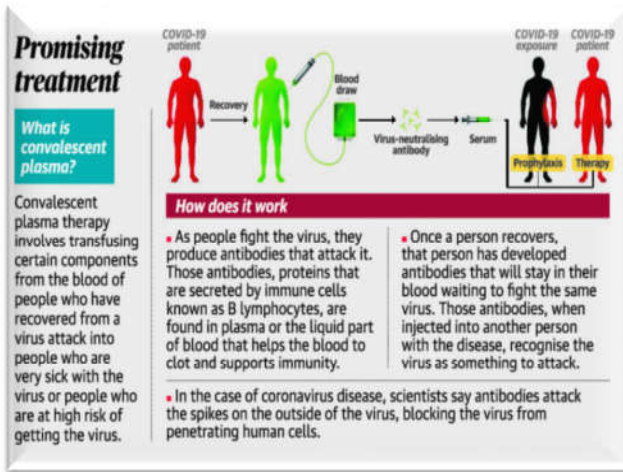
- ❖ **The Delhi government will carry out 'Operation SHIELD' at 21 locations identified as containment zones in the Capital.**

- ❖ 'Operation SHIELD', which includes sealing, identifying and quarantining people in containment zones, doorstep delivery of essential items and door-to-door chec-king of people in those areas, will be undertaken by the Delhi government.
- ❖ SHIELD stands as- **S for sealing of the immediate area after geographical marking, H for home quarantine of all in the area, I for isolation and tracing of people who have been first and second contacts, E for essential supplies, which involves doorstep delivery of essential items to the people, L for local sanitisation and disinfection of those areas, and D for door-to-door checking so that people having symptoms of COVID-19 are isolated and testing can be done after taking samples.**

118. In which of the following diseases, Convalescent plasma therapy has been used by doctors to treat critically ill patients?

- (A) H1N1
- (B) SARS
- (C) Ebola
- (D) All of the above

- ❖ **Kerala** has gone a step ahead and won the Indian Council of Medical Research's approval to explore the feasibility of administering convalescent plasma transfusion on critically ill patients.
- ❖ Convalescent plasma therapy is not new and has been used by doctors to treat critically ill patients during earlier epidemics like **H1N1, SARS and Ebola**.



119. Mustafa Kadhemi, is recently named as third Prime Minister-designate this year of which country?

- (A) Iran
- (B) Iraq
- (C) Syria
- (D) Chad

- ❖ Iraqi President Barham Saleh nominated spy **chief Mustafa Kadhemi as the country's third Prime Minister-designate this year**, moments after his predecessor ended his bid to form a government.
- ❖ Mr. Kadhemi, the 53-year-old head of the National Intelligence Service, has ascended to the role as Iraq faces a budget crisis brought on by the collapse in world oil prices and the spread of the novel coronavirus.

120. Which ministry has designed an online platform for issuance of a key document "Certificate of origin" required for exports to those countries with which India has trade agreements, with a view to facilitate shipments during the COVID-19 crisis?

- (A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (B) Ministry of External Affairs
- (C) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- (D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- ❖ **Commerce ministry** has designed an online platform for issuance of a key document **"Certificate of origin" required for exports to those countries** with which India has trade agreements, with a view to facilitate shipments during the COVID-19 crisis.
- ❖ **CO is a document declaring in which country a commodity or good was manufactured.**
- ❖ Required by many treaty agreements for cross-border trade, CO is important form because it can help determine whether certain goods are eligible for import, or whether goods are subject to duties.

121. Bharat Padhe Online campaign is recently lauched by which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (C) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

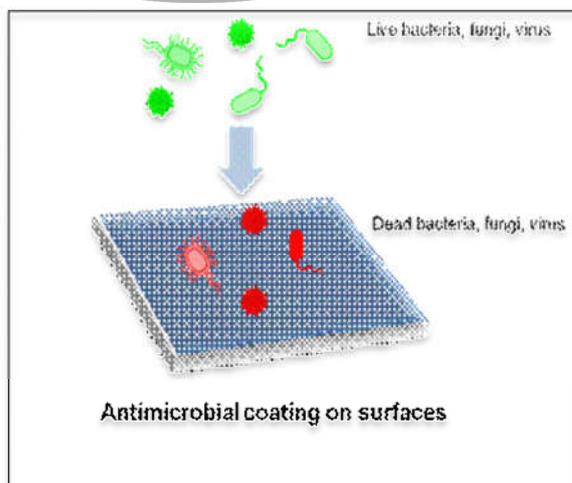
- ❖ **Union Minister for HRD Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has launched a week long 'Bharat Padhe Online' campaign for **Crowd sourcing of Ideas for Improving Online Education ecosystem of India in New Delhi.**



- ❖ the campaign aims to invite all the best brains in India to share suggestions or solutions directly with HRD Ministry to overcome constraints of online education while promoting the available digital education platforms.

122. Kendriya Bhandar is the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society that was set up in 1963. It operates under which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
 - (B) Ministry of Women and Child Development
 - (C) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
 - (D) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- ❖ Union Minister Jitendra Singh recently provided 2,200 kits containing essential goods for the needy who have been unable to get items of daily use due to the prevailing nationwide lockdown to check the spread of coronavirus, according to a Personnel Ministry statement.



- ❖ **Kendriya Bhandar, which functions under the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT)**, has prepared a total of 2,200 kits for distribution to needy families.
- ❖ Each essential kit consists of **three kg rice, two kg dal, one litre cooking oil, 500 gms chivda/poha, one kg salt, one bathing soap, one detergent soap and three packets of biscuits.**
- ❖ The Central Govt. Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Ltd. popularly known as Kendriya Bhandar was set up in 1963 as a welfare project for the benefit of Central Govt. employees and public at large. It is functioning under aegis of **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions**, Govt. of India and was registered with Delhi Registrar of Cooperative Societies.

123. The Department of Science and Technology recently approved anti-microbial coating. It is developed by

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research
 - (B) Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University) Varanasi
 - (C) IIT Delhi
 - (D) IIT Madras
- ❖ An antimicrobial coating, developed by **Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)**, Bangalore, an autonomous institute under Department of Science & Technology (DST), has shown excellent results in tackling the spread of deadly influenza virus,



the root cause of severe respiratory infections, by inactivating large loads of influenza virus. The Science and Engineering Research Board, a unit of the DST is supporting the further development of this coating for the country's war against COVID-19.

- ❖ **The proven efficiency of the coating in 100% destruction of influenza virus (an enveloped virus)** shows that the coating may be effective in destroying COVID 19 – another enveloped virus upon contact.
- ❖ The technology has been **developed by Prof. Jayanta Haldar's group at JNCASR including Mr. Sreyan Ghosh, Dr. Riya Mukherjee and Dr. Debajyoti Basak.**
- ❖ The compound that the scientists have synthesized for the coating is soluble in a range of solvents such as water, ethanol, methanol and chloroform. Aqueous or organic solutions of this compound can be used to coat different daily life and medically important materials, such as textiles, plastic, PVC, polyurethane, polystyrene, in a single step.
- ❖ The coating displays excellent antiviral activity against influenza virus completely killing them within **30 minutes of contact.** It disrupts the membranes of pathogens (i.e. bacteria) leading to their death.

124. Jan Aushadhi Sugam app is recently developed by-

- (A) Indian Council of Medical Research
- (B) Dental Council of India
- (C) Medical Council of India
- (D) Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI)

- ❖ Pharmacists, popularly known as "**Swasth Ke Sipahi**", of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra, are delivering essential services and medicines at the doorstep of patients and elderly under **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)** of the Government of India. Working as part of Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMJAK), they are extending essential services by making available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to the common people of the country and the elderly persons at their doorstep to fight Corona pandemic.
- ❖ **PMJKs are being run by Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) under Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India** with an objective of providing quality and affordable healthcare to anyone in need. Presently, more than 6300 PMJAKs are functioning across the nation, covering 726 districts of the country.
- ❖ Mobile application "**Jan Aushadhi Sugam**" is also available for the common public to locate their nearest Kendra and availability of medicines with its price. The app. can be downloaded from Google Play Store and I-phone Store.

125. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation works under the administrative control of which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (B) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (C) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (D) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions



- ❖ Employees' Provident Fund account-holders who do not have a mobile number linked to Aadhaar may not be able to withdraw money immediately under a government scheme to mitigate the economic impact of the novel coronavirus outbreak.
- ❖ The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation **accepts only online claims**. A key requisite is an Aadhaar-linked mobile number on which the EPFO sends a **one-time password (OTP)**. But online update of mobile numbers is not allowed for security reasons.
- ❖ The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (abbreviated to EPFO), is an organization tasked to assist the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund a **statutory body** formed by the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and is under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India**.
- ❖ **Headquarters: New Delhi**
- ❖ **Founded: 4 March 1952**

126. Asia's largest tulip garden is located in which state/UT?

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Jammu & Kashmir
- (C) Sikkim
- (D) Chandigarh

- ❖ **Asia's largest tulip garden**, now in full bloom, remains closed to visitors in **Srinagar** due to the nationwide lockdown as a preventive measure against the spread of COVID-19.

- ❖ **Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip garden**, previously **Model Floriculture Center**, is a tulip garden in Srinagar, Kashmir. It is the largest tulip garden in Asia spread over an area of about 30 hectares. **It is situated on the foothills of Zabarwan Range with an overview of Dal Lake**.
- ❖ The garden was opened in 2007 with the aim to boost floriculture and tourism in Kashmir Valley.

127. Who is the current Chairperson of National Commission for Women?

- (A) Kamlesh Gautam
- (B) Chandramukhi Devi
- (C) Rekha Sharma
- (D) Shyamala S. Kunder

- ❖ The National Commission for Women (NCW) launched a helpline number — 0721-7735372 — to enable those facing domestic violence to send a WhatsApp message to access help.
- ❖ The helpline was **only a temporary facility** being made available for the period of the lockdown.
- ❖ In the first week after the lockdown, the NCW recorded more than a **two-fold increase in complaints of domestic violence and sexual assault** as well as as a three-fold rise in complaints of police apathy towards crimes against women.
- ❖ The National Commission for Women (NCW) is the **statutory body** of the Government of India, generally concerned with advising the government on all policy matters affecting women.
- ❖ **Formed: 1992**
- ❖ **Headquarters: New Delhi**
- ❖ **Chairperson- Rekha Sharma**



128. Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) was set up in-

- (A) 1962
- (B) 1965
- (C) 1968
- (D) 1969

- ❖ About 15 million people face job losses in India's exports' sector following cancellation of over half of the orders and a gloomy forecast for global trade due to the COVID-19 pandemic, exporters' body FIEO said.
- ❖ Seeking immediate announcement of a relief package for exports, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) President Sharad Kumar Saraf said fine balancing is required between life and livelihood, as opting for only one can be disastrous for the country.
- ❖ Federation of Indian Export Organisations is the **apex trade promotion organisation in India set up by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, and private trade and industry in 1965.**
- ❖ The organisation is responsible for representing and assisting Indian entrepreneurs and exporters in foreign markets.

129. Who is recently appointed as the president of the Derbyshire Cricket Club?

- (A) Gary Kirsten
- (B) Duncan Fletcher
- (C) Greg Chappell
- (D) John Wright

- ❖ Former New Zealand captain **John Wright** has been appointed president of the Derbyshire Cricket Club. He replaces Harold Rhodes, who was president over the past year.
- ❖ **Wright enjoyed a successful coaching career with India, from 2000 to 2005.**

130. World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on -

- (A) April 10
- (B) April 12
- (C) April 14
- (D) April 16

- ❖ The **World Homeopathy Day** is celebrated every year on **April 10**. This year the day marks the 265th birth anniversary of the father of the Homeopathy systems of medicines **Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**, German physician, who discovered the way to heal through the use of homeopathy.
- ❖ **The term 'homeopathy' comes from the combination of the two Greek words, homeo-meaning similar & pathos-meaning suffering or disease.**
- ❖ **Theme of the year 2020:** "Enhancing the scope of Homeopathy in Public Health".

131. Easter is a festival of Christianity. It commemorates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. On which day of a week, Easter celebrated?

- (A) Friday
- (B) Saturday
- (C) Sunday
- (D) Monday

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended his best wishes to everyone on the special occasion of Easter (12 April, 2020).



- ❖ Easter is a Christian festival which celebrates the **resurrection of Jesus Christ**. According to the New Testament of the Bible, Easter occurs three days after the crucifixion of Jesus by Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD.
- ❖ **Christians believe that it is the holiest day in the year.**

132. Consider the following statements in reference to "Sukanya Samriddhi Yojna"-

1. It is a small deposit scheme for girl child, launched as a part of the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign.
2. Sukanya Samriddhi Account can be opened at any time from the birth of a girl child till she attains the age of 18 years.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 1
 - (B) Only 2
 - (C) 1 and 2 both
 - (D) Neither 1 nor 2
- ❖ Finance Ministry has extended the deadline for **mandatory minimum deposit in Public Provident Fund (PPF) and Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA) for 2019-20 by three months up to June 30** in view of the lockdown due to coronavirus outbreak.
 - ❖ The Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana was launched by Prime Minister of India on **January 22, 2015**, in order to encourage parents of a **girl-child to stock a fund for their education and marriage**.
 - ❖ Sukanya Samriddhi Yojna' is a small deposit scheme for girl child, launched as a part of the '**Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign**, which would fetch an attractive interest rate and provide income tax rebate.

- ❖ 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' can be opened at any time from the **birth of a girl child till she attains the age of 10 years**, with a minimum deposit of Rs 250. A maximum of Rs 1.5 lakh can be deposited during a financial year.
- ❖ The account can be opened in any post office or authorised branches of commercial banks.
- ❖ The scheme primarily ensures equitable share to a girl child in resources and savings of a family in which she is generally discriminated as against a male child.
- ❖ The account **will remain operative for 21 years from the date of opening of the account or marriage of the girl child after attaining 18 years of age**.
- ❖ To meet the requirement of higher education expenses, partial withdrawal of **50 per cent of the balance would be allowed after the girl child has attended 18 years of age**.

133. "Hydroxychloroquine" is in news frequently in context of COVID-19. Which country is the largest producer and exporter of Hydroxychloroquine?

- (A) Japan
 - (B) India
 - (C) USA
 - (D) China
- ❖ **India is the largest producer and exporter of Hydroxychloroquine with 70 per cent of annual global production.**



- ❖ Senior Scientist at ICMR Dr Raman Gangakhedkar told media in New Delhi today that the use of Hydroxychloroquine is as prophylaxis and not as treatment. He said, the medicine was never recommended for general public for the treatment of COVID-19.

134. Who among the following was the founder of Satyashodhak Samaj?

- (A) Jyotirao Phule
 - (B) Shri Narayana Guru
 - (C) Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar
 - (D) Swami Dayanand Saraswati
- ❖ Vice President Venkaiah Naidu paid homage to Jyotiba Phule on the occasion of Phule's Jayanti.
 - ❖ Satyashodhak Samaj was a social reform society founded by **Jyotirao Phule in Pune, Maharashtra, on 24 September 1873.**
 - ❖ It espoused a **mission of education and increased social rights and political access for underprivileged groups, focused especially on women, Shudras, and Dalits, in Maharashtra.**
 - ❖ One of the most vocal amongst the "low-caste" leaders was Jyotirao Phule. Born in 1827, he studied in schools set up by Christian missionaries.
 - ❖ He set out to attack the Brahmans' claim that they were superior to others, since they were Aryans. **Phule argued that the Aryans were foreigners.**

- ❖ According to Phule, the "upper" castes had no right to their land and power: in reality, the land belonged to indigenous people, the so-called low castes.

135. Who wrote a book named Gulamgiri?

- (A) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (B) Shri Narayana Guru
- (C) Tarabai Shinde
- (D) Jyotirao Phule

- ❖ **In 1873, Jyotirao Phule** wrote a book named Gulamgiri, meaning slavery. Some ten years before this, the American Civil War had been fought, leading to the end of slavery in America.

- ❖ **Phule dedicated his book to all those Americans who had fought to free slaves, thus establishing a link between the conditions of the "lower" castes in India and the black slaves in America.**

- ❖ As this example shows, Phule extended his criticism of the caste system to argue against all forms of inequality. He was concerned about the plight of "upper"-caste women, the miseries of the labourer, and the humiliation of the "low" castes.

136. Which country recently became the first country to report more than 2,000 Coronavirus deaths in a single day?

- (A) Spain
- (B) Italy
- (C) USA
- (D) UK



- ❖ The **United States** became the first country to report more than 2,000 Coronavirus deaths in a single day. On April 10, the United States reported 2,108 new deaths, the highest daily toll of any country since the outbreak.
- ❖ With more than half a million reported infections, **US already have more Coronavirus cases than anywhere else in the world.**

137. Anak Krakatau volcano is located in which country?

- (A) Indonesia
- (B) Italy
- (C) Philippines
- (D) Thailand

- ❖ **Indonesia's Anak Krakatau** volcano spewed a column of ash 500 meters into the sky in the longest eruption since its explosive collapse in 2018. No casualties were reported.
- ❖ **Anak Krakatau, which means child of Krakatau, is the offspring of the famous Krakatau volcano, whose monumental eruption in 1883 triggered a period of global cooling.**

138. "Project Handmade Craft" initiative is related to which state?

