

## 100+ Current Affairs for Air Force Group Y Exam 2019

**1. The 20th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was observed all across the country on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. What was the theme of the 20th anniversary of the Kargil Vijay Diwas?**

- A. 'Remember, Reward and Reaffirm'
- B. 'Rely, Remember and Rejoice'
- C. 'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'
- D. 'Remember, Rejoice and Reward'
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- The 20th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was observed on the 26th of July 2019.
- The theme of the 20th anniversary of the Kargil Vijay Diwas - 'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'.
- The theme reflects the emotion of the countrymen that we remember our martyrs by revisiting their sacrifices, we 'rejoice' by celebrating the victory in Kargil and we renew our resolve to safeguard the honour of the Tricolour.

**2. Who among the following has been appointed as the new Cabinet Secretary of India?**

- A. Sanjay Mitra.
- B. Rajiv Gauba
- C. Subhash Garg
- D. Rajiv Kumar
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

- Senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Rajiv Gauba (1982 batch- Jharkhand cadre) has been appointed as the new Cabinet Secretary for two years (from the end of August 2019).
- Mr. Gauba will replace P.K. Sinha (1977 batch -UP cadre), who was appointed Cabinet Secretary in 2015.
- Currently, Mr Gauba is serving as Home Secretary of India.



- IAS officer Ajay Kumar (1985 batch-Kerala cadre), Secretary, Defence Production, has been shifted as Secretary, Defence.

**3. In the recently launched Global Innovation Index (GII) India is at 52<sup>nd</sup> position, an improvement from last year 57<sup>th</sup> rank. What is the theme of the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of GII-2019?**

- A. “Creating Healthy Lives - The Future of Medical Innovation”
- B. “Creating Innovative Lives - The Future of Medical Innovation”
- C. “Think Healthy Lives and think Medical Innovation”
- D. “Medical Innovation is the gist of healthy life”
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- The theme of GII- 2019 (12th edition) is “Creating Healthy Lives - The Future of Medical Innovation” which aims to explore the role of medical innovation as it shapes the future of healthcare.
- It is published annually by Cornell University, INSEAD and the UN World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

**4. The Union Human Resource Development Minister has launched a national mission to improve learning outcomes at the elementary level. What is the name of that mission?**

- A. NISHANT
- B. NISHTHA
- C. NISHCHAYA
- D. SHIKSHA
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

- The Union Human Resource Development Minister has launched ‘National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA)’, a national mission to improve learning outcomes at the elementary level.
- NISHTHA Website, Training Modules, Primer Booklet and a Mobile App were also launched by the Minister.



- NISHTHA is the largest teachers' training programme of its kind in the world.
- Objective: To motivate and equip teachers to encourage and foster critical thinking in students.

**5. Which of the following state has launched the 'Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana'?**

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Punjab
- D. Gujarat
- E. Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- Chief Minister of Punjab Amarinder Singh has launched a flagship universal health insurance scheme Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana to mark the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- The mega health insurance scheme combines Centre's Ayushman Bharat plan to provide annual cashless treatment up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year, including pre-existing diseases.
- The scheme with 1,396 treatment packages will be implemented through over 450 empanelled hospitals, including 200 government hospitals.
- With this, Punjab has become 1st state to offer medical insurance for such a large proportion of its population.
- It will benefit around 46 lakh families, covering 76% of the state's population.

**6. Indian Women's and Men's hockey teams have won the Olympic Test event in Tokyo. Women's team defeated Japan 2-1 in the finals. Currently who is the captain of Indian women hockey team?**

- A. Rani Rampal
- B. Navjot Kaur
- C. Lalremsiami
- D. Reena Khokar
- E. Deep Grace



**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- Currently, Rani Rampal is the captain of Indian Women Hockey team.
- Indian Women's and Men's hockey teams have won the Olympic Test event in Tokyo.
- Women's team defeated Japan 2-1 in the finals.
- Navjot Kaur hit a goal at the 11th minute while Lalremsiami struck winning goal at 33rd minute of the game for India.
- Indian men's hockey team also won the Olympic Test event beating New Zealand 5-0.
- Captain Harmanpreet Singh, Shamsher Singh, Nilakanta Sharma, Gursahibjit Singh and Mandeep Singh scored one goal each for India.

**7.Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited France to participate in G-7 summit. What is the theme of this year summit?**

- A. Fighting terrorism
- B. Fighting Inequality
- C. Digital transformation
- D. Fostering Brotherhood
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited France to participate in the G7 summit (24–26th August 2019).
- The countries which are part of the G7 include the UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the US as well as the European Union (EU).
- The theme of this year summit is '**Fighting Inequality**'.

**8.Which of the following country conferred PM Modi with "The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance award"?**

- A. UAE
- B. Kuwait
- C. Bahrain



- D. Saudi Arabia
- E. Yamen

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Bahrain recently during which he held talks with King of Bahrain Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa in Manama on various bilateral and regional issues.
- The two countries signed four Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in the field of culture, space, solar energy, and on the roll-out of the 'RuPay card'.
- During the visit Prime Minister Modi was honoured with 'The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance' by Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa (King of Bahrain) for his effort to strengthen the bilateral ties with the Gulf nation.

**9.PV Sindhu became the first Indian to win badminton World Championships gold. She defeated \_\_\_ in the final.**

- A. Tai Tzu-ying
- B. Chen Yufei
- C. Nozomi Okuhara
- D. Ratchanok Intanon
- E. Mia Blichfeldt

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- Badminton star PV Sindhu (24-years) defeated Nozomi Okuhara of Japan 21-7, 21-7 in the women's singles final to become the first Indian to win Gold at the BWF World Championships.
- With the win, Sindhu has a full set of medals at World Championships - two bronze medals, two silver medals and a gold medal.

**10.Recently, (August 2019) B. Sai Praneeth won a bronze medal in a world championship, he belongs to which sports?**

- A. Archery
- B. Shooting
- C. Sprinter



- D. Badminton
- E. Wrestling

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

- B. Sai Praneeth (27-years) has become the second Indian male shuttler (first Prakash Padukone- 1983) to win a bronze medal in the BWF World Championships in 2019.
- Sai Praneeth was outclassed by defending champion Kento Momota (World No. 1) by 13–21, 8–21.

