

1. Who has been honored with Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award?

- A. A S Kiran Kumar
- B. Dr. K. Radhakrishnan
- C. Shri G.Madhavan Nair
- D. Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- E. None of the above

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman Kailasavadivoo Sivan, was awarded Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award by Tamil Nadu government.
- He was awarded in recognition of his stellar work in promotion of science and technology.

2. Recently launched 'Mission Reach Out' is related with which of the following?

- A. to ensure necessities and essential services in Jammu
- B. to ensure necessities and essential services in Flood affected Bihar
- C. to ensure necessities and essential services in Flood affected Kerala
- D. to reach out to the people of Naxal Affected Chhattisgarh
- E. None of these

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

- The Indian Army has launched 'Mission Reach Out' in Jammu to ensure necessities and essential services are available in the region.
- A high-level Mission Reach Out conference to review the prevalent situation in the region was held in the Nagrota Military Station was chaired by White Knight Corps Commander Lt Gen Paramjit Singh.
- The Corps commander lauded the absolute synergy between the Army, civil administration and other security establishments in maintaining peace, harmony and a conducive environment.

3. Who among the following Indian TV journalist has won the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2019 along with four other eminent personalities of the different countries?

- A. Punya Prasoona Vajpayee
- B. Sudhir Chaudhary
- C. Ravish Kumar
- D. Rajdeep Sardesai
- E. Arnav Goswami

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

NDTV's news anchor and Journalist Mr Ravis Kumar has been conferred with Ramon Magsaysay Award 2019 along with four other eminent personalities.

The four other winners are Ko Swe Win (Myanmar) Angkhana Neelapaijit (Thailand, Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab (Philippines) and Kim Jong-Ki (South Korea).

This award was established in 1957 and it is Asia's highest honour.

Every year it celebrates the memory and leadership example of the third Philippine president after whom the award is named.

4. Which of the following states has received the geographical indication tag for the sweet Rosogolla?

- A. Odisha
- B. Assam
- C. Kerala
- D. Telangana
- E. Punjab

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Odisha has received the geographical indication tag for its popular dessert Rasagola after years of controversy around the sweet.

The state has received the GI number 612 for 'Odisha Rasagola' in the foodstuff category under Section 16(I) or of authorized Section 17(3)(c) of Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999.

5. As per Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking report, what is India's ranking in the global innovation index 2019?

- A. 52nd
- B. 53rd
- C. 54th
- D. 51st
- E. 57th

Answer ||| A

Solution ||| India improved its ranking in the global innovation index by five places to 52nd in 2019 from 57th position last year.

The GII rankings are published annually by Cornell University, INSEAD and the UN World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and GII Knowledge Partners.

6. Which state has become the first Indian state to have water policy?

- A. Assam
- B. Punjab
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Meghalaya
- E. Odisha

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Meghalaya became the first state in India to ensure the conservation of water and have own water policy following a nod given by the State Cabinet.

The objective of the policy is to recognize water resources as a common pool resource, to provide safe and hygienic water for drinking, domestic and sanitation and livelihood development to all residents of the state.

7. The annual Hindu Festival 'Bonalu' is celebrated in which state of India?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Bihar
- C. Telangana
- D. West Bengal
- E. Punjab

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Bonalu is an annual festival of Telangana celebrated in Twin Cities Hyderabad, Secunderabad and other parts of Telangana.

It is celebrated every year in a grand manner in the state during the first month of the monsoon season.

Bonalu is celebrated to ward off diseases and usher in good health, peace and prosperity.

Women, attired in colourful robes, carry the 'Bonalu' (decorated pots containing food) on their heads to the temples for offering them to the Goddess.

8. What is India's position in Henley Passport Index 2019?

- A. 49th
- B. 89th
- C. 86th
- D. 108th
- E. None of these

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

India is ranked at the 86th position in the Henley Passport Index 2019 with a mobility score of 58. India shares the position with Mauritiana and Sao Tome and Principe.