- (A) Tripura
- (B) Assam
- (C) Sikkim
- (D) Mizoram

- ❖ In **Mizoram**, as part of the people coming forward in making and distributing the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), a new initiative has come up to make face shields in the fight against COVID-19.

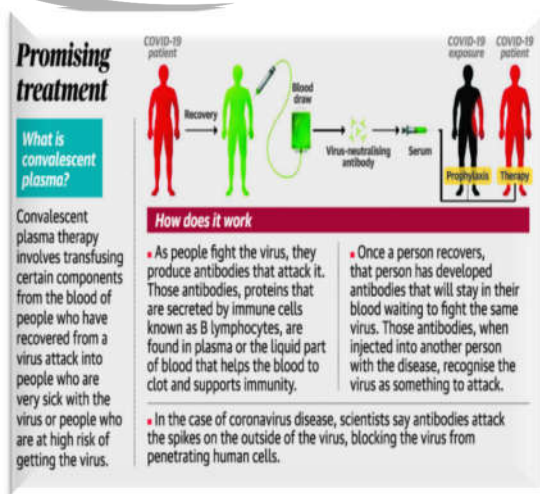
- ❖ A father-son duo started this initiative from their '**Project Handmade Craft**', and in the first week, they made **300 face shields**. These face shields have been supplied to Banks, Zoram Medical College, Aizawl Civil Hospital and private practicing doctors at the rate of Rs. 300 each face shield.
- ❖ In fact, P.C. Zothankima and his son P.C. Lalrintluanga, a Science Consultant at the state council of education research and training (SCERT), were encouraged by an online PPE Challenge. The Challenge was organised by the state Planning and Programme Implementation Department to meet the demand of PPE.
- ❖ **Polyglass is used for the main face and sunboard at the top to fix the shield at the head.**

139. Which state is recently became the first state in the country to commence convalescent plasma therapy, to treat critically ill COVID-19 cases on a trial basis?

- (A) Maharashtra
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Odisha

- ❖ **Kerala is set to become the first state in the country to commence convalescent plasma therapy, to treat critically ill COVID-19 cases on a trial basis.**

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research has given its nod to Kerala for the first of its kind project, for the clinical protocol exploring the feasibility of an experimental therapy, convalescent plasma transfusion, which may be administered to severe COVID-19 patients.
- ❖ In this therapy the **blood plasma from individuals who have recovered from COVID-19, i.e. their immune system that has developed antibodies in the blood plasma, to beat the disease, is transfused into a person critically ill with the disease.** The project is initiated by the Sree Chithira Thirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology in Thiruvananthapuram.
- ❖ At present Convalescent plasma therapy is not new and has been used by doctors to treat critically ill patients during earlier epidemics like **H1N1, SARS and Ebola.**



140. Asian Development Bank is established on-

- (A) 19 December 1966
- (B) 19 March 1964
- (C) 19 June 1962
- (D) 19 December 1968

- ❖ The Asian Development Bank is a regional development bank established on **19 December 1966**, which is **headquartered, at Manila, Philippines.**
- ❖ ADB has **68 members** (as of 23 March 2019): 49 members from the Asian and Pacific Region, 19 members from Other Regions.
- ❖ It aims to promote social and economic development in Asia.
- ❖ President of Asian Development Bank, Masatsugu Asakawa, assured Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman of 2.2 billion dollars or about 16,500 crore rupees, support to India in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

141. Meru Jatra festival is related to which state?

- (A) Maharashtra
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) Odisha

- ❖ **Odisha's Ganjam district administration** has banned the Meru Jatra festival and congregations related to it at temples on the occasion of Mahavishub Sankranti.
- ❖ **Meru Jatra marks the end of 21-day-long festival of penance named 'Danda Nata'. Mahavishub Sankranti is also start of the Odia New Year.**
- ❖ Earlier, the administrations had banned the famous Chaitra festival at Tara Tarini hill shrine that attracts lakhs of devotees.



142. “Unnayan: Mera Mobile, Mera Vidyalaya” mobile application is recently launched. It is related to which state?

- (A) Chhattisgarh
- (B) Jharkhand
- (C) Bihar
- (D) Odisha

- ❖ Following COVID-19 lockdown, the **Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC)** has launched a mobile application and plans to book a slot with the All India Radio for the audio broadcast of study materials for government school students.
- ❖ Recently, the BEPC, a wing of the State Education department, launched a mobile application “**Unnayan: Mera Mobile, Mera Vidyalaya**” for Class VI to XII of over 70,000 government-run schools.
- ❖ The app, said department officials, was jointly developed by the **United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Bihar government and Eckovation, a social learning platform.**

143. **Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) is located at-**

- (A) Durgapur
- (B) Guwahati
- (C) Shillong
- (D) Dispur

- ❖ In an attempt at providing new technologies to contain the spread of COVID-19, the **Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur**, a laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has developed low-cost disinfection walkways.

- ❖ The walkway, which costs about ₹1.5 lakh on an average, can be easily installed in critical locations such as isolation/quarantine facilities, mass transit system entry points and medical centres, CMERI Director-General Harish Hirani said.
- ❖ The walkway uses **mist type spray** ensuring maximum target coverage with minimum shadow area of an individual.
- ❖ According to the CMERI D-G, the walkways use mist type spray, whose particle size could be as small as **100 to 200 microns.**
- ❖ Researchers say that in these disinfectant walkways, the base liquid is sodium hypochlorite along with which soap and ethanol are added.

144. **Which country recently launched an online marriage service?**

- (A) Qatar
- (B) United Arab Emirates
- (C) Saudi Arabia
- (D) Turkey

- ❖ The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has launched an online marriage service. The Justice Ministry said that citizens can set a date for an online wedding ceremony conducted via video link with a cleric after their paperwork is submitted and approved — also online.
- ❖ **Capital: Abu Dhabi**
- ❖ **Currency: dirham**

145. **Stirling Moss, who passed away recently, was associated with-**

- (A) Football
- (B) Golf
- (C) British Formula One racing
- (D) Chess



- ❖ **Motor racing** great Stirling Moss has died aged 90
- ❖ In F1, Moss won 16 GPs, with his first victory coming in the 1955 British GP at Liverpool that saw him **become the first British winner of the race.**
- ❖ An inductee into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame, he won 212 of the 529 races he entered across several categories of competition and has been described as "**the greatest driver never to win the World Championship**".

146. Web-portal YUKTI (Young India Combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation) is recently launched by which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry for Human Resource Development
- (B) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- (C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- (D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- ❖ **Minister for Human Resource Development** Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has launched a web-portal **YUKTI (Young India Combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation) in New Delhi.**

- ❖ The portal and dashboard will monitor and record the efforts and initiatives of Ministry of HRD. It intends to cover different dimensions of COVID-19 challenges in a holistic and comprehensive way.

- ❖ It will cover the various initiatives and efforts of the institutions in academics, research especially related to COVID, social initiatives and measures taken for the betterment of the total well-being of the students.
- ❖ The portal will **cover both qualitative and quantitative parameters for effective delivery of services** to the academic community at large.

147. Baisakhi festival is related to which state?

- (A) Karnataka
- (B) Kerala
- (C) Punjab
- (D) Rajasthan

- ❖ Baisakhi is a historical and religious festival in Sikhism. **It is usually celebrated on 13 or 14 April every year,** which commemorates the **formation of Khalsa panth of warriors under Guru Gobind Singh in 1699.**

- ❖ For many Hindus, Vaisakhi celebrates the Solar new year, based on the Hindu Vikram Samvat calendar. Vaisakhi marks the first day of the month of Vaisakha.

- ❖ It is additionally a spring harvest festival for Sikhs.

- ❖ In Sikhism, Vaisakhi marks the start of the Khalsa in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh.

- ❖ **Ranjit Singh was proclaimed as Maharaja of the Sikh Empire on 12 April 1801 (to coincide with Vaisakhi), creating a unified political state.**



- ❖ Baisakhi was also the day when colonial British empire officials committed the **Jallianwala Bagh massacre** on a gathering, an event influential to the Indian movement against colonial rule.

148. Consider the following statements in reference to Jallianwala Bagh Massacre-

1. Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood in protest to Massacre.
2. Gandhiji gave back his title of 'Kaiser-e-Hind' in protest to Massacre.
3. Hunter Commission was appointed to enquire into it.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 Only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

❖ **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (April 13, 1919)**

- ❖ On Baisakhi day, a large crowd of people had gathered in a small park called Jallianwala Bagh to protest against the arrest of their leaders, **Saifuddin Kitchlew and Satya Pal**.
- ❖ The Army led by **General Dyer** blocked the only exit point and opened fire on the unarmed crowd killing around 1000.
- ❖ **Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood in protest.**
- ❖ **Gandhiji gave back his title of 'Kaiser-e-Hind'.**
- ❖ **Sir Shankaran Nair resigned from Viceroy's Executive Council.**

- ❖ **Hunter Commission** was appointed to enquire into it. The official figures were 379 killed and 1200 wounded.

❖ **Malviya Committee** was formed to enquire into it. **Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya was its President.**

❖ **On March 13, 1940, Sardar Udham Singh** killed O'Dyer when the latter was addressing a meeting in Caxton Hall, London.

149. Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

- (A) Vishu- Kerala
- (B) Naba Barsha- west Bengal
- (C) Rongali Bihu- Assam
- (D) Puthandu- Kerala

❖ The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind in his message on the occasion of Vaisakhi, Vishu, Rongali Bihu, Naba Barsha, Vaisakhadi, Puthandu, Pirappu, which are being celebrated in different parts of the country on 13th and 14th April, 2020.

❖ **Puthandu**, also known as Puthuvarusham or **Tamil New Year**, is the first day of year on the Tamil calendar and traditionally celebrated as a festival.

❖ **Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu** also called Xaat Bihu is a festival celebrated in the state of **Assam and northeastern India**, and marks the beginning of the Assamese New Year.

❖ **Naba Barsha** in Bengal marks the first day of Baisakh - the **first month of Bengali Calendar.**



- ❖ **Vishu** is a Hindu festival celebrated in the South Indian state of Kerala, Tulu Nadu region in Karnataka, bordering areas of Tamil Nadu and their diaspora communities. The festival marks the first day of Medam, the ninth month in the solar calendar followed in Kerala.

150. Every year, International Day of Human Space Flight is observed on

- (A) April 11
- (B) April 12
- (C) April 13
- (D) April 14

- ❖ The International Day of Human Space Flight 2020 was observed on **April 12, 2020**.
- ❖ 12 April 1961 was the date of the first human space flight, carried out by **Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet citizen**. This historic event opened the way for space exploration for the benefit of all humanity.
- ❖ The International Day of Human Space Flight was **first observed in 2011**.

151. Which of the following statements about the Constitution of India is/are correct?

1. The 'Objective Resolution' was moved by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
2. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar served as the chairman of the Drafting Committee.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ The **Objectives Resolution** (aim of the constitution to be prepared and what type of constitution India should have) was passed after 1 month discussion, under the chairmanship of J.L. Nehru on 13 December, 1946. **Preamble is the modified version of objective resolution**

❖ **DRAFTING COMMITTEE**

- ❖ It was set up on **29 Aug, 1947** and **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** (Father of Indian Constitution) was the Chairman of the Drafting committee. It consisted of seven members. They were: **Dr B R Ambedkar** (Chairman), **N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar, Dr K M Munshi, Syed Mohammad Saadullah, N Madhava Rau** (He replaced **B L Mitter** who resigned due to ill-health) and **T T Krishnamachari** (He replaced **D P Khaitan** who died in 1948)

152. Consider the following statements in context of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar-

1. He is known as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.
2. He became the first Law and Justice Minister after the independence.
3. He inspired the Dalit Buddhist Movement in India and embraced Buddhism on 14th October, 1956.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

- ❖ Nation remembers Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar on his 129th birth anniversary on 14th April.



- ❖ Dr. Ambedkar is known as the **chief architect of the Indian Constitution** and has been bestowed with the **country's highest civilian honor, Bharat Ratna in 1990 posthumously.**
- ❖ He was born on **14th April, 1891 at Mhow**, now known as Dr. Ambedkar Nagar in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ He became the **first Law and Justice Minister after the independence** and played an important role in drafting the Indian Constitution and made provisions for abolition of all forms of discrimination.
- ❖ He inspired the **Dalit Buddhist Movement in India and embraced Buddhism on 14th October, 1956.**

153. A multi-institutional, multi-lingual science communication initiative, called 'CovidGyan' has been recently created. Which among the following organisation is associated with CovidGyan?

- (A) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
 - (B) Indian Institute of Science
 - (C) Tata Memorial Centre
 - (D) All of the above
- ❖ To bring the scientific and factual aspects of this pandemic outbreak on to public domain, a multi-institutional, multi-lingual science communication initiative, called **'CovidGyan'** has been created.
 - ❖ The initiative is the brainchild of **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and Tata Memorial Centre (TMC).** Several other prominent partners

have since joined this noble effort including Vigyan Prasar, India Bioscience, and the Bangalore Life Science Cluster (BLiSc), which includes Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (InStem), Centre for Cellular And Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), and National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS).

- ❖ An outcome of this initiative is the launch of a website that went live on April 03, 2020. This website also named CovidGyan serves as a hub to bring together a collection of resources in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

154. Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and National Informatics Centre (NIC) recently jointly launched a collaborative network, computer enabled software system. What is the name of this system?

- (A) CollabCAD
- (B) CovidGyan
- (C) CovidLab
- (D) CollabLab

- ❖ **Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and National Informatics Centre (NIC) today jointly launched CollabCAD**, a collaborative network, computer enabled software system, providing a total engineering solution from **2D drafting & detailing to 3D product design.**
- ❖ The aim of this initiative is to provide a great platform to students of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) across country to create and modify 3d designs with free flow of creativity and imagination. This software would



also enable students to create data across the network and concurrently access the same design data for storage and visualization.

- ❖ Launching CollabCAD and gaming module as part of the **'Tinker from Home' campaign**, young students are encouraged to learn and contribute to the journey of nation building from the safe space of their homes.
- ❖ Atal Innovation Mission housed at NITI Aayog is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. At the school level, AIM is establishing ATIs in all districts across India.

155. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

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

- ❖ The Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is located in **Wayanad Kerala and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.**
- ❖ A tigress, aged around five years, was found dead in the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ❖ It has an extent of 344.44 km² with four ranges namely **Sulthan Bathery, Muthanga, Kurichiat and Tholpetty.**
- ❖ Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is the **second largest wildlife sanctuary in Kerala.**
- ❖ Established in 1973, the sanctuary is now an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- ❖ It is bounded by protected area network of Nagarhole and Bandipur of Karnataka in the northeast, and on the southeast by Mudumalai of Tamil Nadu.

156. The Indian Army launched "Operation Meghdoot" on-

- (A) April 13, 1984
- (B) April 12, 1984
- (C) April 11, 1984
- (D) April 15, 1984

- ❖ The Indian Army observed the **36th Siachen Day on 13th April.** Siachen Day commemorates the courage and fortitude displayed by troops of the Indian Army in securing the **highest and coldest battlefield in the world.**
- ❖ On April 13, 1984, the Indian Army launched **"Operation Meghdoot" to secure Bilafond La and other passes on the Saltoro Ridgeline from Pakistani aggression.**
- ❖ Siachen lies in the Karakoram Range in North-West India. Siachen Glacier is 76.4 km long and covers about 10,000 sq km of uninhabited terrain.

157. For the first time, the global community is celebrating World Chagas Disease Day on-

- (A) 14 April
- (B) 13 April
- (C) 12 April
- (D) 15 April

- ❖ For the first time, the global community is preparing to celebrate **14 April as the first World Chagas Disease Day.** One of the aims is to raise the visibility and public awareness of people with Chagas Disease and the resources needed for the prevention, control or elimination of the disease.



- ❖ **Chagas disease, also called American trypanosomiasis, has been termed as a “silent and silenced disease”, not only because of its slowly progressing and frequently asymptomatic clinical course but also because it affects mainly poor people who have no political voice or access to health care.**

158. Recently AIIMS-Rishikesh and BEL jointly developed India’s first remote health monitoring system. It is located in which state?

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Punjab
- (C) Uttarakhand
- (D) Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)-Rishikesh, in collaboration with Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics (BEL), has developed a state-of-the-art health monitoring system to remotely assess the health of COVID-19 suspects/patients quarantined in homes and hospitals.**
- ❖ **The solution aims to significantly reduce the risk of exposure to healthcare workers. It is also expected to reduce the increasing demand of PPE and other logistics.**
- ❖ **It is India’s first remote health monitoring system.**
- ❖ **The system is to be widely used in the state of Uttarakhand to monitor COVID-19 patients.**

159. Consider the following statements in context of helicopter money-

1. It involves printing large sums of money and distributing it to the public.
2. American economist Milton Friedman coined this term.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ **With the coronavirus-hit economy falling deeper and deeper into a chasm with each passing day, Telangana chief minister KC Rao said helicopter money can help states comes out of this morass.**

What is helicopter money?