**11. Who among the following has been conferred with the Pushkin Medal 2019 for her contribution to Russian studies abroad?**

- A. Meeta Narain
- B. Suneeta Narain
- C. Jayati Ghosh
- D. Romila Thapar
- E. Zoya Hasan

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- Professor Meeta Narain of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has been conferred with the Pushkin Medal 2019 for her contribution to Russian studies abroad.
- Pushkin Medal is the highest International Award given to a scholar of Russian language and literature for outstanding contribution to Russian studies abroad.
- Narain has contributed towards re-writing of Russian studies textbooks for graduate students after the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- Pushkin Medal is named after the famous Russian author and poet Alexander S. Pushkin.

**12. Recently, Deepa Malik declared as the winner of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2019. She belongs to which sports?**

- A. Archery
- B. Shooting



- C. Wrestling
- D. Paralympic Games
- E. Badminton

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

- The selection committee for the National Sports Awards has recommended Deepa Malik and wrestler Bajrang Punia jointly for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Puraskar 2019.
- Deepa Malik will be the first female para-athlete to win the prestigious sports award of India.
- Indian athlete Deepa Malik (48-years) is the first Indian woman to win a medal in Paralympic Games and won a Silver medal at the 2016 Summer Paralympics in the shot put.
- She has also won gold in F-53/54 Javelin event at the para athletic Grand Prix held in Dubai in 2018.
- Currently, she is the world number one in the F-53 category.
- Malik is the wife of Colonel Bikram Singh and daughter of Colonel BK Nagpal.

**14.National Tribal Festival organized at which place?**

- A. Bhopal
- B. Ranchi
- C. Leh Ladakh
- D. Cuttack
- E. None of the above

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- Aadi Mahotsav or National Tribal Festival is being organised at Polo Ground, Leh-Ladakh.
- It is a 9-day festival that was celebrated from 17 August to 25 August 2019. The event will be inaugurated by Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Satya Pal Malik.

**15.Who has won the men’s single Queen’s Club Championships 2019 title?**



- A. Stan Wawrinka
- B. Nick Kyrgios
- C. Rafael Nadal
- D. Feliciano Lopez
- E. Marcos Baghdatis

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

Spanish Tennis player Feliciano Lopez has won the men's single Queen's Club Championships.

He defeated Gilles Simon.

**16.What is the theme of the Earth Day, 2019?**

- A. Environmental and Climate Literacy
- B. Water Wonderful World
- C. Clean Earth, Green Earth
- D. Protect Our Species
- E. End Plastic Pollution

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

The theme of the World Earth Day 2019 is 'Protect Our Species'.

The World Earth Day celebrated every year around the world on '22nd April'.

**17.The Global Recycling Day 2019 is observed on\_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 18th March
- B. 12th March
- C. 10th March
- D. 15th March
- E. None of these





**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

Global Recycling Day 2019 was celebrated on 18th March 2019 to encourage the world to think ‘resource not waste’. The theme of the global recycling day 2019 was “Recycling into the future”.

**18.Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has inaugurated the project “Development of Spiritual Circuit: Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple-Aranmula-Sabarimala”. Which of the following ministry sanctioned this project?**

- A. Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- B. Ministry of Environment
- C. Ministry of Tourism
- D. Ministry of Human Resource Development
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

The project ‘Development of Spiritual Circuit: Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple-Aranmula-Sabarimala’ was sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism in 2016-17 for Rs. 92.22 Crores. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has inaugurated the project “Development of Spiritual Circuit: Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple-Aranmula-Sabarimala” being implemented under the Swadesh Drashan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. Swadesh Darshan scheme is one of the flagship schemes of Ministry of tourism for development of thematic circuits in the country in a planned and prioritised.

**19.Which of the following country has launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor to International Space Station in August, 2019?**

- A. USA
- B. Israel
- C. Russia
- D. China
- E. Japan

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**



- Russia has launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor, (Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research) with identification number Skybot F850.
- It will spend 10 days learning to assist astronauts on the International Space Station.
- Fedor blasted off in a Soyuz MS-14 spacecraft from Russia's Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.
- Fedor is described as potentially useful on Earth for working in high radiation environments, de-mining and tricky rescue missions.

**20. Biennial Multilateral Naval Exercise 'MILAN' will be organized at which place in March 2020?**

- A. Malabar coast
- B. Andaman Nicobar
- C. Visakhapatnam
- D. Chennai
- E. Lakshadweep

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- Indian Navy will organise the multilateral naval exercise 'MILAN' at Visakhapatnam in March 2020.
- Launched in 1995, the MILAN series of biennial exercises were organised at Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) till 2018.
- However, because of the increased scope and complexity of the exercise, it is being conducted for the first time on the mainland at ENC.

**21. The 'Statue of Unity' has been shortlisted for 'The Structural Awards 2019' of the UK-based Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE). In which city it was build?**

- A. Ahmedabad
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Vadodara
- D. Surat



E. Kevadia

**Answer: E**

**Solution:**

- The most prolific creation in recent times, the Statue of Unity, is the World's Tallest Monument. It represents more than a colossal structure facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam on the river Narmada.
- It is an iconic symbol of the 'Iron Man', who played an important role during India's freedom struggle and thereafter in the unification of the princely states.
- It reminds the world of the towering personality of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the nucleus of India's integration as a united country.
- Statue of Unity (memorial to Sardar Patel) was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Gujarat's Kevadia town on 31st October 2018.

**22. 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.

**23. India's A. U. Celestine who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?**

- A. Cricket
- B. Tennis



- C. Basketball
- D. Football
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

Former Indian football team goalkeeper A. U. Celestine passed away here on Monday. He was 73 and is survived by his wife and son.

Celestine played for the Tamil Nadu men's team in the Senior Nationals as a goalkeeper in the 1965 and 1969 National Championships and also represented India in the Merdeka Cup in Malaysia in 1969.

He joined the **Reserve Bank of India**, Madras in 1967 and played for the team for several years. His contemporaries include Poyyathoppa, Orlando, Raju, Gunapandi, Thomas, Koshy, Edwin Ross and Victor. Later, he was also the member-in-charge for the Reserve Bank FC.

**24. Story writer Abburi Chaya Devi passed away. She belonged to \_\_\_\_.**

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

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

Telugu story writer Abburi Chaya Devi (86-years) passed away at C.R. Foundation Hospital in Kondapur, Hyderabad.

She won the Sahitya Akademi award in 2005 for her book 'Thana Margam.'