In 2018, India was ranked at the 79th position.

Note:

Henley Passport Index 2019 has recently published on its website that shows **Japan and Singapore** holds first position collectively as most powerful passports in the world.

9. Which of the following countries has signed an agreement with India for acquiring the anti-tank missiles 'Strum Ataka'?

- A. Japan
- B. USA
- C. Russia
- D. Germany
- E. France

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

India has signed a deal with Russia for acquiring the 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missiles.

The deal has been signed under the emergency clause as a result of which the missile would be delivered within a time of 3 months of the signing of the contract.

The deal would give an added capability to the Mi-35 attack choppers to take out enemy tanks and other armored elements.

10. Who has become India's 63rd Grandmaster?

- A. G N Gopal
- B. Girish A Koushik
- C. Nihal Sarin
- D. Sooraj Naryanan
- E. Deepak Gupta

Answer ||| B

Solution ||| Karnataka's Girish A. Koushik (22-years) has become India's 63rd Grandmaster at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary.

He is the only Indian chess player to have won gold medals at the Asian U-8, U-10, U-12, U-14 and U-16 age-group categories.

World popular Chess player Mr. Viswanathan Anand was the first Grandmaster in India.

Grandmaster (GM) is a title awarded to chess players by the world chess organization FIDE.

11. Which country has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

- A. Egypt
- B. Iraq
- C. Kuwait
- D. Lebanon
- E. Saudi Arabia

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

Saudi Arabia has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

With the induction of Saudi Arabia as FATF member, the number of permanent members in the group is now 39.

12. 'Lessons Life Taught Me, Unknowingly' is the autobiography of _____.

- A. Lal Krishna Advani
- B. Pranab Mukherjee
- C. Amitabh Bachchan
- D. Anupam Kher
- E. Sanjay Dutt

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Bollywood actor Anupam Kher has penned his autobiography titled 'Lessons Life Taught Me, Unknowingly'.

13. Who has launched 'Operation Sankalp' in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area?

- A. Indian Navy
- B. Indian Army
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Special Protection Group
- E. Central Industrial Security Force

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Indian Navy launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area following the recent maritime incidents in the region.

INS Chennai and INS Sunayna have been deployed in the region to undertake maritime security operations. In addition, aerial surveillance in the area is also being done by IN aircraft.

14. Who has won 'Miss India World 2019 title' in the ceremony held in Mumbai?

- A. Meenakshi Chaudhary
- B. Suman Rao
- C. Shrey Rao Kamvarapu
- D. Shivani Jadhav
- E. Shreya Shanker

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Rajasthan's Suman Rao (20-year) has been crowned 'Miss India 2019' (56th edition) in an extravagant ceremony at Sardar Vallabhbai Patel Indoor Stadium, Mumbai.

15. Who among the following has won the 2019 Men's singles French Open tennis tournament?

- A. Rafael Nadal
- B. Novak Djokovi
- C. Roger Federer
- D. Dominic Thiem
- E. None of these

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Spain's Rafael Nadal (33-year) has lifted his 12th French Open Men's Singles title. He defeated fourth seed Austrian Dominic Thiem 6-3, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1 for the third straight year

The French Open officially called 'Roland-Garros' is a major tennis tournament held at the Stade Roland-Garros in Paris, France.

16. Who has won the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix?

- A. Daniel Ricciardo
- B. Sebastian Vettel
- C. Lewis Hamilton
- D. Valtteri Bottas
- E. Max Verstappen

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

British racing driver Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) beat Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) to win Canadian Grand Prix 2019.

During the race, both Vettel and Hamilton were engaged in a head-to-head battle when the former ran across the grass accidentally, in the process squeezing the British driver when he re-joined the track.

17. Which of the following countries has launched the first Arctic train service 'Zarengold'?

- A. Russia
- B. Japan
- C. France
- D. Germany
- E. USA

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The first tourist train travelling through Russia's Arctic region and on to Norway set off from St. Petersburg station (Russia) with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey.