- ❖ **This is an unconventional monetary policy tool aimed at bringing a flagging economy back on track. It involves printing large sums of money and distributing it to the public.**
- ❖ **American economist Milton Friedman coined this term.**
- ❖ **It basically means non-repayable money transfer from the central bank to the government. It seeks to goad people into spending more and thereby boost the sagging economy.**
- ❖ **Sometimes it is suggested as an alternative to quantitative easing when the economy is in a liquidity trap.**



160. Wormivet is an indigenous herbal medication (dewormer) for livestock owners as an alternate to chemical method of treatment of worm. It is developed by-

- (A) National Innovation Foundation India
- (B) Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly
- (C) National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal
- (D) Indian Agricultural Research Institute

- ❖ Wormivet is an indigenous herbal medication (dewormer) for livestock owners as an alternate to chemical method of treatment of worm.
- ❖ **It is developed by National Innovation Foundation India (NIF), an autonomous body of Department of Science and Technology.**
- ❖ NIF is an initiative to strengthen grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge.

161. "DekhoApnaDesh" webinar series is recently launched by which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Tourism
- (B) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- (C) Ministry of Culture
- (D) Ministry of Human Resource Development

- ❖ The **Ministry of Tourism** has launched its "DekhoApnaDesh" webinar series from to provide information on the many destinations and the sheer depth and expanse of the culture and heritage of our Incredible India.

- ❖ The **first webinar**, which was part of a series that shall unfold, touched upon the long history of Delhi as it has unfolded as 8 cities.
- ❖ The webinar was titled "**City of Cities- Delhi's Personal Diary**'.

162. Which of the following initiative is not related to Education?

- (A) SWAYAM
- (B) SWAYAMPRAKASHA
- (C) Shagun portal
- (D) PENCIL Portal

- ❖ Under the direction of MHRD, NIOS has initiated a unique method to ensure effective schooling to reach the unreached directly at door step.
- ❖ **SWAYAM:**
 - The '**Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds**' (**SWAYAM**) an integrated platform for online courses, using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and covering school (9th to 12th) to Post Graduate Level.
 - **SWAYAM provides one integrated platform and portal for online courses**, using information and communication technology (ICT) and covering all higher education subjects and skill sector courses to ensure that the every student in the country has access to the best quality higher education at affordable cost.



❖ **SWAYAM PRABHA:-**

- A programme for utilization of satellite communication technologies for transmission of educational e-contents through **32 National Channels** i.e. **SWAYAM PRABHA DTH-TV has been launched. CIET-NCERT is the national coordinator for one DTH TV channel** i.e., Kishore Manch (#31) and has started feeding a 24x7 educational TV channel w.e.f. 09.07.2018.

❖ **Shagun portal:**

- A web portal called **ShaGun (from the words Shaala and Gunvatta)** which has two parts, one of which is a Repository of good practices, photographs, videos, studies, newspaper articles etc on school education, State /UT wise has been developed which is in public domain. **Its purpose is to showcase success stories and also to provide a platform for all stakeholders to learn from each other.** This also instills a positive competitive spirit among all the States and UTs.

❖ **PENCIL Portal**

- It is a separate online portal Platform for **Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL)** launched on 26 September 2017 to ensure effective enforcement of provisions of **Child Labour Act and smooth implementation of National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme.**

163. Fit India Movement is launched by Government of India in Which Year?

- (A) 2017
- (B) 2018
- (C) 2019
- (D) 2020

- ❖ Fit India Movement is a nation-wide movement in India to encourage people to remain healthy and fit by including physical activities and sports in their daily lives. **It was launched by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi at Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi on 29 August 2019.**
- ❖ Fit India and CBSE recently organised a first-ever live fitness sessions for school students in the second phase of lockdown.

164. Consider the following statements in context of recently launched All India Agri-Transport Call Centre –

1. It will facilitate inter-state movement of perishables in the current situation of lockdown due to the COVID-19 threat.
2. It will be in operation for 24x7 services.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar launched the All India Agri Transport Call Centre at a function in Krishi Bhavan **to facilitate inter-state movement of perishables** in the current situation of lockdown due to the COVID-19 threat.



- ❖ The Call Centre numbers are 18001804200 and 14488. These numbers can be called from any mobile or landline phones any time of the day or night.
- ❖ **The 24x7 service** All India Agri Transport Call Centre is an initiative of the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Government of India for coordination between States for inter-state movement of perishables - Vegetables & Fruits, Agri Inputs like seeds, pesticides and fertilizer etc.
- ❖ **Operated by the IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Limited (IKSL) from their offices in Faridabad, Haryana**, the Call Centre lines will initially be manned by 10 customer executives round the clock in 3 shifts of 8 hour each.

165. 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO has been postponed. It is scheduled to organise in which city?

- (A) New Delhi (B) Tokyo
(C) Fuzhou (D) Bonn

- ❖ China's Ministry of Education today announced that the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO, initially scheduled from 29th of June to 9th of July, in **Fuzhou of eastern China's Fujian Province**, has been postponed to a later date due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNESCO

- ❖ **Headquarters: Paris, France**
- ❖ **Head: Audrey Azoulay**
- ❖ **Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom**

166. Which country will host the Asian Boxing Championships 2020 between November-December 2020?

- (A) China
(B) Nepal
(C) India
(D) Pakistan

- ❖ India will be hosting the **2020 Asian Boxing Championships** between November-December 2020. The announcement was made through a tweet by the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) on April 13, 2020.

167. Which organisation recently developed a COVID Sample Collection Kiosk (COVSACK)?

- (A) Indian Space Research Organisation
(B) Defence Research and Development Organisation
(C) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
(D) National Technical Research Organisation

- ❖ **Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad** has added another product to the portfolio of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to combat Coronavirus (COVID-19) by developing COVID Sample Collection Kiosk (COVSACK).

- ❖ The unit has been developed by DRDL in consultation with the doctors of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Hyderabad. The COVSACK is a kiosk for use by healthcare workers for taking COVID-19 samples from suspected infected patients. Patient under test walks into the Kiosk and a nasal or oral swab is taken by health care professional from outside through the built in gloves.
- ❖ **The Kiosk is automatically disinfected without the need for human involvement,** making the process free of infection spread.

168. Which state recently became the first state to start pool testing of Covid-19 Samples?


- (A) Odisha
- (B) Maharashtra
- (C) Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Haryana

- ❖ **Uttar Pradesh** has obtained clearance from the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) to start "**pool testing**" becoming the first in the country to attempt this method which aims at expediting the testing process for Covid-19.
- ❖ UP currently has 10 existing labs across the state and is testing close to 2,000 samples every day. It is adding 14 new labs to ramp up its testing infrastructure.

169. The term 'Saptapadi' is recently in news, in context of-

- (A) 7 mantras to fight coronavirus recently suggested by Prime Minister of India
- (B) 7 new lifeline UDAN services
- (C) 7 New anti-ship missiles procured by India from USA
- (D) 7 new Education initiative launched by MHRD

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently invoked "**seven vows**" that he asked people to take in their battle against coronavirus and the call came along with him announcing an extension of the nationwide lockdown till May 3. **He concluded with the 'Saptapadi', the seven principles, that should guide people in dealing with the impact of Covid-19 pandemic.**

TOUGHER ENFORCEMENT FOR FIRST WEEK		
Greater strictness in implementation of lockdown for the first week	Some curbs may be eased after April 20 in areas where disease has been controlled to help poor restart livelihoods. Curbs can be reimposed if lockdown rules are breached	Detailed guidelines to be issued by MHA on Wednesday which will set out exceptions like essential items
PRIME MINISTER'S 7-POINT APPEAL		
1. Take care of elderly, especially those with chronic diseases	2. Adhere to 'Lakshman rekha' of lockdown and social distancing. Use homemade face-covers and masks	3. Follow Ayush ministry's instructions to enhance one's immunity
4. Download Arogya Setu app, inspire others to do so too	5. Take care of poor families	6. Be compassionate towards employees. Don't deprive them of livelihood
7. Pay utmost respect to Corona Warriors - doctors and nurses, sanitation workers and police		
Why Till May 3, Not Apr 30? Because May 1 is a holiday and May 2 & 3 a weekend		VISUAL MESSAGE Modi appeared on TV with his face covered with a 'gamcha', which he removed at the start of his address. His Twitter handle also posted the photo of him wearing a face cover

170. Harpoon air-launched anti-ship missiles are recently in news in context of the affairs of-

- (A) India-Russia
- (B) India- USA
- (C) India- Japan
- (D) India- France

- ❖ The Trump administration has notified the Congress of its determination to sell **Harpoon air-launched anti-ship missiles** and Mark 54 lightweight torpedoes worth 155 US million dollars to India to enhance its deterrent capabilities against "regional threats" and to bolster its homeland defence.



- ❖ **The US recognised India as a "Major Defence Partner" in 2016.** This designation allows India to buy more advanced and sensitive technologies from America at par with that of the US' closest allies and partners.
- ❖ According to the Pentagon, the **Harpoon missile system will be integrated into the P-8I anti-submarine warfare aircraft to conduct anti-surface warfare missions in defence of critical sea lanes while enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allied forces.**
- ❖ The proposed sale will improve India's capability to meet current and future threats from enemy weapon systems.
- ❖ The MK 54 Lightweight Torpedo will provide the capability to conduct anti-submarine warfare missions.

171. India Meteorological Department works under which Ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Earth Sciences
 - (B) Ministry of Science and Technology
 - (C) Ministry of Jal Shakti
 - (D) Ministry of Mines
-
- ❖ India will likely have a normal monsoon, with a chance of 'above normal' rain in August and September, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.
 - ❖ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is an agency of the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** of the Government of India.

- ❖ It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology. **IMD is headquartered in Delhi** and operates hundreds of observation stations across India and Antarctica. Regional offices are at **Mumbai, Kolkata, Nagpur and Pune.**
- ❖ IMD is also one of the six Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres of the World Meteorological Organization. It has the responsibility for forecasting, naming and distribution of warnings for tropical cyclones in the Northern Indian Ocean region, including the Malacca Straits, the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf.
- ❖ **The India Meteorology Department was established in 1875.**
- ❖ **Henry Francis Blanford** was appointed the first Meteorological Reporter of the IMD. In May 1889, Sir John Eliot was appointed the first Director General of Observatories in the erstwhile capital, Calcutta.
- ❖ **The IMD headquarters were later shifted to Shimla in 1905, then to Pune in 1928 and finally to New Delhi in 1944.**

172. With reference to World Health Organization (WHO), consider the following statements-

1. It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
2. WHO was established in 7 April 1948, which is commemorated as World Health Day.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2



- ❖ **U.S. President Donald Trump has ordered a freeze on funding for the World Health Organization (WHO) for “mismanaging” the coronavirus crisis.**
- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
- ❖ **It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland**
- ❖ **The WHO was established in 7 April 1948, which is commemorated as World Health Day.**

173. Thrissur Pooram festival is related to which state?

- (A) Odisha
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Goa
- (D) Kerala

- ❖ For the first time since its inception, Thrissur Pooram, which had the pride of place in Kerala’s festival calendar, has been cancelled.
- ❖ **Thrissur Pooram is an annual Hindu festival held in Kerala, India. It is held at the Vadakkunnathan Temple in Thrissur every year on the Pooram day - the day when the moon rises with the Pooram star in the Malayalam Calendar month of Medam. It is the largest and most famous of all poorams.**

174. A Defence exports company Rosoboronexport has committed \$2million (₹15.3 crore) to the newly set up ‘PM CARES Fund’. Rosoboronexport is a company of which country?

- (A) Spain
- (B) Italy
- (C) Russia
- (D) France

- ❖ In the first such donation of its kind, **Russia’s State-owned defence exports company Rosoboronexport** has committed \$2million (₹15.3 crore) to the newly set up **‘PM CARES Fund’**.
- ❖ The proposed donation to the fund that has been set up specially to assist the government’s efforts in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, marks a significant shift in India’s policy on accepting contributions from foreign government owned companies. Thus far, the government had been only open to contributions from “NRIs, PIOs and international entities such as foundations”.
- ❖ Rosoboronexport is Russia’s umbrella group for all defence exports and a subsidiary of the state-owned defence manufacturing company Rostec.
- ❖ **The firm is the largest source of India’s arms imports and is set to supply defence equipment including the S-400 air defence systems, stealth frigates and AK-203 assault rifles.**
- ❖ On March 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Prime Minister’s Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) Fund, putting aside the ‘Prime Minister’s National Relief Fund (PMNRF)’.

175. Consider the following-

1. To provide free and competent legal services to the eligible persons.
2. To organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.



3. To organize legal awareness camps in the rural areas.

Which of the above is/are functions of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

- ❖ The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has said that as many as 11,077 undertrials have been released from prisons nationwide as part of the mission to decongest jails following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes and to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available under the Act.
- ❖ NALSA lays down policies, principles, guidelines and frames effective and economical schemes for the State Legal Services Authorities to implement the Legal Services Programmes throughout the country.
- ❖ **following main functions on regular basis :**
 - **To provide free and competent legal services to the eligible persons.**
 - **To organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes.**
 - **To organize legal awareness camps in the rural areas.**

176. Which one among the following is recently launched a 'journalism relief fund'?

- (A) Google
- (B) New York Times
- (C) Facebook
- (D) Twitter

- ❖ **Google** recently launched a '**journalism relief fund**'. It is an emergency fund to help local news outlets struggling to maintain operations in the face of the pandemic.

177. 'Train the Trainer' programme is recently in news in context of-

- (A) Board of Control for Cricket in India
- (B) Archery Association of India
- (C) All India Football Federation
- (D) Badminton Association of India

- ❖ **The Archery Association of India (AAI)** expects a good response for its **first-ever online 'Train the Trainer' programme**, to be conducted in association with the Sports Authority of India.

178. Who among the following is not a Chess Player?

- (A) D. Harika
- (B) K. Humpy
- (C) P. Harikrishna
- (D) B Sai Praneeth

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi lavished praise on Indian chess players, including **Vishwanathan Anand**, for coming up with an "innovative" way to raise funds for the country's fight against COVID-19 pandemic.



- ❖ **Vidit Gujrathi, P. Harikrishna, B. Adhiban, K. Humpy and D. Harika**, alongside Anand, had participated in an online chess exhibition and helped raise ₹4.5 lakh for the PM-CARES Fund.
- ❖ **Bhamidipati Sai Praneeth is an Indian badminton player. He became the first Indian male shuttler in 36 years to win a bronze medal in the BWF World Championships in 2019 after Prakash Padukone in 1983.**

179. Headquarters of United States Commission on International Religious Freedom is located at-

- (A) Washington, D.C
 - (B) New York
 - (C) New Jersey
 - (D) Florida
- ❖ The External Affairs Ministry has said that United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, USCIRF must stop adding religious colour to country's national goal of fighting the COVID 19 pandemic.
 - ❖ The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom is a U.S. federal government commission created by the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998.
 - ❖ **Headquarters : Washington, D.C., United States**
 - ❖ **Founded: 28 October 1998**

180. The Survey of India has launched a mobile application to collect information about COVID-19 specific data sets through community engagement. What is the name of this app?

- (A) SAHYOG
- (B) AAROGYA-SETU
- (C) SAHARA
- (D) NIROG

- ❖ The mobile application **SAHYOG**, as well as the web portal (<https://indiamaps.gov.in/soiapp/>) prepared & managed by the Survey of India (SoI), has been customized to collect COVID-19 specific geospatial datasets through community engagement to augment the response activities by Government of India to the pandemic.
- ❖ Information parameters required as per the Govt of India strategy and containment plan for large outbreaks have been incorporated in the SAHYOG application.

181. Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) is located at-

- (A) Bengaluru
- (B) Chennai
- (C) Hyderabad
- (D) Warangal

- ❖ Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) has developed a compact solid-state sensor to detect the heavy metal ions in water. It is a portable device which can help onsite detection in remote areas.



- ❖ The Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences (CeNS) is an **autonomous research institute under Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India**. DST provides core support to the Centre in the form of a grant-in-aid for conducting basic and applied research in nano and soft matter sciences. **CeNS is located at Jalahalli, Bengaluru.**
- ❖ **The Centre was established in 1991 by an eminent liquid crystal scientist, Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, FRS.**

182. Lop Nur nuclear test site, is recently in news. It is located in which country?

- (A) Russia
 - (B) USA
 - (C) Japan
 - (D) China
- ❖ China may have secretly set off low-level underground nuclear test explosions despite claiming to observe an international pact banning such blasts, the U.S. State Department said in a report that could fuel U.S.-Chinese tensions.
 - ❖ U.S. concerns about Beijing's possible breaches of a **“zero yield” standard for test blasts have been prompted by activities at China's Lop Nur nuclear test site throughout 2019.**
 - ❖ **Zero yield refers to a nuclear test in which there is no explosive chain reaction of the type ignited by the detonation of a nuclear warhead.**

183. Consider the following statements in reference with Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)-

1. It opened for signature on 24 September 1996

2. India is a signatory of CTBT.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ It is in news in recently in context of U.S. concerns about Beijing's possible breaches of a “zero yield” standard for test blasts have been prompted by activities at China's Lop Nur nuclear test site throughout 2019.