She also won Vasireddi Ranganayakamma award (in 1993) and Telugu University's best woman writer award (in 1996) for her book, Mrythyunjaya.

Chayadevi worked as Deputy Librarian at JNU, New Delhi, and took voluntary retirement in 1982.



**25. World Refugee Day is observed on 20th June every year to raise awareness about the conditions and problems that refugees face in their lives. What is the theme of the 2019 World Refugee Day?**

- A. With courage let us all combine
- B. We stand together with refugees
- C. Step with Refugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day
- D. Migrants and Refugees: Towards a Better World
- E. One refugee forced to flee is too many

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- World Refugee Day is observed on 20th June every year to raise awareness about the conditions and problems that refugees face in their lives.
- The theme for World Refugee Day 2019 is 'Step with Refugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day.'
- The theme focuses on that there is a need to take big and small steps in solidarity with refugees from around the world.
- Millions of people are forced to move from their homes every year to keep safe from war, persecution or natural disaster.
- According to the United Nation (UN) every minute, around 25 people have to leave everything in the search for a better and safer life.

**26. What is the theme of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day?**

- A. Bridging the standardization gap
- B. ICT: Entrepreneurship for social impact
- C. ICTs and improving road safety
- D. Women and Girls in ICT
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

The 2019 theme of WTISD is “Bridging the standardization gap”.



The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is observed every year on 17th May to mark the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention (ITC) and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

**27. Who has won the Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Award for 2018-19?**

- A. Sanjay Singh
- B. Anurag Gupta
- C. Manoranjan Bharti
- D. Rakesh Singh
- E. Sunil Kumar Gautam

**Answer: E**

**Solution:**

Sunil Kumar Gautam (IPS -Officer) has been honored with the Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Award for the year 2018-19 for his book Samvidhan Kavya.

**28. Who has clinched the men's single title at the Swiss Open 2019 badminton tournament?**

- A. Sai Praneeth
- B. Chen Long
- C. Shi Yuqi
- D. R Ouseph
- E. None of these

**Answer : C**

**Solution:**

Shi Yuqi (China) defeated Praneeth to Claim 2019 Swiss Open Title.

The 2019 Swiss Open was a badminton tournament took place at St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland.

**29. Which country topped in the Global Peace Index 2019?**

- A. Finland
- B. Denmark
- C. Norway
- D. Iceland



E. Austria

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

The list is topped by **Iceland**, followed by Denmark and Austria.

India has ranked 141st out of 163 countries on Global Peace Index 2019.

Iceland remains the most peaceful country (since 2008) and Afghanistan the least peaceful nation (replacing Syria) in the world.

Global Peace Index reports published by the Australian think tank Institute of Economics and Peace.

**30. Which of the following companies has signed an agreement with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) to enhance its Swachh Bharat e-Learning Portal features?**

- A. Microsoft India
- B. Amazon India
- C. Oil and Natural Gas Corp
- D. Facebook India
- E. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has partnered with Microsoft India to use the platform Project Sangam of Microsoft on its Swachh Bharat e-Learning Portal.

**31. Which of the following 'Vehicle' has been inducted by the Indian Navy at the Western Naval Command in Mumbai?**

- A. Kalvari
- B. Arihant
- C. Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle
- D. Kiev
- E. Rajput

**Answer: C**



**Solution:**

The Indian Navy inducted the 'Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle' into service at the Western Naval Command in Mumbai.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba inducted the vehicle into the Navy.

The DSRV has the capability to rescue personnel from a distressed submarine up to a depth of 650 meters and it is the latest in terms of technology and capabilities.

**32. Who has won the Gold medal in 65 kg category at the World Wrestling Championship in Budapest?**

- A. Takuto Ootoguro
- B. Bajrang Punia
- C. Valentin Yordanov
- D. Aleksandr Medved
- E. Leri Khabelov

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

Japan's Takuto Ootoguro has won the Gold medal in 65 kg category at the World Wrestling Championship in Budapest.

**33. Who among the following has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Dena bank?**

- A. AS Rajeev
- B. Padmaja Chundru
- C. Karnam Sekar
- D. Mahesh Kumar Jain
- E. S Harisankar

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

Karnam Sekar has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Dena bank.

**34. Which of the following games has been excluded from 2022 Commonwealth Game to be held in Birmingham?**





- A. Shooting
- B. Wrestling
- C. Archery
- D. Badminton
- E. Both A and C

**Answer : E**

**Solution :**

- Commonwealth Game 2022 scheduled to be held in Birmingham, England.
- This time shooting, and archery events will not take place in the 2022 Commonwealth Game.
- Commonwealth Games Federation has decided to exclude shooting from 2022 Commonwealth Game to be held in Birmingham.
- It is being decided despite a threat by India to boycott the entire event in protest.

**35. Government has decided to confer on 'Kirti Chakra' to who among the following?**

- A. Abhinandan Varthaman
- B. K. Sivan
- C. Minty Agarwal
- D. Prakash Jadhav
- E. None of these

**Answer : D**

**Solution :**

- The Kirti Chakra will be conferred on soldier Prakash Jadhav posthumously, who died in a gunfight with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018. It is third highest military honour awarded during peacetime.
- Jadhav, a sapper with the Indian Army who succumbed to bullet injuries sustained in Kulgam district.
- Two militants were also killed in the gunfight. Jadhav, who was 29, belonged to Karnataka.



• Pilots of the five Mirage-2000 fighter jets who bombed a terror launch pad in Balakot in Pakistan in response to the Pulwama terrorist attack will be honoured with Vayu Sena medals.

**36. Ahead of Independence Day, The Union Information and Broadcasting Minister, Prakash Javdekar released a nearly five-minute-long patriotic music video "Watan". The patriotic song is produced by\_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. All India Radio
- B. Doordarshan
- C. Radio Mirchi
- D. Sangit Natak Academy
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

- The five minute long patriotic music video song is produced by 'Doordarshan' .
- The song highlights several path breaking initiatives of the government including the determination and vision behind the recent successful launch of "Chandrayaan 2".
- The song also pays tribute to the bravery and valour of our armed forces and the martyrs of the country.
- It also shows PM Modi flagged off India's fastest train - the Vande Bharat Express as well as Yoga Day celebrations.