The train, named, Zarengold, complete with two restaurant cars will travel from Saint Petersburg through according to the organisers.

18. Which of the following states has announced to launch 'Rythu Bandhu scheme'?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Kerala
- C. Telangana
- D. Odisha
- E. Punjab

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Telangana government has announced to increase the assistance under its flagship 'Rythu Bandhu scheme' for 2019-20 from Rs 4000 to Rs 5000.

The scheme is an Initial Investment support programme of the state government to provide income support for agriculture and horticulture crops to farmer in each season to be used to purchase inputs like seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, labour and other field operations.

19. Which of the following Indian women has been felicitated with the Mexico's highest civilian award 'Order of the Aztec Eagle' in 2019?

- A. Sonia Gandhi
- B. Sumitra Mahajan
- C. Pratibha Patil
- D. Mira Kumar
- E. Najma Heptullah

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Former President of India, Pratibha Patil has been felicitated with the Mexico's highest civilian award 'Order of the Aztec Eagle' in 2019.

The award was accorded by Mexico's Ambassador to India, Melba Priya, at a special ceremony held in the MCCIA Bhavan, Pune.

She is the first Indian female and only the second Indian (first late President S Radhakrishna) to get the Mexico's civilian award.

20. Who has become the first Indian woman fighter pilot to fly by day on Hawk advanced jet aircraft?

- A. Manshi Anand
- B. Avani Chaturvedi
- C. Bhawana Kanth
- D. Mohana Singh
- E. Rupa Thakur

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to fly by day a Hawk advanced jet aircraft

She landed after a gruelling 4 aircraft combat sortie at Air Force station Kalaikunda, West Bengal.

Singh has over 500 hours of incident-free flying, of which 380 hours are on the Hawk Mk 132 jet.

21. Indian and Singapore Navies are participating in the annual maritime bilateral exercise in the South China Sea. What is the name of the bilateral exercise?

- A. INDSING-19
- B. SING-2019
- C. SIMBEX-19
- D. Indo-Singa2019
- E. None of these

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The Navies of India and Singapore are participating in the annual maritime bilateral exercise 'SIMBEX-19' in the South China Sea.

Naval ships INS Kolkata and INS Shakti taking part in the bilateral naval exercise, along with long-range maritime patrol aircraft Poseidon-8I.

The Singapore side is being represented by RSN ships Steadfast and Valiant, maritime patrol aircraft Fokker-50 and F-16 fighter aircraft.

22. Who has successful flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) from Interim Test Range, Chandipur in Odisha?

- A. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- B. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- C. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- D. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- E. None of these

Answer ||| A

Solution ||| Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) from Interim Test Range, Chandipur in Odisha.

The flight test was tracked by various RADARS and Electro Optic Systems and proved its performance in a fully autonomous waypoint navigation mode.

23. Which of the following state has passed a bill on Honour Killing?

- A. Haryana
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Punjab
- D. Rajasthan
- E. None of these

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

* Rajasthan state assembly has passed a bill on honour killing which is named as 'The Rajasthan Prohibition of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliances in the Name of Honour and Tradition Bill, 2019'.

* This bill makes the honour killing a punishable offense which may award death penalty or life imprisonment.

* This bill was brought by the state government in order to curb the incidents of honour killing in the state.

24. Recently, Union Government has approved a river interlinking project worth rupees 4,900 crore for which rivers in Bihar?

- A. Ganaga-Son
- B. Gandak-Koshi
- C. Kosi-Mechi
- D. Ken-Betwa
- E. Gahghra-Kosi

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

- The Union Government has approved a project worth Rs. 4,900-crore Kosi-Mechi river interlinking project in Bihar.
- The project will prevent recurring floods in north Bihar and also irrigate over 2.14 lakh hectares of cultivable land in Bihar.
- The central government has approved construction of 76.20 km canals on the eastern bank of Kosi for irrigation purpose,
- The project is aimed at alleviating hardships of the people resulting from the floods and has the potential to usher in a green revolution in the Seemanchal region.
- This is the second major river interlinking project in the country to be approved after the Ken-Betwa project in Madhya Pradesh.