- ❖ **The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is the Treaty banning all nuclear explosions - everywhere, by everyone.**

- ❖ The Treaty was negotiated at the **Conference on Disarmament in Geneva** and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

- ❖ **It opened for signature on 24 September 1996.** Since then, the Treaty has reached near-universality. 182 countries have signed the Treaty - the last country to do so was Trinidad and Tobago on 8 October 2009 which also ratified the Treaty on 26 May 2010.

- ❖ **154 countries** have ratified the Treaty - most recently Ghana on 14 June 2011.

- ❖ **India has abided by both NPT and Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) even though it is a non-signatory.**



184. Ranjit Chowdhry, who passed away recently was associated with which field?

- (A) Sports
- (B) Journalism
- (C) Film
- (D) Politics

❖ **Film, television and theatre actor** Ranjit Chowdhry passed away in Mumbai.

❖ He was known for the roles in the films of Basu Chatterjee — Khatta Meetha (1978) and Baton Baton Mein (1979), and Hrishikesh Mukherjee — Khubsoorat (1980).

185. Who is recently appointed as the new Ambassador for World Wide Fund for Nature-India's Environment Education programme?

- (A) Viswanathan Anand
- (B) Sunil Cheetri
- (C) Sachin Tendulkar
- (D) Bhaichung Bhutia

❖ Five-time world chess champion **Viswanathan Anand** has joined WWF (World Wildlife Fund) India as its ambassador for an environmental education programme.

❖ WWF India is celebrating its 50 years of conservation in India and it is delighted to see Anand lend his support to conservation and protection of the environment.

❖ **WWF India's environment education programme is as old as the organisation itself, starting way back in 1976 with the Nature Clubs of India (NCI) initiative.**

❖ Currently, the environment education programme undertakes five large initiatives that reach out to school children, youth and citizens across the country and aim to create a generation of critical thinkers, problem solvers and environmentally conscious individuals.

186. A. Sharath Kamal is related to which sport?

- (A) Badminton
- (B) Chess
- (C) Table tennis
- (D) Golf

❖ Indian paddler **A. Sharath Kamal**, who won the Oman Open Challenge Plus last month, jumped seven places to 31 in the International Table Tennis Federation world rankings

❖ **Achanta Sharath Kamal is a professional table tennis player from Tamil Nadu, India.**

❖ He is the **first Indian table tennis player ever to become nine times Senior National Champion** hence breaking the record of eight times National Champion Kamlesh Mehta.

❖ **Recently he received the fourth highest civilian award, Padma Shri.**

187. Every year World Hemophilia Day is celebrated on-

- (A) April 17
- (B) April 16
- (C) April 14
- (D) April 1

❖ **World Hemophilia Day is observed on every 17 April.** This day tries to create awareness about Hemophilia internationally.



- ❖ The theme for the World Hemophilia Day 2020 is **Get +involved to carry the motive of the World Federation of Hemophilia- Treatment for all.**
- ❖ World Hemophilia Day marks the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel who is the founder of the World Federation of Hemophilia

188. The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFM) was established in-
(A) 1961
(B) 1962
(C) 1963
(D) 1964

- ❖ The World Federation of Hemophilia (WFM) was established in **1963 by Fran Schnable** to improve treatment and care for all the hemophiliac patients through this organisation. According to WFH, around one in 10,000 people are born with this disease.

189. Hemophilia, also known as the Royal Disease is genetic disorder is associated with—
(A) Extra copy of X-Chromosome
(B) Extra copy of Y-Chromosome
(C) Extra copy of 21-Chromosome
(D) Blood Clotting

- ❖ **Haemophilia** : This sex linked recessive disease, which shows its **transmission from unaffected carrier female to some of the male progeny.**
- ❖ In this disease, a single protein that is a part of the cascade of proteins involved in the **clotting of blood** is affected. Due to this, in an affected individual a simple cut will result in **non-stop bleeding.**

- ❖ The heterozygous female (carrier) for haemophilia may transmit the disease to sons.
- ❖ **The possibility of a female becoming a haemophilic is extremely rare because mother of such a female has to be at least carrier and the father should be haemophilic (unviable in the later stage of life).**
- ❖ The family pedigree of **Queen Victoria shows a number of haemophilic descendents** as she was a carrier of the disease

190. Which one among the following is not a Mendelian disorder?
(A) Haemophilia
(B) Sickle-cell anaemia
(C) Colour blindness
(D) Down's syndrome

❖ **Mendelian disorders-**

- Mendelian disorders are mainly determined by **alteration or mutation in the single gene.** These disorders are **transmitted to the offspring on the same lines.**
- Most common and prevalent Mendelian disorders are **Haemophilia, Cystic fibrosis, Sickle-cell anaemia, Colour blindness, Phenylketonuria, Thalassemia,** etc.
- Mendelian disorders may be dominant or recessive.

❖ **The chromosomal disorders**

- The chromosomal disorders on the other hand are caused **due to absence or excess or abnormal arrangement of one or more chromosomes.**
- Failure of segregation of chromatids during cell division cycle results in the gain or loss of a chromosome(s), called



aneuploidy. For example, Down's syndrome results in the gain of extra copy of chromosome 21. Similarly, Turner's syndrome results due to loss of an X chromosome in human females.

- Failure of cytokinesis after telophase stage of cell division results in an increase in a whole set of chromosomes in an organism and, this phenomenon is known as **polyploidy**. This condition is often seen in plants.
- The total number of chromosomes in a **normal human cell is 46 (23 pairs). Out of these 22 pairs are autosomes and one pair of chromosomes are sex chromosome.**
- Sometimes, though rarely, either an additional copy of a chromosome may be included in an individual or an individual may lack one of any one pair of chromosomes. These situations are known as **trisomy or monosomy of a chromosome, respectively.**
- Such a situation leads to very serious consequences in the individual. **Down's syndrome, Turner's syndrome, Klinefelter's syndrome are common examples of chromosomal disorders.**

191. Which one among the following is recently launched an e-learning programme — Reach and Teach — for nearly two lakh students in it's 600 primary schools?

- (A) South Delhi Municipal Corporation
- (B) Mumbai Municipal Corporation
- (C) Jaipur Municipal Corporation
- (D) Bhopal Municipal Corporation

- ❖ The **South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)** launched an e-learning programme — Reach and Teach — for nearly two lakh students in it's 600 primary schools.
- ❖ Under the programme, study material, including worksheets, videos and activities, will be sent to parents through WhatsApp, voice calls and sms or other forms of communication available at their homes, the SDMC said, adding that multiple groups have been formed to prepare the study material.
- ❖ **The programme will be monitored by the teachers who will assess its implementation by getting feedback from parents and students to ensure effectiveness.**

192. Agriculture Ministry has recently launched a mobile application, which will connect farmers and traders to a network of more than 5 lakh trucks and 20,000 tractors. What is the name of App?

- (A) Kisan Sathi
- (B) Kisan Rath
- (C) Krishi Rath
- (D) Krishi Sathi

- ❖ The Agriculture Ministry has launched a **Kisan Rath mobile application**, which will connect farmers and traders to a network of more than 5 lakh trucks and 20,000 tractors.



- ❖ The application, developed by the National Informatics Centre, is meant to help farmers and traders who are searching for vehicles to move produce. This includes **primary transport** from the farm to the mandis, local warehouses or the collection centres of farmer producer organisations, as well as the secondary transport from the local mandis to **intra-and inter-State mandis**, processing units, railway stations, warehouses or wholesalers.
- ❖ The application will lead to on-boarding of over 5 lakh trucks through transport aggregators as well as 20,000 tractors from the custom hiring centres run by farmer groups. **Refrigerated vehicles will also be available.**

193. Who wrote the famous book “The Old Man Who Read Love Stories”?

- (A) Isabel Allende
- (B) Khaled Hosseini
- (C) Luis Sepulveda
- (D) Charles Dickens

- ❖ Chilean author **Luis Sepulveda**, best known for **The Old Man Who Read Love Stories**, passed away of COVID-19 in a hospital in the Asturias region of Spain where he lived for several decades.

194. Which state/UT Government recently launched “Assess Koro Na” application to conduct door to door survey?

- (A) Chandigarh
- (B) Jammu and Kashmir
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Punjab

- ❖ The Delhi government has asked officials to use the new **‘Assess Koro Na’ app for door-to-door survey** in coronavirus containment zones to speed up decision-making by analysing real-time data, removing a major obstacle in the efforts to contain the virus.
- ❖ With this app, the data collected can be uploaded on the servers in real-time and immediately analyse.
- ❖ **The first phase of the app-based assessment will be launched in South Delhi.**

195. Which Organisation recently launched Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilization Survey (OBICUS)?

- (A) Reserve Bank of India
- (B) State Bank of India
- (C) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- (D) NITI Aayog

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India launched latest round of quarterly **order books, inventories and capacity utilisation survey (OBICUS)** of manufacturing sector.
- ❖ The survey provides valuable input for monetary policy formulation.
- ❖ It launched the **49th round** of survey for the reference period January-March 2020.
- ❖ The RBI has been conducting the OBICUS of the **manufacturing sector on a quarterly basis since 2008.**
- ❖ The Capacity Utilisation declined to 68.6% from 69.1%.



196. World Heritage Day also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites is observed annually on-

- (A) April 18
- (B) April 16
- (C) April 14
- (D) April 12

❖ **World Heritage Day also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites is observed annually on April 18.**

❖ The significance of the day is to promote cultural heritage through activities undertaken by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). **ICOMOS works closely with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisations (UNESCO)** for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage sites, it also helps UNESCO on World Heritage Sites.

❖ The first World Heritage Day was organised by the ICOMOS in **1982** but it only got approved by the UN General Assembly in the following year.

❖ ICOMOS has decided that the theme for this year's World Heritage Day would be "**Shared Culture, Shared Heritage and Shared Responsibility.**"

❖ **India has 38 heritage sites listed under the UNESCO's World Heritage Site list.**

197. Which one among the following is not part of UNESCO World Heritage Sites?

- (A) Ajanta Caves
- (B) Ellora Caves
- (C) Elephanta Caves
- (D) Bagh Caves

❖ There are a total of **38 heritage sites** in India. India ranks sixth in the largest number of heritage sites in the world.

❖ UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India

❖ **Cultural World Heritage Sites in India**

1. Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh
2. Hampi, Karnataka
- 3. Ajanta Caves, Maharashtra**
- 4. Ellora Caves, Maharashtra**
5. Bodh Gaya, Bihar
6. Sun Temple, Konark, Odisha
7. Red Fort Complex, Delhi
8. Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh
9. Chola Temples, Tamil Nadu
10. Group of Monuments in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu
11. Humayun's Tomb, New Delhi
12. Jantar Mantar, Jaipur, Rajasthan
13. Agra Fort, Uttar Pradesh
14. Fatehpur Sikri, Uttar Pradesh
15. Taj Mahal, Agra
16. Rani Ki Vav, Patan, Gujarat
17. Group of Monuments in Pattadakal, Karnataka
- 18. Elephanta Caves, Maharashtra**
19. Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University), Bihar
20. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus), Maharashtra
21. Mountain Railways of India
22. Qutub Minar and its Monuments, New Delhi

23. Champaner-Pavagadh
Archaeological Park, Gujarat
24. Hill Forts of Rajasthan
25. Churches and Convents of Goa
26. Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka,
Madhya Pradesh
27. The Victorian and Art Deco
Ensemble of Mumbai
28. The Pink City - Jaipur
29. The Historic City of Ahmedabad
30. Capitol Complex, Chandigarh

❖ **Natural World Heritage Sites in India**

1. Kaziranga Wild Life Sanctuary,
Assam
2. Sundarbans National Park,
West Bengal
3. Great Himalayan National
Park, Himachal Pradesh
4. Manas Wild Life Sanctuary,
Assam
5. Keoladeo National Park,
Bharatpur, Rajasthan
6. Nanda Devi and Valley of
Flowers National Parks,
Uttarakhand
7. Western Ghats

❖ **Cultural and Natural Mixed World Heritage Site in India**

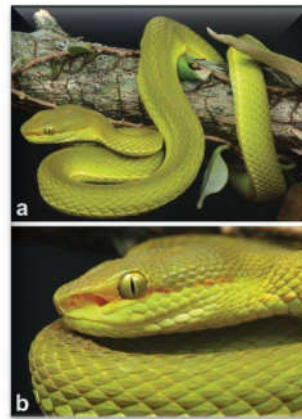
1. Khangchendzonga National
Park, Sikkim

198. A new species of green pit viper, *Trimeresurus salazar*, is recently found in which state?

- (A) Sikkim
- (B) Kerala
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Nagaland

- ❖ The new species, ***Trimeresurus salazar* is the fifth variety of reptile to have been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh in a little more than a year**

- ❖ A **new species of green pit viper** found in Arunachal Pradesh has a Harry Potter link.
- ❖ A group of researchers who recorded this serpent has named it Salazar's pit viper. **The name was inspired by Salazar Slytherin, the co-founder of J.K. Rowling's fictional Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.**
- ❖ **Pit vipers are venomous snakes distinguished by their heat-sensing pit organs between the eye and the nostril.**
- ❖ Salazar's pit viper belongs to the genus *Trimeresurus* Lacépède comprising "charismatic venomous serpents with morphologically as well as ecologically diverse species". **At least 48 species are known to be distributed across east and southeast Asia, of which at least 15 occur in India.**



199. 'Kepler-1649c' is recently in news. It is a

- (A) Earth-size exoplanet
- (B) New satellite launched by NASA
- (C) NASA's New mission of SUN
- (D) Asteroids



- ❖ NASA's Kepler space telescope, has discovered an **Earth-size exoplanet** orbiting in its star's habitable zone, the area around a star where a rocky planet could support liquid water.
- ❖ **Scientists discovered this planet, called Kepler-1649c.**
- ❖ This newly revealed world is **only 1.06 times larger than our own planet.** Also, the amount of starlight it receives from its host star is 75% of the amount of light Earth receives from our Sun – meaning the exoplanet's temperature may be similar to our planet's, as well. But unlike Earth, it orbits a red dwarf. **Though none have been observed in this system, this type of star is known for stellar flare-ups that may make a planet's environment challenging for any potential life.**

- 200. Which company recently became the first life insurance company to give additional benefits related to Covid-19?**
- (A) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
 - (B) Tata AIA Life Insurance
 - (C) Max Life Insurance
 - (D) SBI Life Insurance

- ❖ **Tata AIA becomes first life insurance Company to give additional benefits related to Covid-19.**
- ❖ All policyholders of Tata AIA will get an additional benefit equal to the base sum assured or **Rs 500,000** whichever is lower for valid death claims due to Covid-19.
- ❖ To extend the Circle of Protection to its own Agents, all 'active' Agents of Tata AIA Life Insurance along with their spouse and children will be reimbursed up to Rs 25,000 in case of hospitalisation due to COVID-19. **This is a first of its kind initiative in India.**
- ❖ This initiative covers individual policies only and is not applicable for lives covered under any group policy. It would be applicable on a unique customer basis and, therefore, a **customer owning multiple policies would be eligible for the additional benefit for one valid claim only.**

201. National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) is founded in which year?

- (A) 1977
- (B) 1979
- (C) 1981
- (D) 1983

- ❖ National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) under the **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers** is taking active part in distributing essential items like food, medicines and masks to support government in its effort to combat COVID-19.



- ❖ National Fertilizers Limited – **Miniratna Company** is an India state owned producer of chemical fertilizers, organic fertilizers and industrial chemicals. As of 2018, **it was the second largest producer of fertilizers in India.**
- ❖ **Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers- D V Sadanada Gowda**
- ❖ **Founded- 1 September 1979**
- ❖ **Headquarters- Noida, India**

202. Symbiosis Centre for Nanoscience & Nanotechnology (SCNN) is located at-

- (A) Pune
 - (B) Jaipur
 - (C) Jodhpur
 - (D) Shimla
-
- ❖ A team of key scientists from Symbiosis Centre for Nanoscience & Nanotechnology (SCNN), and Symbiosis School of Biological Sciences, **Pune**, have developed a technology based on the novel compound synthesized in the laboratory which is an antimicrobial coating.
 - ❖ The scientists believe that technology will successfully reduce SARS-CoV-2 load and if found to be active then it can be used to coat Personal Protective Equipment's (PPEs) kit materials such as masks, gowns, gloves, face shields used by medical staff.