**37. President Ram Nath Kovind conferred country's highest civilian award Bharat Ratna on former President Pranab Mukherjee. He was \_\_\_\_\_ President of India?**

- A. 10<sup>th</sup>
- B. 11<sup>th</sup>
- C. 12<sup>th</sup>
- D. 13<sup>th</sup>
- E. 14<sup>th</sup>

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**



- President Ram Nath Kovind conferred country's highest civilian award **Bharat Ratna** on former President **Pranab Mukherjee** and posthumously on social activist **Nanaji Deshmukh** and singer **Bhupen Hazarika**.
- Mukherjee, 83, served the country as its **13th President** for five years from July 25, 2012.

**38. Which of the following companies is planning to launch the Global Coin cryptocurrency in early 2020?**

- A. Google
- B. Microsoft
- C. Facebook
- D. Amazon
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

Facebook is planning to launch its own cryptocurrency, in early 2020, which is likely to be named GlobalCoin.

The cryptocurrency is being launched by Facebook under its Secret project “Project Libra” and will require around \$1 billion in funding to support the project.

**39. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully test-fired an indigenously developed 500 kg class guided bomb from a Sukhoi combat jet at \_\_\_\_.**

- A. Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- B. Pokhran, Rajasthan
- C. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Kerala
- D. Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Friday successfully test fired an indigenously developed 500 kg class guided bomb from a Sukhoi combat jet at Pokhran in Rajasthan.



According to Defence ministry the guided bomb achieved the desired range and hit the target with high precision.

**40. Which of the following cities hosted the 11th Joint Consular Committee meeting between India and Iran?**

- A. Pune
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. New Delhi
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

The 11th Joint Consular Committee meeting between India and Iran took place in New Delhi.

Both sides discussed the early conclusion of Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance on civil and commercial matters and extending the longer duration of e-Visa for each other nationals on reciprocity.

**41. The Indian women's hockey team beat Ireland 2-1 at the Cantor Fitzgerald U-21 International four-nation tournament held in \_\_\_\_.**

- A. Sydney, Australia
- B. New Delhi, India
- C. Edinburgh, Scotland
- D. Dublin, Ireland
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

The Indian Women's Hockey team came from a goal down to beat Ireland 2-1 and register its second win at the Cantor Fitzgerald Under-21 International four-nation tournament at Dublin yesterday.

Laura Foley gave Ireland the lead in the 10th minute before India scored through Reet in the 35th and Sharmila Devi in the 53rd minute.



**42. Which of the following cities hosted the biannual Army Commanders' Conference?**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Ranchi
- C. Chennai
- D. Jaipur
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the biannual Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi.

It is an important event for the planning and execution process of the Indian Army.

**43. Which of the following cities hosted the Khelo India Youth Games-2019?**

- A. Ranchi
- B. Allahabad
- C. Pune
- D. Patna
- E. Kochi

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

Khelo India Youth Games-2019 (Play India School Games) was held from 9th to 20th of January 2019 in Pune, Maharashtra.

Note:

- In the second edition of Khelo India Youth Games (2nd edition), Maharashtra topped with 228 medals (85 gold, 62 silver and 81 bronze).
- Haryana was second with total 178 medals (62 gold, 56 silver and 60 bronze) while Delhi was third with total 136 medals (48 gold, 37 silver and 51 bronze) for a total of 136 medals.

Note:



- Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) held annually are the national level multidisciplinary grassroots games in India held for two categories (under-17 years school students & under-21 college students).
- Every year the best 1000 kids will be given an annual scholarship of Rs. 500,000 for 8 years to prepare them for the international sporting events.

**44. Which of the following industries have been identified as Sunrise industries in Budget 2019-20:**

- 1) Solar Photo Voltaic cells
- 2) Lithium storage batteries
- 3) Computer Servers
- 4) Laptops

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

\* Sunrise industries are those industries which are relatively new, growing fast and are expected to become important in the future.

\* In order to boost economic growth and Make in India, the budget has announced to launch a scheme to invite global companies through a transparent competitive bidding to set up mega-manufacturing plants in sunrise and advanced technology areas such as Semi-conductor Fabrication (FAB), Solar Photo Voltaic cells, Lithium storage batteries, Solar electric charging infrastructure, Computer Servers, Laptops, etc. and provide them investment linked income tax exemptions under section 35 AD of the Income Tax Act, and other indirect tax benefits.

**45. The primary objective of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) is:**



- A. to provide subsidies to fishermen
- B. to provide cheaper loans to fishermen
- C. to address critical gaps in the value chain of fishing
- D. to provide pension benefits to fishermen

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

Fishing and fishermen communities are closely aligned with farming and are crucial to rural India. Through a focused Scheme – the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) – the Department of Fisheries aims to establish a robust fisheries management framework. This will address critical gaps in the value chain, including infrastructure, modernization, traceability, production, productivity, post-harvest management, and quality control.

**46. Budget 2019-20 has proposed to set up more Common Facility Centres (CFCs) under the ‘Scheme of Fund for Upgradation and Regeneration of Traditional Industries’ (SFURTI). Consider the following statements regarding SFURTI:**

- 1) The objectives of the scheme is to organize the traditional industries and artisans into clusters to make them competitive
- 2) The scheme comes under purview of Ministry of Rural Development
- 3) Under the scheme, the focused sectors are Bamboo, Honey and Khadi clusters

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

\* The objectives of the scheme is to organize the traditional industries and artisans into clusters to make them competitive and provide support for their long term sustainability, sustained employment, to enhance marketability of products of such clusters, to equip traditional artisans of the associated clusters with the improved skills, to make provision for common facilities and improved tools and equipments for artisans, to strengthen the cluster



governance systems with the active participation of the stakeholders, and to build up innovated and traditional skills, improved technologies, advanced processes, market intelligence and new models of public-private partnerships, so as to gradually replicate similar models of cluster-based regenerated traditional industries.

\* The scheme comes under purview of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

\* The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman argued that the Government aims to set up more Common Facility Centres (CFCs) under the 'Scheme of Fund for Upgradation and Regeneration of Traditional Industries' (SFURTI). Finance Minister argued that this will facilitate cluster based development to make the traditional industries more productive, profitable and capable for generating sustained employment opportunities. The focused sectors are Bamboo, Honey and Khadi clusters. SFURTI envisions setting up of 100 new clusters during 2019-20 to enable 50,000 artisans to join the economic value chain.