25. Which among the following Banks has become the first Indian Bank to link up with China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS)?

- A. Bank of Baroda
- B. Punjab National Bank
- C. State Bank of India
- D. Bank of India
- E. ICICI Bank

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

- The State Bank of India's Shanghai branch is now connected to China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS), becoming the first Indian Bank to operationalise it.
- The CNAPS, launched in 2008 by People's Bank of China (PBOC) provides real-time settlement services for all payments cleared in mainland China, as well as in all clearing banks in offshore yuan centres, such as Hong Kong.
- The CIPS already has participants from multiple countries across the globe.

26. For the welfare of the girl child, 'Vhali Dikri Yojna' has been launched by which of the following states?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Goa
- C. Gujarat
- D. Rajasthan
- E. Haryana

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Gujarat government has launched the 'Vhali Dikri Yojna' for the welfare of the girl child from Rajkot.

It is a statewide cash incentive scheme for every girl child born in Gujarat, with a view to raising the female birth rate at par with male to achieve gender equality.

The State Government will pay Rs. 4,000 to every girl child at the time of admission to Standard 4th, Rs. 6,000 at the time of taking admission to Standard IX, Rs. 1 lakh at the time of taking admission for higher education at the age of 18 and another Rs. 1 lakh at the time of marriage.

27. The union cabinet has approved setting up of ISRO Technical Liaison Unit (ITLU) at _____.

- A. New York, USA
- B. Moscow, Russia
- C. London, UK
- D. Reyadh, Saudi Arabia

E. Beijing, China

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Union Cabinet has given its nod to the setting up of ISRO Technical Liaison Unit at Moscow, Russia.

The unit will collaborate with Space agencies and industries in Russia and neighbouring countries for mutually synergic outcomes.

ITLU will also support the ongoing bilateral programme of cooperation in space technology and act on behalf of ISRO.

The Cabinet also approved MoU between ISRO and Bolivian Space Agency on cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

28. Who among the following sports player has been selected for Arjuna Awards 2018 for their outstanding achievements in the sports?

- A. Rohit Sharma & Smriti Mandhana
- B. Smriti Mandhana & Rohan Bopanna
- C. Abhijeet Gupta & Pankaj Advani
- D. Hima Das & Smriti Mandhana
- E. Rohan Bopanna & Rohit Sharma

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

* Arjuna Award 2019 winner list: Cricketer Smriti Mandhana and tennis star Rohan Bopanna were conferred with the Arjuna Awards by Union Sports minister Kiren Rijiju at a ceremony held in New Delhi.

Note:

* Smriti Mandhana was the women cricket team's standout performer this season in both one-day internationals and T20s. The 22-year-old is currently ranked no. 1 in the ICC ODI Batting rankings. Playing for India, Mandhana has already scored 1951 runs in ODIs at an average of over 42.

* Rohan Bopanna partnered Divij Sharan to win the Gold medal at the Asian Games held in Indonesia last year. He had also narrowly missed out on a mixed doubles medal while playing with Sania Mirza at the Rio Olympics in 2016.

29. Central India's first Sikh Museum has opened in which of the following state?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Punjab
- C. Delhi
- D. Chhattisgarh
- E. Tamil Nadu

Answer ||| D

Solution ||| Central India got its First Sikh Museum in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The museum Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Sikh Museum is located at Gurudwara Gurusingh Sabha in Guru Nanak Nagar. It was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Bagel on the 'Shahidi Divas' of the fifth Sikh Guru, Arjun Dev.