203. Consider the following statements in reference to EDUSAT-

1. GSAT-3, known as EDUSAT is meant for distant class room education from school level to higher education.
2. This was the first dedicated "Educational Satellite" that provide the country with satellite based two way communication to class room for delivering educational materials.
3. This is a Geo-synchronous satellite.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

In Odisha, the government has decided to re-telecast the recorded videos of online EDUSAT classes for Class X students on Doordarshan in view of lockdown situation due to the COVID-19.

- ❖ **GSAT-3, known as EDUSAT is meant for distant class room education from school level to higher education. This was the first dedicated "Educational Satellite" that provide the country with satellite based two way communication to class room for delivering educational materials.**



- ❖ This is a **Geo-synchronous satellite** developed on I-2K bus. GSAT-3 was co-located with METSAT(KALPANA-1) and INSAT-3C at 74° E longitude.

204. Which one among the following monuments is not located in Delhi?

- (A) Red Fort
 - (B) Qutb Minar
 - (C) Humayun's Tomb
 - (D) Akbar's tomb
- ❖ Archaeological Survey of India's Delhi circle expressed gratitude for Corona Warriors by illuminating historical sites like **Red Fort, Qutb Minar & Humayun's Tomb** in a special way on the occasion of World Heritage Day in New Delhi.
 - ❖ At Red Fort, the candles (Diyas) were arranged in the shape of India's map with a message '**Hum Jitenge**'
 - ❖ At Qutb Minar, candles (Diyas) were arranged in the shape of house with a message '**Saty Home, Stay Safe**'.
 - ❖ At Humayun's Tomb, 41 candles were lighted in addition to the general illumination. **This symbolized our fight against CORONA outbreak for which 41 days of lockdown is being observed.**

- ❖ **Akbar's tomb is the tomb of the Mughal emperor Akbar. This tomb is an important Mughal architectural masterpiece. It was built in 1605–1613 by his son Jahangir and is situated in 119 acres of grounds in Sikandra, a sub of Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India.**

205. How many Intangible Cultural Heritage(ICH) traditions has been recognized by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity from India?

- (A) 11
- (B) 9
- (C) 13
- (D) 27

- ❖ Union Minister for Culture (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel launched the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of India in New Delhi .
- ❖ India houses a repository of unique Intangible Cultural Heritage(ICH) traditions, **13 of which have also been recognized by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.**
- ❖ Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity



S.No	ICH Element	Year of Inscription
1.	Tradition of Vedic chanting	2008
2.	Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana	2008
3.	Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre	2008
4.	Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India	2009
5.	Mudiyettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala	2010
6.	Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan	2010
7.	Chhau dance	2010
8.	Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir, India	2012
9.	Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur	2013
10.	Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab, India	2014
11.	Yoga	2016
12.	Nawrouz	2016
13.	Kumbh Mela	2017

206. CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) is located at-

- (A) Mysore
- (B) Pune
- (C) Dehradun
- (D) Chandigarh

❖ The Mysuru-based CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) has

made available high-protein biscuits to the COVID-19 patients undergoing treatment in the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), New Delhi.

❖ CFTRI supplied 500 kg of high-protein biscuits and 500 kg of high-protein rusks to the Dietetics department of AIIMS

to supply to the patients. The biscuits were supplied on request from the officials of the Institute.

❖ The biscuits contain 14% of protein while usual biscuits contain around 8-9% protein.

❖ The biscuits are being manufactured in **Noida, Uttar Pradesh, by Seven Seas Private Limited** based on the formulation developed by CSIR-CFTRI. The logistic support to supply to the needy is being provided by the Indian Society of Agricultural Professionals, New Delhi.



207. Consider the following statements in context of FDI policy of India-

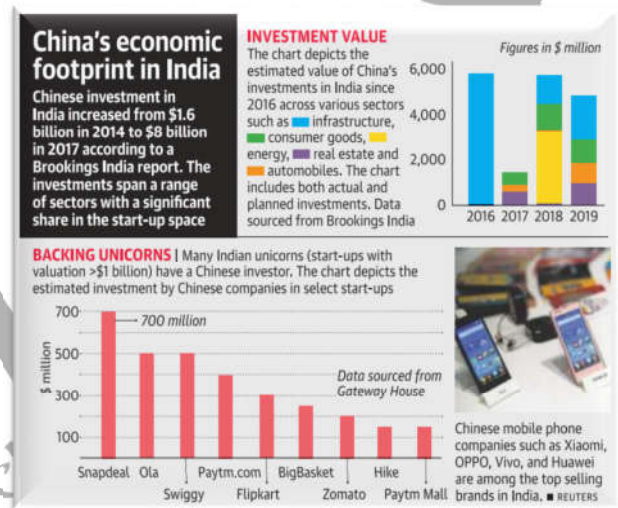
1. The Centre has made prior government approval mandatory for foreign direct investments from countries which share a land border with India.
2. The revised FDI policy is aimed at curbing opportunistic takeovers/acquisitions of Indian companies due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
 (B) 2 only
 (C) 1 and 2 both
 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ In a move that will restrict Chinese investments, the **Centre has made prior government approval mandatory for foreign direct investments from countries which share a land border with India.**
- ❖ Previously, only investments from Pakistan and Bangladesh faced such restrictions.
- ❖ The revised FDI policy is aimed at **“curbing opportunistic takeovers/acquisitions of Indian companies due to the current COVID-19 pandemic,”** said a press release from the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**
- ❖ A non-resident entity can invest in India, subject to the FDI Policy except in those sectors/activities which are prohibited

- ❖ an entity of a country, which shares land border with India or where the beneficial owner of an investment into India is situated in or is a citizen of any such country, **can invest only under the Government route**
- ❖ **India shares land borders with Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar.** Investors from countries not covered by the new policy only have to inform the RBI after a transaction rather than asking for prior permission from the relevant government department.



208. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?

- (A) Bagh Caves- Odisha
 (B) Pandavleni Caves- Gujarat
 (C) Edakkal caves – Kerala
 (D) Elephanta Caves – Karnataka

- ❖ **Edakkal caves are located in Kerala.** A huge crack has recently developed on the **eastern part of Ambukuthi hills**, on which the Edakkal caves are situated.



- ❖ The **Elephanta Caves** are located on island hills about 11 km north-east of the **Apollo Bandar, Mumbai** and 7 km from the shore of the mainland.
- ❖ **The Nasik Caves, or sometimes Pandavleni Caves located in Maharashtra are a group of 24 caves carved between the 2nd century BCE and the 2nd century CE, representing the Hinayana Buddhist caves.**
- ❖ The **Bagh Caves** are a group of nine rock-cut monuments, situated among the southern slopes of the **Vindhyas in Bagh town of Dhar district in Madhya Pradesh state in central India.**

209. in a global compilation of reports of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) found online, which country stands right on top of the list?

- (A) Pakistan (B) India
- (C) Bangladesh (D) Nepal
- ❖ In a global compilation of reports of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) found online, **India stands right on top of the list, with 11.7% of the total reports or at 19.87 lakh reports, followed by Pakistan, which contributes 6.8% of all reports (11.5 lakh reports). Bangladesh comes in fourth with 5.5 lakh reports and a share of 3.3%.**
- ❖ The National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) urges people to report CSAM found online across the world annually, **on their online platform CyberTipline.**

210. "Patola" is a

- (A) Phulkari embroidery made Saree of Punjab
- (B) Double ikat woven sari of silk made in Patan, Gujarat.
- (C) jalli- work of Lucknow on cloth
- (D) Banjara embroidery of a mix of applique with mirrors and beadwork of Madhya Pradesh.

❖ **Manipur's tradition of making rice beer**, the practice of tying turbans in Rajasthan and several different dances, forms of music and festivals from across the country were among the **106 items listed as intangible cultural heritage in a draft released by the Union Culture Ministry**

❖ **Gujarat's Patola silk textiles from Patan with its geometric and figurative patterns also made it to the list.** The practice of tying a turban or safa across Rajasthan was included.

❖ From Jammu and Kashmir, the Kalam Bhat or **Qalambaft gharana of Sufiana music** in Budgam district and from Ladakh, the Buddhist chanting across both Leh and Kargil districts were on the list of intangible cultural heritage.

❖ The making of khor, a rice beer, by the Tangkhul community in Manipur as well as other crafts associated with it, like making gourd vessels and wicker baskets, were also on the list.

❖ **Kerala's martial art form, Kalaripayattu**, and the practice of making designs at the entrance of homes and temples called kolam in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh were also included in the list.



- ❖ Different forms of **shadow puppet theatre** — **Chamadyacha Bahulya** in Maharashtra, **Tolu Bommalatta** in Andhra Pradesh and **Tamil Nadu**, **Togalu Gombeyatta** in Karnataka, **Talpava Kuthu** in Kerala and **Ravanchhaya** in Odisha — have also been included.
- ❖ The list includes the **traditional folk festival of Pachoti** in Assam, where the birth of a baby, particularly a male infant as the tradition “relates to the birth of Krishna”, is celebrated with relatives and neighbours, according to the ministry.
- ❖ The oral traditions of the transgender community called **Kinnar Kanthgeet** and compositions of **Ameer Khusro** are among the entries from Delhi.

211. The 'Team Mask Force' has been created to spread awareness about wearing masks in public places. 'Team Mask Force' is created by-

- (A) Board of Control for Cricket in India
 - (B) All India Football Federation
 - (C) Badminton Association of India
 - (D) Indian Olympic Association
- ❖ The 'Team Mask Force' has been created by **BCCI** to spread awareness about wearing masks in public places.
 - ❖ The 'Team Mask Force' video has messages from **Virat Kohli, Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Smriti Mandhana, Rohit Sharma, Harbhajan Singh, Harmanpreet Kaur, Virender Sehwag, Rahul Dravid and Mithali Raj**, all of them speaking about the importance of wearing masks and following the directives of the government in this fight.

212. Facebook recently announced the launch of its third party fact checking system in Bangladesh to discourage the spread of fake news in the country. Facebook started its fact-checking programme in-

- (A) 2011
- (B) 2013
- (C) 2016
- (D) 2018

- ❖ Facebook recently announced the launch of its third party fact checking system in Bangladesh to discourage the spread of fake news in the country.
- ❖ Facebook in partnership with **Boom Fact check** will review and rate the stories, including photos and videos.
- ❖ **When third party fact-checkers rate a post as false or fake, it will appear less or at the bottom of news feed. This will reduce the spread of the post.**
- ❖ **Boom is an Indian fact checking website** which is available in English, Hindi and Bengali.
- ❖ **Facebook started its fact-checking programme in 2016** and now it covers 60 partners in 50 languages.

213. With reference to National Bio-Pharma Mission, Consider the following statements-

1. It was launched in 2017.
2. It is being implemented by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
3. Innovate in India (i3) programme is part of this Mission.



which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

- ❖ Department of Biotechnology, DBT and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, **BIRAC** had invited applications on COVID-19 Research Consortium.
- ❖ A multi-faceted approach is being adopted to ensure that vaccine candidates utilizing different platforms and at different stages of development are fast tracked through this Research Consortium which receives funding from National Bio-Pharma Mission.
- ❖ **National Bio-Pharma Mission**
- ❖ The National Biopharma Mission (NBM) is an industry-academia collaborative mission for accelerating biopharmaceutical development in the country.
 - **It was launched in 2017** at a total cost of Rs 1500 crore and is 50% co-funded by World Bank loan.
 - It is being implemented by the **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)**.
 - Under this Mission, the Government has launched **Innovate in India (i3) programme** to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the biopharma sector.

214. The UN Chinese Language Day is observed annually on –

- (A) April 22
- (B) April 20
- (C) April 24
- (D) April 21

- ❖ The UN Chinese Language Day is observed annually on **April 20**. This event is celebrated every year by the UNESCO.
- ❖ It was **first observed in 2010** by the organisation to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six of its official working languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) through the organisation.
- ❖ The first UN Chinese Language Day was held on November 12, 2010. In 2011, the date was moved to April 20.
- ❖ **The UN Chinese Language Day is celebrated on April 20 to honour Cang Jie, a mythical figure who is presumed to have invented Chinese characters about 5000 years ago.**
- ❖ The date of April 20 roughly corresponds to Guyu is the Chinese calendar. Chinese people celebrate Guyu in honour of Cangjie because when Cangjie invented Chinese characters, the deities and ghosts cried and it rained millet. **The word 'Guyu' literally means 'rain of millet'.**
- ❖ Traditionally, it is believed that the indigenous speech of the Han majority in China, Chinese, **forms one of the branches of the Sino-Tibetan language family** and is now spoken by many Chinese ethnic groups.



215. There are six official languages of the UN. which one among the following is not one of them?

- (A) Arabic
- (B) English
- (C) Chinese
- (D) Japanese

❖ There are six official languages of the UN. **They are Arabic, English, Chinese, Russian, Spanish and French.**

216. Consider the following statements in context of leatherback sea turtles -

1. Leatherbacks are the world's largest sea turtles.
2. They are listed as a vulnerable species globally by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

❖ **Thailand** has found the largest number of nests of rare leatherback sea turtles in two decades on beaches bereft of tourists because of the novel coronavirus pandemic.

❖ Leatherbacks are the **world's largest sea turtles**. They are considered **endangered in Thailand**, and listed as a **vulnerable species globally by the International Union for Conservation of Nature**.

❖ **They lay their eggs in dark and quiet areas**, scarce when tourists thronged the beaches. People have also been known to dig into their nests and steal eggs.

217. Which state recently became the first state to geo-tag community kitchens?

- (A) Madhya Pradesh
- (B) Punjab
- (C) Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Kerala

❖ **Uttar Pradesh** has become the first state in the country to geotag its 7,368 community kitchens and community shelters across 75 districts which produce 12 lakh food packets a day.

❖ The state government has also tied up with **Google** to 'Geo-map' the locations of all these establishments on the Google Maps app for ease of beneficiaries

218. Which one of the following elements is not produced in the big bang nucleosynthesis (BBN)?

- (A) Hydrogen
- (B) Helium
- (C) Lithium
- (D) Oxygen

❖ **Researchers at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA)**, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, have **discovered hundreds of Li-rich giant stars indicating that Li is being produced in the stars and accounts for its abundance in the interstellar medium**.

❖ They have also associated such Li enhancement with **central He-burning stars, also known as red clump giants**, thereby opening up new vistas in the evolution of the red giant stars.



- ❖ **Lithium (Li), is one of the three primordial elements, apart from Hydrogen and Helium (He),** produced in the big bang nucleosynthesis (BBN)
- ❖ In general, stars are considered as Li sinks. This means that the original Li, with which stars are born, only gets depleted over stars' life-time as Li burns at relatively very low temperatures of about 2.5×10^6 K – a range which is easily encountered in stars.

219. Demo-2 mission, is recently in news, in context of-

- (A) NASA
- (B) Roscosmos
- (C) ISRO
- (D) JAXA

- ❖ **NASA** recently announced that it will launch its flight of astronauts on May 27, 2020. This is the first flight of NASA in 9 years. **The Demo-2 mission will use a Falcon 9 rocket (also built by SpaceX) to launch.**
- ❖ SpaceX launched its first uncrewed test flight to the International Space Station in March 2019. While that flight, called Demo-1, was a success, the capsule used on the mission was destroyed a month later during ground-based tests of the abort engine designed to protect astronauts during a launch emergency.

220. Which state recently became the first zero COVID-19 State in the country?

- (A) Manipur
- (B) Goa
- (C) Tripura
- (D) Kerala

- ❖ **Goa recently became the first zero COVID-19 State in the country with the last seven cases also testing negative.**
- ❖ This makes Goa the first green State in the country with no case of COVID-19 being reported from April 3.
- ❖ Goa is now COVID-19-free, all seven patients have tested negative.

221. The Civil Services Day is celebrated on

- (A) April 21
- (B) April 25
- (C) April 27
- (D) April 29

- ❖ The Civil Services Day is celebrated on **April 21**. The day celebrated all the civil servants who dedicate their lives to the cause of citizen. The day aims at renewing their commitments to public service and excellence in work.
- ❖ It was this day when **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of Independent India, gave an address to the probationers of Administrative Services Officers at Metcalf House, Delhi in the year 1947.**
- ❖ The first celebration of Civil Services Day was held on April 21, 2006, as Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

222. Who called the civil servants as the 'steel frame of India'?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- (C) Mahatma Gandhi
- (D) Rajendra Prasad



- ❖ When **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, the first Home Minister of Independent India, gave an address to the probationers of Administrative Services Officers at Metcalf House, Delhi in the year 1947, **He aptly called the civil servants as the 'steel frame of India'**.

223. Who has been recently appointed as the Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind?

- (A) Rajiv Gauba
- (B) V. P. Joy
- (C) Kapil Dev Tripathi
- (D) Amandeep Garg

- ❖ Former IAS officer **Kapil Dev Tripathi** has been appointed as the Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr Tripathi as Secretary to the President on contract basis, for a term co-terminus with the tenure of the President.

- ❖ Mr Tripathi, a 1980 batch IAS officer (Retired) of **Assam-Meghalaya cadre**, is at present the **Chairman of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)**.