**47. Consider the following statements:**

**1) India is 6<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world**

**2) The Current Account Deficit as percentage of GDP is slightly more than 5%**

**3) India received more than USD 60 billion worth FDI in FY 2018-19**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

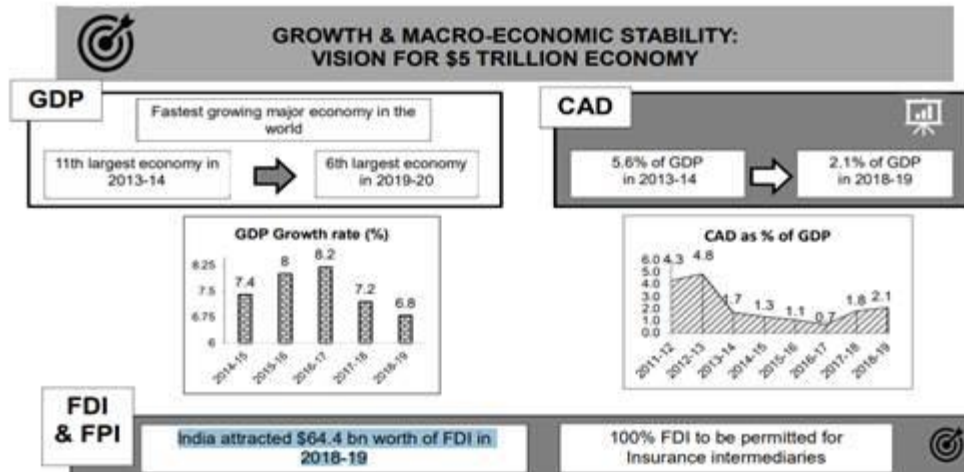
\* India was 11th largest economy in 2013-14. However, it is 6th largest economy in 2019-20.

\* The Current Account Deficit as percentage of GDP is 2.1%.

\* India attracted \$64.4 bn worth of FDI in 2018-19.







48. Which of the following statements are correct:

- 1) Government has fixed the fiscal deficit target for FY 2019-20 at 3.4%
- 2) In last 5 years, fiscal deficit is continuously declining

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

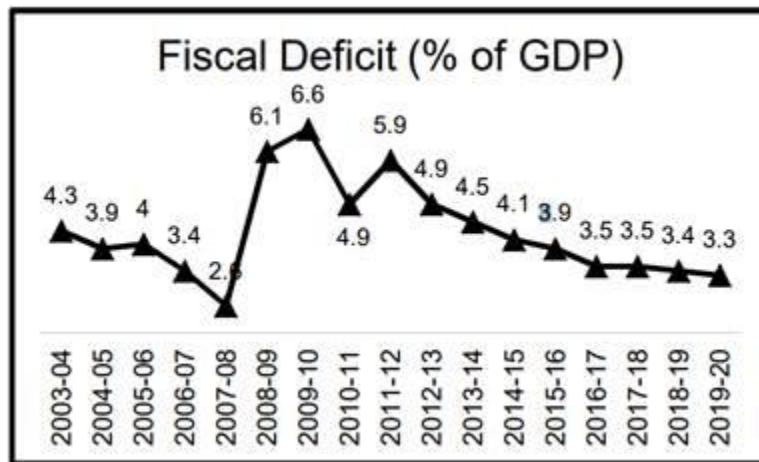
Answer : B

Solution :

\* Finance minister has reduced the fiscal deficit target to 3.3 per cent from an earlier 3.4 per cent for 2019-20 in a move that signals government's commitment to fiscal consolidation.

\* Since 2011-12, fiscal deficit is continuously declining.





49. With regard to disinvestment, consider the following statements:

- 1) Budget 2019-20 aims for a disinvestment of Rs. 90,000 crore in 2019-20
- 2) Disinvestment helps to reduce fiscal deficit

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: B**

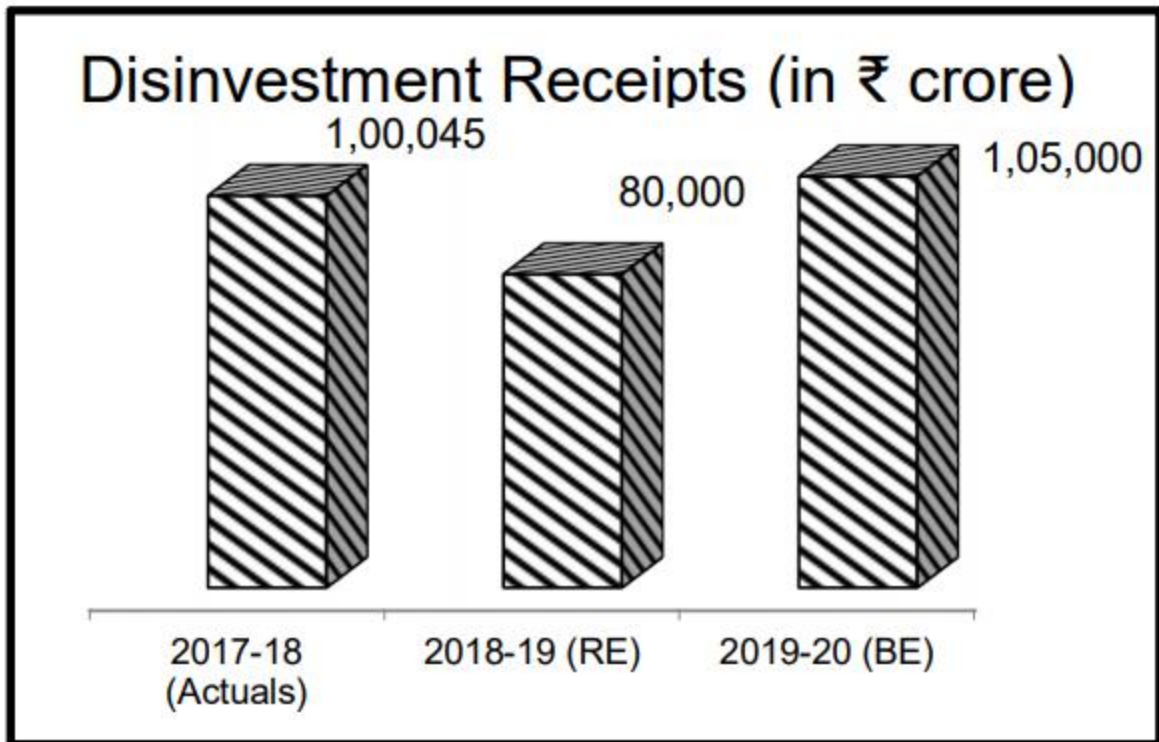
**Solution:**

\* Finance minister in her maiden budget has increased the divestment target from ₹90,000 crore to ₹1.05 trillion for the current fiscal year, focusing on consolidation of public sector undertakings and strategic disinvestment.