- The museum enlightens visitors about the ten Sikh gurus and other personalities related to the religion. It also has a library and theatre in its 5,000 square feet premises.

30. Which of the following village has become the first village in India to have zero wooden stoves?

- A. Baretha
- B. Kewaljhira
- C. Bancha
- D. Athner
- E. Sarni

Answer ||| C

Solution ||| Bancha in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh became the first village in India to have zero wooden stoves. There was no use for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders as all 75 houses relied on solar-powered stoves to meet their cooking needs. The solar-powered stoves were developed by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai.

- **The project was launched by the Central government after it selected Bancha village for the initial trial run, owing to its success in cleanliness, for which it previously won two awards. The project was completed in December 2018.**

31. Which country topped the Global Gender Equality Index 2019?

- A. Sweden
- B. Finland
- C. Denmark
- D. Norway
- E. Ireland

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

- The list was topped by **Denmark** followed by Finland and Sweden.
- India ranked 95th out of 129 countries in a new index that measures global gender equality looking at aspects such as poverty, health, education, literacy, political representation and equality at the workplace.
- Chad was placed at bottom most position (129th).
- The Index is developed by Equal Measures 2030, a partnership effort of regional and global organisations.
- Indicators: It includes 51 indicators across 14 of 17 official Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

32. Who is the winner of the 2019 Sangita Kalanidhi award?

- A. Aruna Sairam
- B. Sikkil Gurucharan
- C. T. M. Krishna
- D. Vidya Subramanian
- E. S. Sowmya

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

- Noted Carnatic vocalist S. Sowmya won the 2019 Sangita Kalanidhi award of Music Academy.

- She will preside over 93rd annual conference of Academy to be held between 12 December 2019 and 1 January 2020. She along with other awardees will be conferred with the awards during the Sadas of Madras Music Academy on 1 January 2020.

33. Who among the following is the first non-football player to be awarded the 'Mohun Bagan Ratna' 2019?

- A. Keshav Dutt
- B. Virat Kohli
- C. PV Sindhu
- D. Pullela Gopichand
- E. Saina Nehwal

Answer ||| A

Solution ||| Former India Football Captain Prasun Banerjee and two-time Olympic gold medallist Keshav Dutt has been chosen for the 'Mohun Bagan Ratna' 2019.

This is for the first time Mohun Bagan's executive committee has decided to confer their highest honour to a non-footballer.

The Mariners will also give Life Memberships to Sourav Ganguly, Chuni Goswami, Dr Vece Paes, Prasenjit Chatterjee and Deb Shankar Halder.

34. Who has been appointed the Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)?

- A. Arvind Kumar
- B. Kumar Rajesh Chandra
- C. Anil Dhasmana
- D. Samant Kumar Goel
- E. K Natarajan

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

- Senior IPS officer Samant Goel has been appointed as the new Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) chief on June 26, 2019.

- Samant Goel, a 1984 batch IPS officer of Punjab cadre will succeed Anil Dhasmana. Samant Goel is known as the Strategist of Balakot Air Strikes.

• He was heading operations for the agency and was instrumental in planning the February 2019 Balakot air strikes and also the 2016 surgical strikes before his appointment as raw chief.

35. Which state will have India's first garbage café?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Haryana
- E. Chhattisgarh

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

* Chhattisgarh makes a sustainable initiative to reuse plastic waste by setting up India's first garbage cafe.

* This cafe offers a full fledged meal to a person who collects 1 kg of plastic waste and a substantial breakfast to those who collect 500 grams.

* This initiative was to ensure that the homeless rag pickers, who collect plastic waste to earn some money, had a hearty meal.

* The municipal corporation will provide food to the poor and homeless in exchange of plastic waste.

36. Who has become India's 64th Grandmaster in Chess?

- A. S Arun Prasad
- B. Srinath Narayanan
- C. Prithu Gupta
- D. Girish A Koushik
- E. G N Gopal

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Delhi's Prithu Gupta has become India's 64th Grandmaster, crossing the Elo threshold of 2500 points after beating IM Lev Yankelevich in the fifth round of the Portuguese League 2019.