224. Which Ministry has recently launched a dashboard on its website to provide details of Dhabas and Truck?

- (A) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- (B) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- (C) Ministry of Rural Development
- (D) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

- ❖ **Road Transport and Highways Ministry** has launched a dashboard on its website to provide details of Dhabas and Truck. The list can be accessed at www.morth.nic.in.

- ❖ This is intended to facilitate travel of truck and cargo drivers and cleaners. A regular contact is being maintained with various stake holders providing information.

- ❖ National Highway Authority of **India's centralized call number 1033** has also been activated to answer calls and provide information about the dhabaas and repair shops along National Highways.

225. National Aluminum Company (NALCO) and Coal India subsidiary Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) have decided to fund two dedicated COVID-19 hospitals in which state?

- (A) Odisha
- (B) Bihar
- (C) Madhya Pradesh
- (D) Jharkhand

- ❖ **National Aluminum Company (NALCO) and Coal India subsidiary Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) have decided to fund two dedicated COVID-19 hospitals in Odisha.**

- ❖ The two hospitals were inaugurated today by Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Minister of Coal & Mines Pralhad Joshi along with Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik through Video Conferencing.



- ❖ NALCO will fully fund a 200-bedded hospital set up at Nabarangpur district of Odisha whereas MCL will fund the 150-bedded hospital started at Talcher in Angul district of the state.

226. The term “Easter Sunday attacks” sometimes visible in newspapers, in context of-

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Sri Lanka
- (C) France
- (D) Iraq

- ❖ **Sri Lanka is observing first anniversary of Easter Sunday attacks** though no public events have been planned in view of the COVID-19 crisis.

- ❖ Over 270 people including dozens of foreigners were killed on this day when suicide bombers carried out coordinated attacks on three high end hotels in Colombo and three churches across the country.

227. Assorted Condiments kit scheme is recently in news in context of which state?

- (A) Punjab
- (B) Kerala
- (C) Tamil Nadu
- (D) Uttar Pradesh

- ❖ **The Assorted Condiments kit scheme of the Tamil Nadu State Government** was inaugurated by the State Cooperative department Minister Shri Selluor K Raju in Madurai.

- ❖ 10 lakh kits have been prepared, each containing 19 condiments that are used widely in the state.

- ❖ The kits will be sold at the rate of Rs 500.00 through ration shops and co-operative outlets.

228. Chief Minister COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana is related to which state?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Uttar Pradesh
- (D) Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ In **Madhya Pradesh**, around one lakh Anganwadi workers and Assistants of the state will get the benefit of Chief Minister **COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana**.

- ❖ Under this initiative, they will also get a **special health insurance cover of Rs 50 lakhs**. It is noteworthy that special insurance scheme has been launched by the Central Government for health workers who are fighting against COVID-19 epidemic.

- ❖ State Government has already asked the Collector of all the districts to declare the Anganwadi workers and assistants eligible under the Chief Minister COVID-19 Yoddha Kalyan Yojana because of their exposure and active role in fight against corona virus.

229. New Development Bank (NDB) is related to which group of countries?

- (A) SAARC
- (B) ASEAN
- (C) BIMSTEC
- (D) BRICS



- ❖ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman appreciated efforts of **New Development Bank** on fast tracking of financial assistance of about five billion dollars to BRICS countries including Emergency Assistance of one billion dollar to India to combat COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ NDB has so far approved **14 Indian projects for an amount of 4,183 million dollar**. The purpose of the Bank is to mobilise resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in **BRICS** and other emerging market economies and developing countries to complement the existing efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global growth and development.

230. Headquarters of New Development Bank is located at-

- (A) Shanghai
 - (B) Johannesburg
 - (C) New Delhi
 - (D) Fortaleza
- ❖ New Development Bank was established by the **BRICS countries -Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa in 2014**.
 - ❖ During the sixth BRICS Summit in **Fortaleza (2014)**, the leaders signed the Agreement establishing the New Development Bank (NDB).
 - ❖ **The bank is headquartered in Shanghai, China.**
 - ❖ **The first regional office of the NDB is in Johannesburg, South Africa**

- ❖ **On 11 May 2015, K. V. Kamath was appointed as the President of the bank.**

231. Pakke Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- (A) Assam
- (B) Tripura
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Odisha

- ❖ **Trimeresurus salazar or Salazar's pit viper — a bright green snake discovered slithering in the forests of Arunachal Pradesh — named after a character in author JK Rowling's cult Harry Potter series. It is discovered in Pakke Tiger Reserve.**

- ❖ Pakke Tiger Reserve (declared in 1999 - 2000) lies in the foothills of the eastern Himalaya in the East Kameng district of **Arunachal Pradesh**. It is also known as **Pakhui Tiger Reserve**.

- ❖ It falls within the **Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspot**.
- ❖ It is known for its amazing sightings of four resident hornbill species.

232. What is the position of India in World Press Freedom Index 2020?

- (A) 142
- (B) 40
- (C) 132
- (D) 30

- ❖ India has dropped two places on the 2020 World Press Freedom Index and is now ranked **142 out of a total 180 countries**.
- ❖ India's position in this year's index, the report said, is **heavily affected by the situation in Kashmir**.



233. Which organisation releases World Press Freedom Index?

- (A) Amnesty International
- (B) Doctors Without Borders
- (C) Reporters Without Borders
- (D) Greenpeace

- ❖ The World Press Freedom Index 2020 is released by **Reporters Without Borders**.
- ❖ Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF), or Reporters Without Borders, is a non-profit organisation that works to document and combat attacks on journalists around the world.
- ❖ **Founded: 1985, Montpellier, France**
Headquarters: Paris, France
- ❖ Director General: Christophe Deloire; (since July 2012)



234. Which country is ranked first in the World Press Freedom Index 2020?

- (A) Iceland
- (B) Norway
- (C) Finland
- (D) Sweden

- ❖ **Norway** leads the list fourth year in a row.

235. Which country is ranked last in the World Press Freedom Index 2020?

- (A) Israel
- (B) Eritrea
- (C) North Korea
- (D) Pakistan

- ❖ **North Korea** is ranked in the last place.



236. A mobile application named Saiyam has been developed by –

- (A) Pune Municipal Corporation
- (B) Indore Municipal Corporation
- (C) Bhopal Municipal Corporation
- (D) Jaipur Municipal Corporation

- ❖ In order to effectively track the home-quarantines citizens and ensure they are actually staying in the home, a mobile application named **Saiyam has been developed by the Pune Municipal Corporation under Smart Cities Mission (SCM)**.
- ❖ The Mobile Application has **GPS tracking** so that whenever quarantined citizens leave their homes, City Administration gets alerted and the local ward or the local police station gets informed, who then visit the family.



- ❖ Citizens' movements can be monitored centrally real-time from the monitoring cell and are marked as Red, Amber or Green. **Red** signifies that the person has ventured out for longer duration; **Yellow** signifies that the person has limited movements and **Green** signifies that the person is confined to house limits.

237. Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan is related to which state?

- (A) West Bengal
 - (B) Maharashtra
 - (C) Rajasthan
 - (D) Gujarat
- ❖ **Gujarat** Chief Minister Vijay Rupani gave the green signal for the third edition of his government's '**Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan**', a **conservation plan to deepen water bodies in the state before monsoon.**
 - ❖ The scheme, which will continue till June 10, will see the deepening of lakes, check dams and rivers by removing silt, and it will be done with people's participation as well as under MNREGA.
 - ❖ **The scheme was started in 2018** after a weak monsoon, and till date, the state's water storage capacity has increased by 23,000 lakh cubic feet

238. Which Ministry has recently launched 'COVID India Seva' for establishing a direct channel of communication with millions of Indians during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic?

- (A) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- (B) Ministry of AYUSH
- (C) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (D) Ministry of Science and Technology

- ❖ **Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare**, Dr Harsh Vardhan launched the **COVID India Seva**, which provided an interactive platform to establish a direct channel of communication with millions of Indians amid the pandemic.

- ❖ This initiative is aimed at **enabling transparent e-governance delivery in real-time and answering citizen queries swiftly**, at scale, especially in crisis situations like the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

239. Every year World Earth Day is celebrated on

- (A) April 20
- (B) April 22
- (C) April 24
- (D) April 26

- ❖ Every year World Earth Day is celebrated on **April 22**. The day is celebrated to demonstrate environmental protection. **It is being celebrated since 1970.**
- ❖ The day was proposed by peace activist **John McConnell** in 1970. The day is celebrated by World Earth Day Network.
- ❖ **On the World Earth Day, 2016, the famous Paris Agreement was signed by more than 120 countries.**
- ❖ This year the **50th anniversary of World Earth Day** is celebrated through digital mobilizations.



240. What is the theme of World Earth Day 2020?

- (A) Save our species
- (B) Climate Action
- (C) End Plastic Pollution
- (D) Environmental and Climate Literacy

World Earth Day	Theme
2020	Climate Action
2019	Save our species
2018	End Plastic Pollution
2017	Environmental and Climate Literacy

241. Which country has recently become the first Arab country to legalise cannabis farming for medical and industrial purposes?

- (A) Iran
- (B) Lebanon
- (C) Saudi Arabia
- (D) Pakistan

- ❖ **Lebanon** has become the **first Arab country** to legalise cannabis farming for medical and industrial purposes – a move that could generate lucrative exports and foreign currency as the country struggles to cope with a financial crisis.
- ❖ According to the United Nations, the country is the **world's third largest supplier of cannabis resin, or hashish, after Morocco and Afghanistan.**

242. Which country is not part of Golden Crescent?

- (A) Afghanistan
- (B) Iran
- (C) Pakistan
- (D) Myanmar

❖ The **Golden Crescent** is the name given to one of Asia's two principal areas of illicit opium production (with the other being the Golden Triangle), located at the crossroads of Central, South, and Western Asia. **This space overlaps three nations, Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan, whose mountainous peripheries define the crescent.**

❖ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) heroin production estimates for the past 10 years show significant changes in the primary source areas. **In 1991, Afghanistan became the world's primary opium producer, with a yield of 1,782 metric tons (U.S. State Department estimates), surpassing Myanmar, formerly the world leader in opium production.**

243. Which country is not part of Golden Triangle?

- (A) Thailand
- (B) Myanmar
- (C) Laos
- (D) Mexico

❖ The **Golden Triangle** is the area where the borders of **Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar** meet at the confluence of the Ruak and Mekong rivers. The name "**Golden Triangle**"—coined by the **CIA**—is commonly used more broadly to refer to an area of approximately 950,000 square kilometres (367,000 sq mi) that overlaps the mountains of the three adjacent countries.



244. Indian shuttler PV Sindhu is named as one of the ambassadors for its 'I am badminton' awareness campaign. This campaign is launched by-

- (A) Badminton World Federation
- (B) World Athletics
- (C) Badminton Association of India
- (D) Badminton Asia

❖ **The Badminton World Federation (BWF)** named Indian shuttler PV Sindhu as one of the ambassadors for its 'I am badminton' awareness campaign.

❖ The campaign provides a platform for which players are able to express their love and respect for badminton by advocating and committing to clean and honest play.

❖ Besides Sindhu, other players included are **Canada's Michelle Li, the Chinese duo of Zheng Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiong, England's Jack Shephard, Germany's Valeska Knoblach, Hong Kong's Chan Ho Yuen and Germany's Marc Zwiebler who is in Athletes' Commission Chair.**

245. Which organisation has recently launched a series called Lockdown Learners, which creates an e-dialogue for students and teachers of India?

- (A) United Nations Development Programme
- (B) UNICEF
- (C) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes
- (D) World Trade Organization

❖ **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)** has launched a 'Lockdown Learners' series of online dialogues with students and educators in India on COVID-19 and its impact on Sustainable Development Goals, peace and rule of law.

❖ **The dialogues have been launched by the United Nations body under its flagship Education for Justice initiative.**

❖ Through these dialogues, the aim is to sensitise students on concerns of vulnerable groups and emerging issues such as cybercrime, misinformation, gender-based violence, discrimination, corruption among others

❖ The Lockdown Learners series also provides a platform for students to receive mentorship and knowledge support through activity-based learning, and use their talent and skills to promote awareness and share their ideas and solutions to address some of these problems

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

❖ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is a United Nations office that was established in 1997 as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

❖ **Headquarters : Vienna, Austria**

❖ **Founded: 1997**

246. Apthamitra mobile app is recently in news, in context of which state?

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



- ❖ In a bid to empower people in the fight against COVID-19, **Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa** launched Apthamitra helpline with an exclusive toll free No: 14410 and Apthamitra mobile app.
- ❖ The main intention behind launching them is to reach out to people to help identify those having **influenza-like illness (ILI), Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)**, COVID-19-like symptoms or having high risk of getting infected.
- ❖ The two platforms also intend to identify persons with low risk but having some symptoms similar to COVID-19 and provide them telemedicine support with over-the-counter medicines and counsel them about the need to go through self-quarantine.
- ❖ **The app is for those with smartphones for seeking advice for telemedicine from doctors directly.**

247. VidyaDaan 2.0 program is related to-

- (A) Defence
 - (B) Education
 - (C) Agriculture
 - (D) Water Conservation
- ❖ The Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal'Nishank' e-launched **VidyaDaan 2.0 program for inviting e-learning content contributions in New Delhi**.
 - ❖ The **DIKSHA Platform** of MHRD has been operating since September 2017 with 30+ States/UTs leveraging DIKSHA for augmenting teaching and learning processes. With the

unprecedented crisis due to the spread of the Novel Coronavirus and Covid-19 impacting upon school and higher education in many different ways, it is the right time and opportunity for all user states/UTs to strengthen their e-learning content for school and higher education on DIKSHA and leverage its potential use by students and teachers of your states/UTs.

- ❖ VidyaDaan has a content contribution tool that provides a structured interface for the contributors to register and contribute different types of content (such as, explanation videos, presentations, competency-based items, quizzes etc.), for any grade **(from grade 1 to 12), for any subject as specified by the states/UTs.**

248. World Book Day 2020 is celebrated on-

- (A) April 21
- (B) April 23
- (C) April 25
- (D) April 27

- ❖ **April 23** was chosen as it is a symbolic date for World Book Day. It is on this date in **1616 that Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died**
- ❖ It is organised by United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ❖ The date was decided upon at the UNESCO's General Conference, held in Paris in 1995, to pay a world-wide tribute to books and authors.



249. Which city is selected for 'World Book Capital for 2020'?

- (A) Sharjah
- (B) Athens
- (C) Kuala Lumpur
- (D) Dubai

- ❖ This year, the 'World Book Capital for 2020' is Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.
- ❖ The city was selected for its "strong focus on inclusive education, the development of a knowledge-based society and accessible reading for all parts of the city's population," UNESCO said.

World Book Capital cities		
Year	City	Country
2017	Conakry	Republic of Guinea
2018	Athens	Greece
2019	Sharjah	UAE
2020	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia

250. Van Dhan Samajik Doori Jagrookta Abhiyaan is associated with which organisation?

- (A) TRIFED
- (B) Press Information Bureau
- (C) Press Trust of India
- (D) Asian News International

- ❖ **Van Dhan Samajik Doori Jagrookta Abhiyaan** - Educating Tribals through ~15,000 Self Help Groups under Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana spread across 28 States/UTs. **TRIFED teamed up with UNICEF and WHO for launching a digital campaign spreading awareness about the importance of social distancing** amid the coronavirus crisis in India.

- ❖ UNICEF is providing the necessary IEC materials (posters, flyers, leaflets, brochures, booklets, messages for health education sessions, radio broadcast or TV spots etc) for the campaign christened as "**Van Dhan Samajik Doori Jagrookta Abhiyaan OR Van Dhan Social Distancing Awareness Movement**".
- ❖ Extensive outreach through Train of Trainer Programs and Webinars focused on basic orientation on covid-19 response, key preventive behaviour, social media campaigns on social distancing, home quarantine has been initiated.

251. The National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated every year on

- (A) April 21
- (B) April 22
- (C) April 23
- (D) April 24

- ❖ The National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated every year on **April 24**.
- ❖ This annual celebration is done in order to commemorate the historic day on which the Constitution Act (**73rd Amendment**) passed in 1992. However, it came into existence a year later on **April 24, 1993**. Hence, each year to celebrate the **inception of decentralised power National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated**.
- ❖ India's former Prime Minister started commemorating the Panchayati Raj Day since **the year 2010, which was the first National Panchayati Raj Day**.



252. Panchayats were looked upon as instruments of-

- (A) Decentralisation
- (B) Participatory democracy
- (C) Direct Democracy
- (D) a and b both

❖ Democracy is about meaningful **participation**. It is also about accountability. Strong and vibrant local governments ensure both active participation and purposeful accountability.