\* Disinvestment is a source of non-tax revenue which reduces fiscal deficit.



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50. Naari tu Narayani:

- A. is a new scheme which aims to reduce maternal mortality rate
- B. is a new scheme which aims to increase literacy among women
- C. is a new department which aims to look after needs of vulnerable women
- D. is a committee which aims to ensure optimal allocations of resources for the welfare of women

Answer : D

Solution :

Naari tu Narayani is a committee which has been formed in order to ensure optimal allocations of resources for the welfare of women

51. Which of the following proposals have been brought in Budget 2019-20 for the empowerment of women:

- 1) One woman per SHG to be eligible for a loan up to Rs. 1 lakh under MUDRA Scheme.



**2) Overdraft of Rs. 5,000 to be allowed for every verified women SHG member having a Jan Dhan Bank Account.**

**3) Women SHG interest subvention program has been proposed for certain selected districts**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : A

Solution :

Women SHG interest subvention program has been proposed to be expanded to all districts.

**52. With regard to announcements for higher education in Budget 2019-20, consider the following statements:**

**1) 'Study in India' program has been launched to attract foreign students to study in Indian higher educational institutions**

**2) Percentage wise budget has provided more allocation for higher education vis a vis school education as compared to last year**

**3) Ethiopia has registered maximum number of students in India**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : D

Solution :



Budget has proposed to start a programme, 'Study in India', that will focus on bringing foreign students to study in our higher educational institutions. The aim of the programme is to make available high quality premier education in India at affordable costs for international students.

The countries that have registered maximum number of students are Ethiopia (12,047), Nigeria (11,108), Afghanistan (7,905), Nepal (7,806), Bangladesh (5,902), Kenya (3,626), Tanzania (3,531), Rwanda (2,542) Ghana (2,344) and Uganda (2,018). In all, there are registrations from over 190 countries.

While the government has proposed a 12.8% year-on-year (y-o-y) increase in the FY20 allocation for school education to Rs. 56,536.63 crore in Budget 2019, the same has risen 14.3% to Rs. 38,317.01 crore on the higher education front. This is a substantial increase from last year, when the allocation for school education was upped by 6.2%, and that for higher education was increased by 0.4%.

**53. With respect to Revenue and Expenditure in Budget 2019-20, consider the following statements:**

- 1) The source of maximum Revenue is Borrowings**
- 2) The source of maximum Expenditure is States' Share of Taxes & Duties**

**Choose the correct option:**

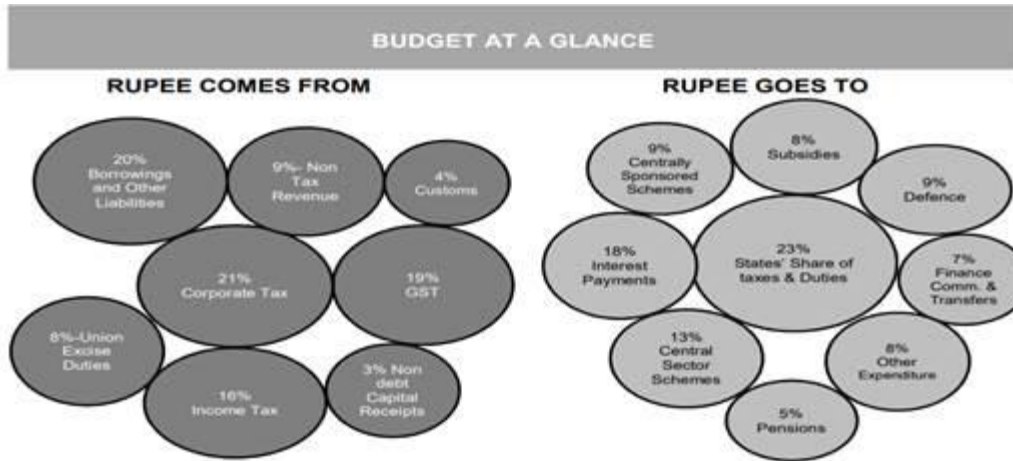
- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer : B

Solution :

The source of maximum Revenue is Corporate Tax. Sources of Revenue and Expenditure are given below in pie chart:





54. Which of the following statements are correct:

- 1) In 2018-19, India's merchandise exports were more than USD 400 billion
- 2) In 2018-19, India's merchandise imports were more than USD 500 billion
- 3) Trade deficit has reduced during 2018-19 as compared to previous year

Choose the correct option:

- A. 2 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : A

Solution :

\* The value of India's merchandise exports increased by 8.6 percent to US\$ 329.5 billion in 2018-19 from US\$ 303.5 billion in the previous year. However, imports increased by 10.2 percent in 2018- 19 to US\$ 513.1 billion from US\$ 465.6 billion in the previous year.

\* Trade deficit has increased to US\$ 183.5 billion during 2018-19, from US\$ 162.1 billion in the previous year.

55. Consider the following statements regarding Milk production in India:

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- 1) Milk production in India is over 150 million tonnes
- 2) India accounts for 20 per cent of world milk production
- 3) India ranks second in milk production

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : C

Solution :

\* India ranks first in milk production, accounting for 20 per cent of world production.

\* Milk production in India has been increasing steadily over the years and has increased from 55.6 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 176.3 million tonnes in 2017-18, at an average annual growth rate of 4.5 percent.

**56. Consider the following statements regarding Fish production in India:**

- 1) India is the third largest fish producer in the world
- 2) Majority of fish production in India comes from marine sources
- 3) Fish and fish product exports are the largest group in agricultural exports

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : C

Solution:

\* India is the third largest fish producer in the world with a total production of 12.6 million metric tonnes in 2017-18 of which 65 per cent was from inland sector (not marine sources).





\* The sector has been registering a steady growth in the total gross value added and accounts for 5.23 per cent share of agricultural GDP.