Gupta has achieved the sensational feat at the age of 15 years, 4 months and 10 days.

Gupta received his first GM norm at the Gibraltar Masters last year, before achieving the second norm at the Biel Masters the same year.

Grandmaster (GM) is a title awarded to chess players by the world chess organization FIDE.

37. Which of the following states has got GI tag for Kolhapuri Chappal with Maharashtra?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Karnataka
- D. Jharkhand
- E. Gujarat

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) has granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kolhapuris, the ethnic leather chappal (footwear) to four districts in each state of Maharashtra and Karnataka. These 8 districts are- Kolhapur, Sangli, Solapur and Satara districts of Maharashtra and Belgaum, Dharwad, Bagalkot and Bijapur districts of Karnataka.

*** GI is used on products/items which have specific geographical origin and possess qualities, reputation and distinctiveness which is essentially attributable to its origin in that defined geographical locality.**

*** Getting GI tag will open large markets, both domestic and international to artisans who produce Kolhapuris. Also, getting GI tag for Kolhapuri means that footwear produced only in these 8 districts will qualify to carry tag of being Kolhapuris.**

38. Which of the following companies has launched the educational app 'JEE Ready'?

- A. Paytm
- B. Amazon
- C. Flipkart

- D. Microsoft
- E. None of these

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Global e-commerce giant 'Amazon' has entered, into the ed tech space with the launch of its first ed tech app in India called 'JEE Ready' for IIT JEE.

39. Who has topped the latest list of the Bloomberg Billionaires Index?

- A. Warren Buffett
- B. Bill Gates
- C. Bernard Arnault
- D. Amancio Ortega
- E. Jeff Bezos

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

Amazon Founder and CEO Jeff Bezos have topped the index as world's richest person with a total net worth of USD 125 billion.

The other riches people in the list includes:

2. Chairman and Chief Executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy Bernard Arnault with a net worth of \$108 billion
3. Microsoft founder Bill Gates \$107 billion
4. Berkshire Hathaway CEO Warren Buffett \$83.9 billion
5. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg \$79.5 billion,

The richest Indian, **Mukesh Ambani stands on the 13th spot**, with a net worth of \$51.8 billion followed by Azim Premji at the 48th rank with \$20.5 billion. Founder and chairman of HCL, Shiv Nadar secured the 92nd spot followed by billionaire banker Uday Kotak at the 96th spot.

40. Who has been honored with the Akademi Ratna Award for 2018?

- A. Sonal Mansingh
- B. Jatin Goswami
- C. Zakir Hussain
- D. K. Kalyanasundaram Pillai
- E. All the above

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

* Sangeet Natak Akademi has elected 4 famous personalities in the field of Performing Arts namely tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain, dancer Sonal Mansingh, dancer and choreographer Jatin Goswami and Bharatanatyam exponent K. Kalyanasundaram Pillai for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellows or Akademi Ratna Awards for 2018.

41. The “Kharga Prahar”, a major training exercise conducted by the Indian Army has concluded in which of the following state?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Punjab
- C. Delhi
- D. Gujarat
- E. Tamil Nadu

Answer ||| B

Solution ||| The “Kharga Prahar”, a major training exercise conducted by the Indian Army in Punjab. Indian Air Force (IAF) components also participated. As part of training para drops from IAF aircraft were carried out and simulated battlefield air strikes were conducted in support of ground forces.

• **Kharga Prahar exercise was undertaken in plains of Punjab by various units and formations of Army’s Kharga Corps.**

42. The fifth edition of International Army Scout Masters Competition is being held at_____.

- A. Bangalore
- B. Meerut
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Pune

E. Secunderabad

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The fifth edition of International Army Scout Masters Competition is being held at Jaisalmer Military Station under the aegis of Southern Command of Indian Army.