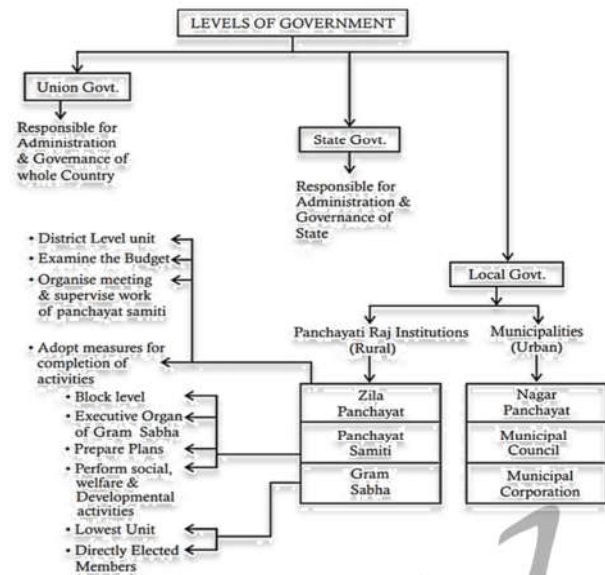
❖ **BALWANT RAI MEHTA COMMITTEE** submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of '**democratic decentralisation**', which ultimately came to be known as Panchayati Raj.

253. The 73rd Amendment is related to-

- (A) rural local governments
- (B) urban local government
- (C) a and b both
- (D) none of these

❖ **73rd Amendment Act Of 1992**

❖ This act has **added a new Part-IX** to the Constitution of India. This part is entitled as '**The Panchayats**' and consists of **provisions from Articles 243 to 243 O**. In addition, the act has also added a **new Eleventh Schedule** to the Constitution. This schedule **contains 29 functional items** of the panchayats. **It deals with Article 243-G**.



254. Panchayat Raj was first introduced in India in October, 1959 in

- (A) Rajasthan
- (B) Tamil Nadu
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Karnataka

❖ **In 1959, Rajasthan became the first state, wherein the Panchayati Raj system was executed.** Inauguration of the Panchayati Raj was done on **2nd October 1959** in **Nagaur district** by our first PM Jawaharlal Nehru. Rajasthan was followed by **Andhra Pradesh**, which also adopted the system in 1959.

255. India's first Mobile Virology Diagnostics and Research Laboratory is recently inaugurated in which city?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Hyderabad
- (C) Mumbai
- (D) Pune

❖ Unique and first of its kind facility in the country, a **Mobile Virology Diagnostics and Research Laboratory** has been inaugurated in **Hyderabad** at the ESI medical college.



- ❖ This Lab has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India in collaboration with ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Sanathnagar (Hyderabad) with due permission of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Govt. of Telangana.
- ❖ It is named as “**Mobile BSL-3 VRDL Lab**”.

256. Consider the following statements in context of Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)-

1. It is an autonomous technology think tank under the Department of Science & Technology (DST).
2. It was set up in 1988.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ Recently TIFAC has planned to come up with a white paper on strategising revival of Indian economy after COVID-19.
- ❖ The key focus is reported to be on strengthening Make in India initiatives, commercialization of Indigenous technology, developing a technology-driven transparent Public Distribution System (PDS) among others.
- ❖ **TIFAC is an autonomous organization set up in 1988 under the Department of Science & Technology** to look ahead in technology domain, assess the technology

trajectories, and support innovation by networked actions in select areas of national importance. TIFAC continues to strive for technology development in the country by leveraging technology innovation through sustained and concerted programmes in close association with industry and academia.

- ❖ **Technology Vision 2035 is prepared by TIFAC.**

257. The last week of April is observed as World Immunisation Week every year that is from 24 April to 30 April. What is the theme of World Immunisation Week 2020?

- (A) #VaccinesWork for All
- (B) Protected Together
- (C) #VaccinesWork
- (D) Close the immunization gap

- ❖ The UAE is going to participate in celebrating the annual World Immunisation Week launched by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- ❖ **World Immunization Week – celebrated in the last week of April (24 to 30 April)** – aims to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease.
- ❖ The theme this year is **#VaccinesWork for All** and the campaign will focus on how vaccines – and the people who develop, deliver and receive them – are heroes by working to protect the health of everyone, everywhere.



258. WHO has designated which year as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife?

- (A) 2019
- (B) 2018
- (C) 2020
- (D) 2021

- ❖ This is in news in context of World Immunisation Week 2020.
- ❖ **The World Health Organization (WHO) has designated 2020 as the “Year of the Nurse and Midwife”, in honour of the 200th birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale.**
- ❖ The year 2020 is significant for WHO in the context of nursing and midwifery strengthening for Universal Health Coverage. WHO is leading the development of the first-ever State of the World’s Nursing report which will be launched in 2020, prior to the 73rd World Health Assembly.

259. Which country recently launched its first military satellite “Noor”?

- (A) North Korea
- (B) Iraq
- (C) Pakistan
- (D) Iran

- ❖ Amidst tension with the US, **Iran had recently successfully launched its first military satellite “Noor”**, which means light was successfully put into orbit. The satellite was launched from three-stage carrier Ghased and was placed in 425-km orbit.

260. Sudarsanam Babu, is recently in news in context of-

- (A) Appointed as a member of the National Science Board of USA
- (B) Appointed as director of ICMR
- (C) Appointed as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court
- (D) Appointed as a brand ambassador of WHO in India

- ❖ US President Donald Trump recently appointed **Indian-American Sudarsanam Babu to country's top science board.**
- ❖ Babu, who is from the prestigious Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), has been appointed as a member of the National Science Board for a six-year term.
- ❖ Babu would be the third Indian American in this prestigious board. The other two being **Sethuraman Panchanathan** from the Arizona State University and **Suresh V Garimella** from University of Vermont.

261. Tripura has recently become second state Corona-free in the North-eastern region. Which state was the first state of North-eastern region that was declared Corona-free?

- (A) Manipur
- (B) Nagaland
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Assam

- ❖ In Tripura, the sample of the second COVID-19 patient in the state have tested negative for three consecutive times. With this, Tripura has also become second state Corona-free in the Northeastern region. Earlier, **Manipur was declared Corona-free.**



262. Which Bank has recently approved 82 million US dollars (585 crore rupees) for the Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)?

- (A) World Bank
- (B) Asian Development Bank
- (C) NABARD
- (D) New Development Bank

❖ The **World Bank** has approved 82 million US dollars (585 crore rupees) for the **Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)** for upgradation of major roads and modernization of the Public Works Department in the state.

❖ Under the project, Road construction work of Barotiwala-Baddi-Sain-Ramshehar with length of 45 kms, Dadol-Ladraurr Road with length of 14.5 kms, Mandi- Riwalsar-Kalkhar of length 28 kms and Raghunathpura-Mandi-Harpura-Bharari road with length of 3.5 kms would be undertaken in tranche -one.

❖ The target of construction of 900 kilometres road length was fixed for the year 2019-20 but 800 kilometres roads could be constructed during the outbreak of coronavirus. On the other hand 1666 crore rupees had been allocated for target construction of 4960 kilometres of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) for the year 2020-21.

263. Mobile app, mCOVID19 is related to which state?

- (A) Madhya Pradesh
- (B) Mizoram
- (C) Meghalaya
- (D) Manipur

❖ In **Mizoram**, the information and communication technology department has launched a mobile app for the **truck drivers and handymen carrying essential goods from outside the state** to ensure easy and safe transport during the lockdown period of COVID19 pandemic. The mobile app, mCOVID19 will act as the online pass for the drivers and handymen.

❖ the drivers and handymen of interstate carriers will have to do registration of **mPASS and thereafter an mPASS ID** will be sent to them via sms, showing information of where the drivers come from, where they are going and what goods they are carrying.

❖ Different features available in the mCOVID19 app are registration, permission, declaration and Entry Point Scan.

264. 'Khongjom Day' commemorated recently by which state?

- (A) Mizoram
- (B) Manipur
- (C) Meghalaya
- (D) Arunachal Pradesh

❖ In **Manipur**, remembering the people who valiantly fought in the **Anglo-Manipuri War in 1891**, state government commemorated **'Khongjom Day'** at Khongjom War Memorial Complex, Thoubal.



- ❖ The Khongjom Day, being a state holiday is celebrated every year on **April 23** by the State government to pay tribute to the war heroes of Anglo-Manipuri War 1891 who had sacrificed their lives fighting against the British to protect freedom of Manipur. The site is about 35 KM south of Imphal in Thoubal district where the battle was fought between Manipuri and British.

265. 'Serve-the-Seniors Initiative' is recently in news in context of which state/UT?

- (A) Chandigarh
- (B) Punjab
- (C) Himachal Pradesh
- (D) Jammu and Kashmir

- ❖ **Jammu and Kashmir State legal Services Authority (JKLSA) has launched a helpline under 'Serve-the-Seniors Initiative'** under the guidance of Justice Gita Mittal, Patron-in-Chief and Justice Rajesh Bindal Executive Chairman of State Legal Services Authority.

- ❖ The objective of starting this helpline, comprising is to help and facilitate the senior citizens who live alone and are unable to step out to get medicines, groceries and other essentials in this hour of crisis.

The helpline numbers of the Nodal Officers who could be contacted in the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh have been declared.

266. Nathula Pass is located in which state?

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

- ❖ **Sikkim** government has decided not to host the Kailash Mansarovar yatra via Nathula Pass in the state to Tibetan Autonomous Region of China scheduled from next month due to COVID19.

- ❖ **Nathu La is a mountain pass in the Himalayas in East Sikkim district. It connects the Indian state of Sikkim with China's Tibet Autonomous Region. The pass, at 4,310 m above mean sea level, forms a part of an offshoot of the ancient Silk Road. Nathu means "listening ears" and La means "pass" in Tibetan.**

267. Which State government has recently declared spitting in public places and sale of tobacco as a punishable offence?

- (A) Bihar
- (B) Odisha
- (C) Madhya Pradesh
- (D) Jharkhand

- ❖ **Jharkhand State government has declared spitting in public places, government, non-government offices, educational institutions, police stations and open spaces and sale of tobacco as a punishable offence** to contain the spread of COVID-19. Any person found spitting in any public place or any place shall be jailed for a term of 6 months.



- ❖ In the recent order by the state government, sale of tobacco and tobacco products, cigarettes, pan masala, gutkhas, hookahs, e-hookahs, e-cigarettes has been banned in the state completely.
- ❖ The order is applicable to all 24 districts of the state and is an extension under the National Directives of COVID-19 Management under Epidemic Diseases Act.

268. According to a World Bank report on the impact of the COVID-19 on migration and remittances, remittances to India are likely to drop by

- (A) 33 per cent
- (B) 43 per cent
- (C) 53 per cent
- (D) 23 per cent

- ❖ The World Bank has said that remittances to India are likely to drop by **23 per cent from 83 billion US Dollars last year to 64 billion US Dollars this year** due to the Corona virus pandemic, which has resulted in a global recession.
- ❖ According to a World Bank report on the impact of the COVID-19 on migration and remittances, the remittances are projected to decline sharply by about 20 per cent this year due to the economic crisis induced by the pandemic and shutdowns due to out break of Novel Corona virus.
- ❖ **World Bank Group President David Malpass** said, remittances are a vital source of income for developing countries and they help families afford food, health care and basic needs.

269. #MyBookMyFriendcampaign is recently launched by-

- (A) Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
- (B) Prakash Javdekar
- (C) Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- (D) Rajnath Singh

- ❖ Union Minister of Human Resource Development, **Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** launched on **#MyBookMyFriendcampaign on World Book Day.** #MyBookMyFriend campaign will run for the next 7 days, during this time all people to join this campaign.

270. Kamakhya temple is located in which state?

- (A) Punjab
- (B) Assam
- (C) Odisha
- (D) Himachal Pradesh

- ❖ With the lockdown, the annual festival at the Kamakhya temple here has been cancelled for the first time in its recorded history.
- ❖ Legends say the temple atop the **Nilachal Hills**, whose northern face slopes down to the Brahmaputra river, was built by the **demon king Narakasura**. Records are available only from 1565 when Koch King Naranarayana had the temple rebuilt.
- ❖ The Kamakhya Temple also known as Kamrup-Kamakhya temple, Kamakhya Devalaya, is a **Hindu temple dedicated to the mother goddess Kamakhya. It is one of the oldest of the 51 Shakti Pithas.**



- ❖ **The temple is located on the Nilachal hill in Guwahati.**
- ❖ The Kamakhya temple is dedicated to the **tantric goddesses**. Apart from the deity Kamakhya Devi, compound of the temple houses 10 other avatars of Kali namely Dhumavati, Matangi, Bagola, Tara, Kamala, Bhairavi, Chinnamasta, Bhuvaneshwari and Tripuara Sundari. There is no statue, idol or image of Devi in the temple, but in the corner of the cave in the temple, there is **sculptured image of the yoni or Vagina of the goddess, which is the object of worship and reverence.**
- ❖ **Kamakhya devi is famous as the bleeding goddess.** The mythical womb and vagina of Shakti are supposedly installed in the 'Garvagriha' or sanctum of the temple. In the month of Ashaad (June), the goddess bleeds or menstruates. At this time, **the Brahmaputra river near Kamakhya turns red.** The temple then remains closed for 3 days and holy water is distributed among the devotees of Kamakhya devi.

271. Who is recently appointed as Central Vigilance Commissioner?

- (A) Sanjay Kothari
 - (B) Nanak Chand
 - (C) Sanjeev Kumar
 - (D) Anindo Majumdar
- ❖ Retired bureaucrat **Sanjay Kothari** was sworn in as the next Central Vigilance Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind.

- ❖ Mr. Kothari, a 1978 Haryana cadre IAS officer, has been formally appointed more than two months after a High Powered Committee (HPC) headed by Mr. Modi selected him as the next CVC.

272. The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in February, 1964 on the recommendations of -

- (A) Santhanam Committee
- (B) Vasudev Committee
- (C) Bhagwati Committee
- (D) Shivaraman Committee

- ❖ The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in February, 1964 on the **recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam**, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.
- ❖ CVC are conceived to be the apex vigilance institution, free of control from any executive authority, monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government and advising various authorities in Central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilant work.
- ❖ Consequent upon promulgation of an Ordinance by the President, the Central Vigilance Commission has been made a multi member Commission with **"statutory status" with effect from 25th August, 1998.**
- ❖ **The Commission shall consist of:**
 - A Central Vigilance Commissioner - Chairperson;
 - Not more than two Vigilance Commissioners - Members;



273. The United Nations (UN) organized the first official International Delegate's Day on-

- (A) April 25, 2020
- (B) March 25, 2020
- (C) February 25, 2020
- (D) January 25, 2020

- ❖ The United Nations (UN) organized the **first official International Delegate's Day** on **April 25, 2020** and this year it is a special observance because it also marks the **75th anniversary** of the **San-Francisco Conference**, an event that laid the foundations of the United Nations (UN).

274. World Malaria Day, marked each year on

- (A) 26 April
- (B) 21 April
- (C) 25 April
- (D) 22 April

- ❖ World Malaria Day, marked each year on **25 April**, is an occasion to highlight the need for continued investment and sustained political commitment for malaria prevention and control.
- ❖ This year, the day is being marked under the **theme Theme: Zero Malaria Starts with me**

275. Headquarters of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is located at-

- (A) Zurich
- (B) Stockholm
- (C) Oslo
- (D) Geneva

- ❖ Around \$1 trillion of debt owed by developing countries would be cancelled under a global deal proposed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to help them overcome the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.
- ❖ The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was **established in 1964 as a permanent intergovernmental body.**
- ❖ UNCTAD is the part of the United Nations Secretariat dealing with trade, investment, and development issues.
- ❖ **Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland**

276. The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is observed on-

- (A) 24 April
- (B) 20 April
- (C) 13 April
- (D) 21 April

- ❖ The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace was officially proclaimed to be observed every year on **24 April** by the UN General Assembly on December 12, 2018 through a resolution.

277. Every year World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated on-

- (A) 2 March
- (B) 2 October
- (C) 26 April
- (D) 1 May

- ❖ **Every April 26**, World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated to learn about the role that intellectual property (IP) rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity.



- ❖ the theme for The World Intellectual Property Day 2020 is 'Innovate for a Green Future.'

278. Operation Twist is related to-

- (A) Covid-19 help Mission started by Indian Army
 - (B) RBI's open market operations
 - (C) New Platform launched for Education
 - (D) New strategy adopted by Delhi Government to fight against Covid-19
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced **simultaneous purchase and sale of government bonds** in a bid to soften long-term yields. The central bank will buy ₹10,000 crore of bonds maturing between 2026 and 2030 and sell the same amount of T-bills.
 - ❖ Such open market operations are known as 'Operation Twist,' which was used by the RBI in December last year for the first time.
 - ❖ 'Operation Twist' is when the central bank uses the **proceeds from the sale of short-term securities to buy long-term government debt papers, leading to easing of interest rates on the long term papers.**
 - ❖ Operation Twist normally leads to lower longer-term yields, which will help boost the economy by making loans less expensive.
 - ❖ Operation Twist first appeared in **1961.**
 - ❖ In June 2012, Operation Twist was so effective that the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury dropped to a 200-year low.