\* Fish and fish product exports emerged as the largest group in agricultural exports and in value terms accounted for Rs. 45107 crore in 2017-18.

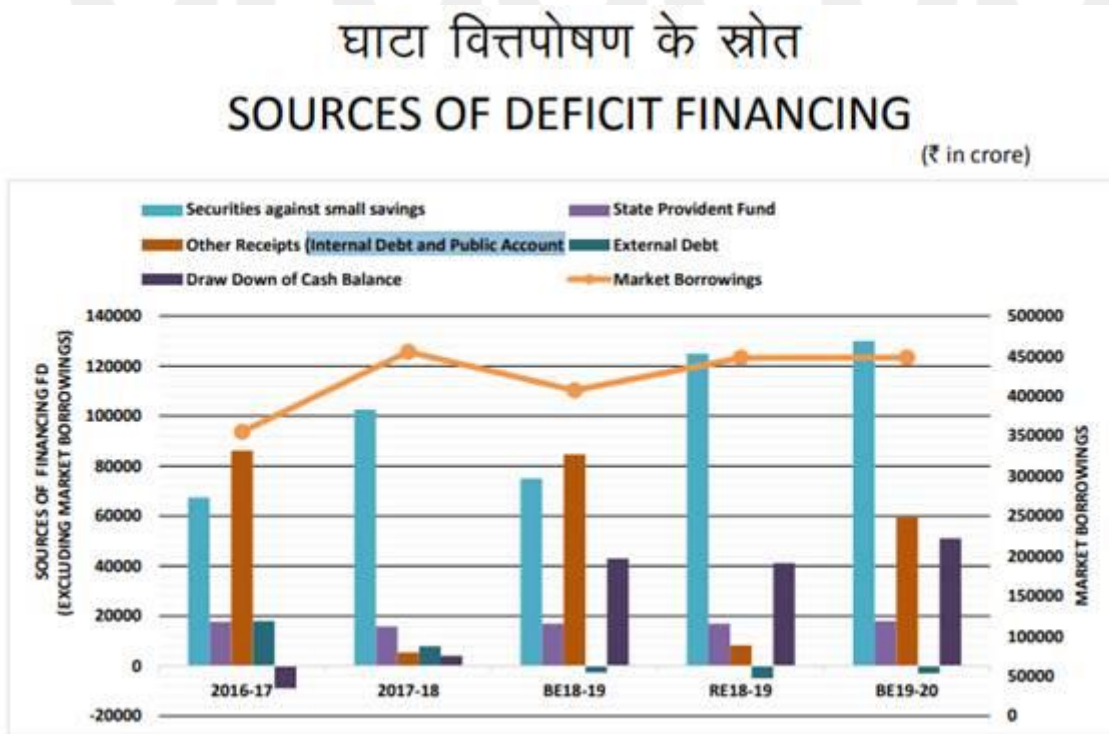
**57. In budget 2019-20, which of the following sources has been proposed to be the largest source for Deficit Financing:**

- A. Market Borrowings
- B. Securities against small savings
- C. External Debt
- D. Internal Debt and Public Account

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

Securities against small savings is the largest source for Deficit Financing. The contribution of various sources is given below:



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**58. The eight-core infrastructure supportive industries, viz. coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity that have a total weight of nearly 40 percent in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew by 4.3 percent in 2018-19. Which of the following core infrastructure industries registered maximum growth rate in 2018-19:**

- A. Fertilizers
- B. Steel
- C. Cement
- D. Electricity

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

The production of coal, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement and electricity increased by 7.4 percent, 0.8 percent, 3.1 percent, 0.3 percent, 4.7 percent, 13.3 percent and 5.2 percent respectively during 2018-19 while the production of crude oil fell during the same period.

**59. Which of the following is not placed under Non-Tax Receipts (NTR) revenue in Budget 2019-20:**

- A. Health and Education Cess
- B. Dividends from RBI
- C. Interest receipts on loans
- D. Telecom receipts

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

\* NTR comprises dividends from RBI, banks, financial institutions and other public sector enterprises. Another major component of NTR is interest receipts on loans. Other NTR receipts include telecom receipts, receipts from offshore oilfields, user charges and fees levied by various Ministries/ Departments for services provided by them.

\* Health and Education Cess is a Tax Receipt revenue.

**60. Which of the following statements are correct:**



**1) In Budget 2019-20, Non-Tax Revenue has been estimated to be more than Tax Revenue**

**2) In Budget 2019-20, Indirect taxes are estimated to be more than direct taxes**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer: D

Solution:

\* In 2019-20, Gross Tax Revenue has been budgeted at Rs. 24,61,195 crores while the Non Tax Revenue is estimated at Rs. 3,13,179 crores.

\* Direct tax is budgeted at Rs. 13,35,000 crores while Indirect tax is budgeted at Rs. 11,22,015 crores in BE 2019-20

**61. The expenditure of government may be divided into Revenue and Capital expenditure. In this regard, consider the following statements:**

- 1) Revenue expenditure comprises of more than 80% of total expenditure
- 2) Revenue transfers made to the State/UT Governments in the form of Finance Commission grants, is placed under capital expenditure

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer: A

Solution:

\* BE figure for revenue expenditure in 2019-20 is Rs. 24,47,780 crores. Revenue expenditure is estimated at 87.8 per cent of the total expenditure in 2019-20. Capital expenditure of the Government is budgeted at Rs. 3,38,569 crores in BE 2019-20.



\* The major components of the revenue expenditure of the Government include Interest payments, Subsidies, Salaries, Pensions, Defence revenue expenditures, expenditure on Central Police Organizations and the revenue transfers made to the State/UT Governments in the form of Finance Commission grants, Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Other Transfers.

**62. With regard to Primary Deficit, consider the following statements:**

- 1) Primary deficit is the difference between fiscal deficit and interest payments.**
- 2) Government has an objective of reducing primary deficit to 0% of GDP in 2019-20**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

\* Primary deficit is the difference between the fiscal deficit of the current year and the interest paid by the government on loans obtained in the past. A shrinking primary deficit indicates progress towards fiscal health.