Jaisalmer Military Station under the aegis of Southern Command of Indian Army.

It is the first time that India has got an opportunity to host and participate in this prestigious event.

43. Which of the following country has topped the Global Gender Equality Index?

- A. Sweden
- B. India
- C. France
- D. Switzerland
- E. Denmark

Answer ||| E

Solution |||

Denmark has topped the Global Gender Equality Index developed by UK-based Equal Measures 2030, a joint effort of regional and global organizations.

* India ranked 95th out of 129 countries in a new index that measures global gender equality looking at aspects such as poverty, health, education, literacy, political representation and equality at the workplace. Chad was placed at bottom most position (129th).

44. Which space agency is planning to send Dragonfly robot to search for life on Saturn's largest moon 'Titan'?

- A. NASA
- B. JAXA
- C. CNSA
- D. ESA

E. ISRO

Answer ||| A

Solution ||| NASA to send robotic 'dragonfly' drone to Saturn moon Titan. Tiny copter will soar over the icy world, looking for signs of life. Get ready to see another world from the eyes of a dragonfly — at least, a robotic one. NASA said Thursday that it's sending a drone called Dragonfly to explore Saturn's largest moon, Titan.

45. Who is the author of the comic book “Adventures of the GST Man” to demystify GST rules?

- A. Srinivas Kotni
- B. Chetan Bhagat
- C. Ganesh Devy
- D. Ruskin Bond
- E. Arundhati Roy

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Author Srinivas Kotni has written a comic book titled “Adventures of the GST Man”.

Author Srinivas Kotni uses a fictional superhero to answer questions that one may have on this indirect tax levied by the government on all goods and services.

46. Which of the following countries has gifted to Imphal Peace Museum to commemorate the 75th anniversary of ‘Battle of Imphal’?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Nepal
- C. Myanmar
- D. Japan
- E. South Korea

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Japan Government has gifted to Imphal Peace Museum (Manipur) to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Battle of Imphal.

The museum has been inaugurated to mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Imphal.

47. The book 'Function of Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy' has been authored by_____.

- A. Vineet Goenka
- B. Meera Kumar
- C. Mark Twain
- D. Maya Kalyanpur
- E. None of these

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Author Vineet Goenka has released his book titled 'Function of Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy'.

He is a founder member of Centre for Knowledge Sovereignty (CKS), which is an endeavour to acquire knowledge through experts of eminence in the respective field.

The Book focuses in-depth on steps and concrete actions required to build highly capable data centres that will ensure data security.

48. Which of the following countries will host the 2024 Summer Olympics?

- A. France
- B. Japan
- C. Italy
- D. China
- E. None of these

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The 2024 Summer Olympics is a forthcoming international multi-sport event that is scheduled to take place from 26 July to 11 August 2024 in Paris, France.

49. As per a United Nations report, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in ____.

- A. 2025
- B. 2026
- C. 2027
- D. 2028
- E. 2030

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

- As per a United Nations report, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2027 and will have almost 1.64 billion inhabitants by 2050.
- UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Liu Zhenmin said the report offers a roadmap indicating where to target action and interventions.

Key highlights of the report

- India is expected to add nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050 and remain the most populated country through the end of the current century.
- The population of Nigeria is projected to grow by 200 million.
- Together, India and Nigeria could account for 23 per cent of the global population increase to 2050," the report has said.
- China, with 1.43 billion people in 2019, and India, with 1.37 billion, have long been the two most populous countries of the world, comprising 19 and 18 per cent, respectively, of the global total in 2019.
- India is still among the countries where the working-age population (25-64 years) is growing faster than other groups.