279. Who was recently named IPL's Greatest of All Time (GOAT) captain by a Star Sports jury on the 13th anniversary of the league?

- (A) Gautam Gambhir
- (B) Shane Warne
- (C) M.S. Dhoni
- (D) Rohit Sharma

- ❖ With three Indian Premier League titles with Chennai Super Kings, **M.S. Dhoni was named IPL's Greatest of All Time (GOAT) captain** by a Star Sports jury on the 13th anniversary of the league. 'Captain Cool', who has a staggering win percentage of 60.11, pipped Rohit Sharma, who has led Mumbai Indians to a record four titles.
- ❖ Dhoni has led CSK to eight finals, the most by any captain in the IPL.
- ❖ Besides Rohit, Dhoni also faced stiff competition from Gautam Gambhir who helped KKR bag two titles. Shane Warne, Adam Gilchrist and David Warner were also a part of the elite nominee list.

280. Consider the following statements in reference to E-Gram Swaraj Portal -

1. It will mark the complete digitization of the villages to strengthen e-governance in Panchayati Raj institutions in the whole country.
2. It is one single interface on which the details will be listed panchayat wise.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2



- ❖ On National Panchayati Raj Day, the Prime Minister launched the **e-Gramswaraj Portal and Mobile app as a portal to prepare and plan Gram Panchayat Development Plans.** The portal will ensure real time monitoring and accountability. The portal is a major step towards digitization down to the Gram Panchayat level.
- ❖ The E-Gram Swaraj Portal will mark the **complete digitization of the villages** to strengthen e-governance in Panchayati Raj institutions in the whole country.
- ❖ The egramswaraj.gov.in portal is one single interface on which the details will be listed panchayat wise. The platform will provide records of work from planning to the implementation in every village panchayat under Gram Panchayati Development Plan (GPDP).
- ❖ **What is the benefit of Gram Swaraj Portal/App?**
 - Monitoring and recording all the work via Gram Swaraj Portal/App will help speed-up the implementation of projects in village areas.
 - As it will contain the details of ongoing development works and the fund allocated for the projects, one can access and know about the groundwork.
 - All the details related to Panchayat Sachiv and Panch can be viewed on Gram Swaraj Portal.
 - The works of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj will be accessible through Gram Swaraj Portal.

- The Gram Swaraj Portal and application will provide a boost in transparency by decentralized planning of development projects, with progress reports updates and increased accountability.

281. Consider the following statements in context of Swamitva scheme-

1. It was launched in pilot mode in 6 states to map rural inhabited lands using drones and latest survey methods.
2. Scheme will ensure streamlined planning, revenue collection and provide clarity over property rights in rural areas.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 both
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

- ❖ The Swamitva scheme was also launched in pilot mode in **6 states to map rural inhabited lands using drones and latest survey methods.**
- ❖ the scheme will **ensure streamlined planning, revenue collection and provide clarity over property rights in rural areas.**
- ❖ This will open up avenues for applying for loans from financial institutions by the owners. Disputes related to property would also be settled through the title deeds allotted through this scheme.



282. The World Health Organization is cautioning against the idea of immunity passports. What the term “immunity passports” signifies-

- (A) People having immunity passports allowed to go back to work in that country
- (B) People can travel any country
- (C) People having immunity passports do not allow going back to work
- (D) People having immunity passports can move freely in any country

❖ The World Health Organization is cautioning against the idea of immunity passports. It says there is currently no evidence that people who have recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies are protected against a second infection.

❖ **The concept of immunity passports or risk-free certificates has been floated as a way of allowing people protected against reinfection to return to work.**

❖ People who are issued these certificates would **be allowed to go back to work and move about freely.**

283. A virtual workshop on “Contract Management during Emergency situations” was recently organized by which bank in collaboration with AIMA (All India Management Association)?

- (A) World Bank
- (B) Asian Development bank
- (C) New Development bank
- (D) NABARD

❖ A virtual workshop on **“Contract Management during Emergency situations”** was organized by World Bank in collaboration with AIMA (All India Management Association) for Project Management Unit of Jhelum Tawi Flood Recovery Project which is implementing USD 250 Million **Flood Recovery Project funded by World Bank in the union territory of J&K.**

284. Which one among the following is not correctly matched?

- (A) Havelock Island- Swaraj Dweep
- (B) Ross Island - Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Island
- (C) Neil island - Shaheed Dweep
- (D) Barren Island- Shanti Dweep

❖ In the midst of COVID-19, the nearby places of famous Shaheed Dweep located in A&N Islands are being regularly sanitized and cleanliness to be maintained by the local Panchayat.

❖ **Three Andaman Islands-the Havelock, Ross, and Neil Island will be officially renamed on the occasion of 75th anniversary of Subhas Chandra Bose’s historic visit to the islands.**

❖ **The Havelock Island will be renamed Swaraj Dweep, the Ross Island will be called Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Island and Neil island will be renamed Shaheed Dweep.**



- ❖ **Barren Island** is an island located in the Andaman Sea. **It is the only confirmed active volcano in South Asia, and the only active volcano along a chain of volcanoes from Sumatra to Myanmar.** It is a part of the Indian Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and lies about 138 km (86 mi) northeast of the territory's capital, Port Blair.

285. Which state government has recently launched a new scheme Dhanwantari under which locally unavailable medicines are provided to patients at home?

- (A) Assam
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Odisha
- (D) Kerala

- ❖ **Assam government** has launched a new scheme Dhanwantari under which **locally unavailable medicines are provided to patients at home.**

- ❖ Health Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that medicines below 200 rupees will be provided free of cost to patients. He said that Health workers are delivering medicines for patients who cannot get it within 10 kilometer of their radius.

286. Jeevan Shakti Yojana is related to which state?

- (A) Uttar Pradesh
- (B) Madhya Pradesh
- (C) Himachal Pradesh
- (D) Arunachal Pradesh

- ❖ In **Madhya Pradesh**, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan launched the Jeevan Shakti Yojana. Under this scheme, **women in urban areas can earn by making masks at home. The government will pay them Rs 11 per mask.**

- ❖ The Chief Minister said that women wishing to make masks will have to register themselves by calling on the Call Centre number through their telephone or mobile. After registration, they will get an order to make masks on their mobiles. They will get orders to make at least 200 masks at a time. The mask should be made of cotton cloth.

- ❖ After making the mask, they will submit their masks to the nodal officer appointed by the government. Its payment will be credited to their account on the same day or the next day.

287. Swasthya Nidhi is recently in news, in context of which state/UT?

- (A) Chandigarh
- (B) New Delhi
- (C) Kerala
- (D) Jammu and Kashmir

- ❖ In **Jammu and Kashmir**, Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu today called for devising a robust **mechanism for door to door survey under Swasthya Nidhi** for effectively combating the spread of COVID-19 in the Union Territory. He was chairing a meeting to review the progress made under Swasthya Nidhi, an Integrated Health Audit and Intensive Screening Framework in Jammu



- ❖ **Swasthya Nidhi provides an ideal platform to reach out to each household in the UT for IEC.** It was informed that the pilot survey in Jammu was launched on 17th April for five hotspots, covering 29 Electoral Booths, which was completed on 22nd April. The survey started in seven districts of the UT.

288. Rohtang Pass connects-

- (A) Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh from rest of the country
 - (B) Badrinath from rest of the country
 - (C) India with Nepal
 - (D) Sikkim with Tibet
- ❖ Border Roads Organization (BRO) has opened Rohtang Pass, more than three weeks in advance after clearing snow. **It is the arterial road connecting Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh from rest of the country.**
 - ❖ It connects the **Kullu Valley with the Lahaul and Spiti Valleys of Himachal Pradesh, India.**
 - ❖ The pass lies on the watershed between the **Chenab and Beas basins.** On the southern side of this pass, the Beas River emerges from underground and flows southward and on its northern side, the Chandra River (flows from the eastern Himalayas), a source stream of the river Chenab, flows westward.

Atal Tunnel

- ❖ Atal Tunnel (previously known as Rohtang Tunnel), named after India's former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, is a highway tunnel being built under the Rohtang Pass in the eastern Pir Panjal range of the Himalayas on the Leh-Manali Highway.
- ❖ **At 8.8 km (5.5 mi) length,** the tunnel will be **one of the longest road tunnels in India** and is expected to reduce the distance between Manali and Keylong by about 46 km (28.6 mi).

289. VITAL (Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally) device, is recently in news in context of the affairs of-

- (A) ISRO
 - (B) DRDO
 - (C) NASA
 - (D) ICMR
- ❖ **NASA** engineers have developed a new, easy-to-build **high-pressure ventilator** tailored specifically to treat COVID-19 patients.
 - ❖ The US space agency said that the device, called **VITAL (Ventilator Intervention Technology Accessible Locally)**, passed a critical test this week at the Icahn School of Medicine in New York, an epicentre of COVID-19 in the US.
 - ❖ NASA added that VITAL is designed to treat patients with milder symptoms, thereby keeping country's limited supply of traditional ventilators available for patients with more severe COVID-19 symptoms.



290. A team of engineering students from IIT Bombay, NIT Srinagar and Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST), Awantipora recently built a low-cost ventilator. What is the name of that Ventilator?

- (A) Haider
- (B) Ghazala
- (C) Ruhdaar
- (D) Hilal

❖ **A team of engineering students from IIT Bombay, NIT Srinagar and Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST), Awantipora, Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir** has come up with a low-cost ventilator using locally available materials called **the Ruhdaar**.

❖ The project is headed by Zulqarnain, a first-year student of Industrial Design Centre, IIT Bombay.

291. “Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2019” report is released by-

- (A) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- (B) International Institute for Strategic Studies
- (C) Transparency International
- (D) North Atlantic Treaty Organization

❖ The annual report ‘**Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2019**’ was released by a **Swedish think tank, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**.

❖ Stockholm International Peace Research Institute is an international institute based in Sweden, dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.

❖ **Founded: 6 May 1966**

❖ **Headquarters: Stockholm, Sweden**

292. According to “Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2019” report, which one among the following pair of countries represent top three largest spenders on military expenditure?

- (A) China, India, Russia
- (B) U.S.A, China, Russia
- (C) U.S.A, China, India
- (D) China, Russia, Saudi Arabia

❖ The annual report ‘Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2019’ was released by a Swedish think tank, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

❖ In 2019, the top five largest spenders — **U.S. (\$732 bn), China, India, Russia (\$65.1 bn) and Saudi Arabia (\$61.9 bn)** — accounted for 62% of the global expenditure.

❖ The \$71.1 billion spent by India on defence in 2019 was 2.4% of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). India was at the fourth position in 2018 with Saudi Arabia at the third.

293. Chakma and Hajong communities, are visible in newspapers frequently, in context of affairs of which state?

- (A) Odisha
- (B) Karnataka
- (C) Jharkhand
- (D) Arunachal Pradesh



- ❖ A Delhi-based rights body has sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention in ensuring food for the **Chakma and Hajong communities in Arunachal Pradesh** who have allegedly not been included in the government relief economic package.
- ❖ The Chakmas and Hajongs, displaced in the 1960s by violence and a dam in erstwhile East Pakistan, were settled in parts of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ **The Chakmas and Hajongs do not have ration cards as the State government had illegally and arbitrarily seized those through an order on October 25, 1991.**

294. "Tech Together" initiative is related to-

- (A) Google
- (B) Facebook
- (C) Twitter
- (D) All of the above

- ❖ **Google, Facebook and Twitter** have joined The Center for Safe Internet Pharmacies (CSIP), a non-profit organisation, to support individuals with substance abuse during the COVID-19 lockdown around the globe. In an initiative called **Tech Together**, they have come up with an online platform, which has a collection of resources to help those with substance abuse.

295. Which one of the following is not an International Human Rights Treaty?

- (A) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- (B) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- (C) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- (D) Declaration on the Right to Development

- ❖ The UN rights chief warned that countries flouting the rule of law in the name of fighting the novel coronavirus pandemic risk sparking a "human rights disaster".
- ❖ **There are 9 core international human rights instruments.**

		Date	Monitoring Body
ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	21 Dec 1965	CERD
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	16 Dec 1966	CCPR
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	16 Dec 1966	CESCR
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	18 Dec 1979	CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	10 Dec 1984	CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	20 Nov 1989	CRC
ICMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	18 Dec 1990	CMW
CPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	20 Dec 2006	CED
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	13 Dec 2006	CRPD

296. Umar Akmal is recently banned for three years. He is associated with which cricket team?

- (A) Afghanistan
- (B) Bangladesh
- (C) Pakistan
- (D) India

- ❖ **The Pakistan Cricket Board has banned Umar Akmal from all forms of the game for three years on corruption charges.**
- ❖ Akmal had not requested for a hearing before the Anti-Corruption Tribunal after he was charged for two breaches of Article 2.4.4 of the PCB Anti-Corruption Code in two unrelated incidents.
- ❖ Akmal had stated in an interview that he was offered money to skip matches against India. He had also revealed that he was asked to leave two deliveries in a match by the bookies.



297. Bell metal is an alloy of

- (A) Copper and tin
- (B) Iron and copper
- (C) Iron and Tin
- (D) Silver and tin

❖ As Ministry of Tourism, Government of India continues with the initiative of organising a series of Webinars under the overall theme of **'Dekho Apna Desh', its 8th webinar in this series on "North East India-Experience the Exclusive villages"** with focus on Assam & Meghalaya highlighting the lesser known villages was presented on 24th April 2020.

❖ **Sarthebari** - The bell metal industry of Assam is the second largest handicraft sector after bamboo craft. **Bell metal is an alloy of copper and tin and the craftsmen of this industry are referred to as 'Kahar' or 'Orja'.**

298. A central PSU NTPC Ltd, is India's largest power producer works under which ministry?

- (A) Ministry of Power
- (B) Ministry of Coal
- (C) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- (D) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

❖ NTPC Ltd, **India's largest power producer** and a central PSU under **Ministry of Power**, has invited Global Expression of Interest (EoI) to provide 10 Hydrogen Fuel Cell (FC) based electric buses and an equal number of Hydrogen Fuel Cell based electric cars in Leh and Delhi. **The EoI has been issued by NTPC's wholly owned subsidiary, NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN) Limited.**

299. "Great Adjutants" are endangered species of the stork. One place in India is associated with their largest Colony. The place lies in

- (A) West Bengal
- (B) Assam
- (C) Tamilnadu
- (D) Kerala

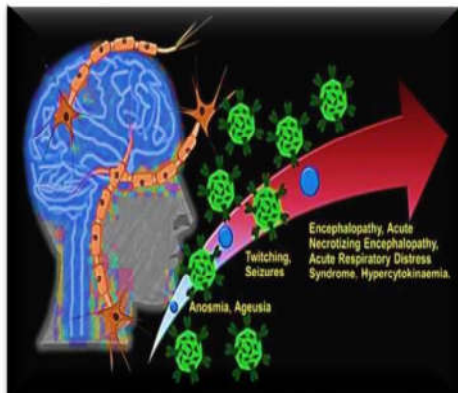
❖ As Ministry of Tourism, Government of India continues with the initiative of organising a series of Webinars under the overall theme of **'Dekho Apna Desh', its 8th webinar in this series on "North East India-Experience the Exclusive villages"** with focus on Assam & Meghalaya highlighting the lesser known villages was presented on 24th April 2020.

❖ **Dadara** - The endangered species of the greater adjutant stork; **Hargila** as called in Assamese, finds an exclusive home in Dadara. **There are about only 1500 greater adjutant storks left in the world and the largest nestling colony, about 500 adjutant storks get a safe haven in this village.** The inspiring story of their conservation can be traced to the Hargila Army led by Green Oscar Awardee, **Smt Purnima Devi Barman.**

300. What Does Anosmia indicate?

- (A) The abrupt loss of smell
- (B) hard to fall asleep
- (C) do not have the clotting factor
- (D) low number of red blood cells

- ❖ Scientists of **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jodhpur** have explored the neuroinvasive nature of the COVID 19 virus **SARS-CoV-2 highlighting that loss of smell and taste of infected patients makes their entire Central Nervous System (CNS)** and the underlying structures in the brain more prone to viral infection with devastating effects.
- ❖ They have attributed the loss of smell or taste to the fact that nose and mouth both are very important entry points of the virus, which then may be slowly making its way to the olfactory bulb using the neurons of the olfactory mucosa. **The olfactory bulb located in the forebrain is the structure that is chiefly responsible for the sense of smell.** This explains the loss of smell associated with many asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19 and also may be exposing the CNS to viral infection.
- ❖ The paper also rings warning bells to the asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19 with **anosmia (loss of smell) and ageusia (loss of taste)** to self-quarantine themselves as soon as they feel these and consult specialized nephrologists before they turn into carriers. It also suggests brain autopsies of COVID-19 infected patients and analysis of their cerebrospinal fluid.





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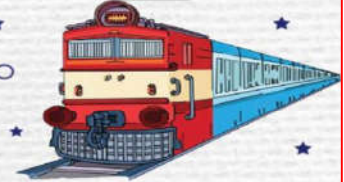
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