50. Who has been elected as Speaker of 17th Lok Sabha?

- A. Sumitra Mahajan
- B. Om Birla
- C. Virendra Kumar
- D. Thawar Chand Gehlot

E. None of these

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader **Om Birla** was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha on 19th June.
- He was declared elected and the Speaker by pro-tem Speaker Virendra Kumar.
- His candidature as the Speaker was supported by all major parties including Congress, TMC, DMK and BJD.
- He succeeded Sumitra Mahajan to replace her as the LS speaker.
- Sumitra Mahajan did not contest the Lok Sabha elections this year.
- A total of 13 motions were moved in support of Birla.
- Om Birla represents the Kota parliamentary constituency since the 2014 general elections and well-known political leader from Rajasthan.

51. Which among the following railway zones is recently created by the government?

- A. East Coast Railway
- B. South Coast Railway
- C. South Western Railway
- D. East Central Railway
- E. None of the above/ More than one of the Above

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Ministry of Railways has approved the creation of a new railway zone known as **South Coast Railway (SCoR)**, with its headquarters at Visakhapatnam and a new railway division at Rayagada in Odisha.

With the new SCoR zone and a new division, the country shall now have 18 railway zones and 74 railway divisions.

52. Which country has been ranked first in the Global Peace Index(GPI) 2019?

- A. India
- B. Iceland
- C. Sweden
- D. USA
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The GPI is a report produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) and developed in consultation with an international panel of peace experts from peace institutes and think tanks with data collected and collated by the Economist Intelligence Unit. **Iceland remains the most peaceful country in the world(1st rank)**, a position it has held since 2008. It is joined at the top of the index by New Zealand, Austria, Portugal, and Denmark. Bhutan has recorded the largest improvement of any country in the top 20, rising 43 places in the last 12 years.

53. Which of the following is related to Mission Shakti?

- A. Women empowerment
- B. Digitization of SHGs
- C. Anti-satellite system test
- D. Military exercise
- E. None of the above/ More than one of the Above

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

India has tested the Anti-Satellite System(A-SAT) from Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam Island, formerly known as Wheeler Island, an island off the coast of Odisha. The test was named as Mission Shakti. It has successfully destroyed a live satellite in the Low Earth Orbit (altitude of 300 km). With this test India is now in the league of three countries after the U.S., Russia, and China to have such technology.

54. Consider the following statements about Chandrayaan 2:

- 1) It aims to explore the Moon's south polar region.

2) The mission is an important step in India's PLANEX.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

- In September 2008, the Chandrayaan-2 mission was approved by the government for a cost of Rs 425 crore.
- It is India's *second mission to the moon*.
- It aims *to explore the Moon's south polar region*.
- The mission is an important step in India's plans for planetary exploration, a program known as *Planetary Science and Exploration (PLANEX)*.
- There are *three components of the mission, an orbiter, a lander and a rover*.

55. Consider the following statements about **Advanced Short-Range Air-to-Air Missile (ASRAAM)** and identify the **incorrect** statement:

- A. It has been developed by Israeli missile-maker
- B. It is a high speed, heat-seeking, an air-to-air missile.
- C. It is also used by the Royal Australian Air Force.
- D. None of the Above

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Advanced Short-Range Air-to-Air Missile (ASRAAM)

- It has been developed by European missile-maker MBDA.
- It is currently in service in UK's Royal Air Force (RAF) and Royal Australian Air Force.

- It is a high speed, extremely manoeuvrable, heat-seeking, an air-to-air missile which is designed as a “fire-and-forget” missile
- It is widely used as a Within Visual Range (WVR) air dominance missile with a range of over 25km.

56.What was the code name for Balakot airstrike operation?

- A. Operation All Out
- B. Operation Sankalp
- C. Operation Bandar
- D. Operation Clean
- E. None of the above/ More than one of the Above

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The airstrike by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on a terrorist training camp in Balakot, Pakistan, was code-named as ‘Operation Bandar’. As a response to the Pulwama terror attack which claimed the lives of 40 security personnel, 12 IAF Mirage-2000 fighter jets struck on Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp in Balakot inside Pakistan in the early hours on February 26 with precision-guided munitions.



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