\* Primary Deficit has been projected to be 0.2% of GDP in BE 2019-20. Government has an objective of reducing primary deficit to 0% of GDP by 2020-21

**63. Budget 2019 has introduced a new scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan Dhan Yojana. Consider the following statements in this regard:**

- 1) It is a voluntary and contribution based central sector scheme for the entry age group of 18-60 years**
- 2) The scheme will provide monthly minimum assured pension of Rs 3,000 to shopkeepers, retail traders and self-employed persons whose annual turnover is below Rs 1.5 crore**

Choose the correct option:



- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan Dhan Yojana is a voluntary and contribution based central sector scheme, for the entry age group of 18-40 years. The contribution under the scheme is payable by the subscriber and the Central Government, in equal share, i.e. 50:50 basis.

**64. Consider the following statements:**

- 1) Economic Survey 2018-19 has projected the real GDP growth for the year 2019-20 at 7%**
- 2) IMF's World Economic Outlook (WEO) has projected less than 7% growth of Indian GDP for the year 2019-20**
- 3) GDP growth of India is on rise since 2015-16**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Solution:

\* The Government has projected the real GDP growth for the year 2019-20 at 7% on the back of anticipated pickup in the growth of investment and acceleration in the growth of consumption.

\* The April 2019 Report of the World Economic Outlook (WEO) of International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected India's GDP to grow even higher at 7.3 percent in 2019.



\* The GDP growth is not showing any definite pattern for last 5 years.



65. Which of the following statements are correct:

- 1) Demographic dividend is when the share of the working-age population is larger than the non-working-age share of the population
- 2) India's demographic dividend has peaked
- 3) India's labour force participation rate for the age-group 15-59 years is over 60%
- 4) In India, for every 1 working female, there are more than 3 working males

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

\* United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) defines Demographic dividend as the economic growth potential that can result from shifts in a population's age structure, mainly when the share of the working-age population (15 to 64) is larger than the non-working-age share of the population (14 and younger, and 65 and older)

\* India's demographic dividend will peak around 2041, when the share of working-age, i.e. 20-59 years, population is expected to hit 59 per cent.



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\* As per the NSSO Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017-18, India's labour force participation rate for the age-group 15-59 years is around 53 per cent (80 per cent for males, 25 per cent for females).

**66. Which of the following statements are correct:**

- 1) Real growth of 'Agriculture & allied' sector in FY 2018-19 has increased to 4%
- 2) The total production of foodgrains during 2018-19 is estimated to be more than 300 million tonnes

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

\* Real growth of 'Agriculture & allied' sector in FY 2018-19 has declined to 2.9% after two years of good agriculture growth.

\* The total production of foodgrains during 2018-19 is estimated to be at 283.4 million tones.



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**67. With respect to clean energy, consider the following statements:**

- 1) The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No.6 is concerned with Clean Energy**
- 2) About 50% population in India does not have access to clean cooking**
- 3) PAHAL Scheme aims to safeguard the health of women and children by providing them with clean cooking fuel.**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

\* The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No.7 is concerned with Affordable and Clean Energy

\* In 2017, 53 per cent of the population in India did not have access to clean cooking

\* Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna was launched in 2016, with the aim to safeguard the health of women and children by providing them with clean cooking fuel. PAHAL is a Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG consumer which aims to rationalize subsidies based on approach to cut subsidy leakages.

**68. Consider the following statements:**

- 1) Government of India has an objective of making Indian economy a USD 5 trillion economy by 2024-25**
- 2) India needs to sustain at least a real GDP growth rate of 10% to achieve the above objective**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two



**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- \* To achieve the objective of becoming a US\$5 trillion economy by 2024-25, India needs to sustain a real GDP growth rate of 8%.
- \* International experience, especially from high-growth East Asian economies, suggests that such growth can only be sustained by a “virtuous cycle” of savings, investment and exports catalysed and supported by a favourable demographic phase.
- \* Investment, especially private investment, is the “key driver” that drives demand, creates capacity, increases labour productivity, introduces new technology, allows creative destruction and generates jobs.

**69. Economic Survey has termed certain firms as ‘Dwarf Firms’. Consider the following statements regarding Dwarf Firms:**

- 1) Dwarf Firms employ less than 100 workers**
- 2) They are generally more than 10 years old**
- 3) Their productivity is low**
- 4) Contribution of dwarf firms in employment is significantly high**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- \* Dwarf firms employ less than 100 workers despite being more than 10 years old. They account for more than 50% of all organized firms in manufacturing by number.
- \* Contribution of dwarfs to employment is only 14% and to productivity is a mere 8%.





\* On the other hand, large firms employ more than 100 employees and account for 75% employment and close to 90% of productivity despite accounting for about 15% by number.

**70. Which of the following statements are correct:**

- 1) Employment elasticity measures the variation in employment with variation in economic output**
- 2) Making investment in sectors which have low employment elasticity, can create more jobs**
- 3) Rubber and plastic industry, electronics and transport equipment industry are one of the highest employment elasticity sectors**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

\* Employment elasticity is a measure of the percentage change in employment associated with a 1% change in economic growth. High employment elasticity means economic growth is leading to a greater number of job creation. Hence second statement is wrong.

\* The rubber and plastic products, electronic products and transport equipment are one of the highest employment elasticity sectors.

**71. NREGAsoft:**

- 1) is a comprehensive e-governance system for the MGNREGA scheme**
- 2) makes available documents like muster rolls, job card/employment register/muster roll issue register etc to public**
- 3) can be used even by an illiterate man**

Choose the correct option:



- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Solution:

\* NREGAsoft is a comprehensive e-governance system for the MGNREGA scheme. Accessible by a range of stakeholders, it captures the complete flow of all MGNREGA work at every level – from the centre all the way to the panchayat. In the spirit of citizens’ right to information, the system makes available documents like muster rolls, registration application register, job card/employment register/muster roll issue register and muster roll receipt register, which are otherwise inaccessible to the public.

\* The system has no language barriers to usage; it is accessible in a number of local languages. In fact, even the illiterate can use the interface as it leverages sounds and icons in a touch-screen kiosk model. It is designed to be used by a range of stakeholders, from workers who are beneficiaries of the scheme to gram panchayats to district programme coordinators to banks and post offices. Even citizens who are not beneficiaries of the scheme may view information on the portal.

**72. Consider the following statements:**

- 1) The Indian judicial system has over 3.53 crore pending cases**
- 2) Around 87.5 per cent of pending cases are in the District and Subordinate courts**
- 3) Among states and union territories, Delhi has the least number of pending cases**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

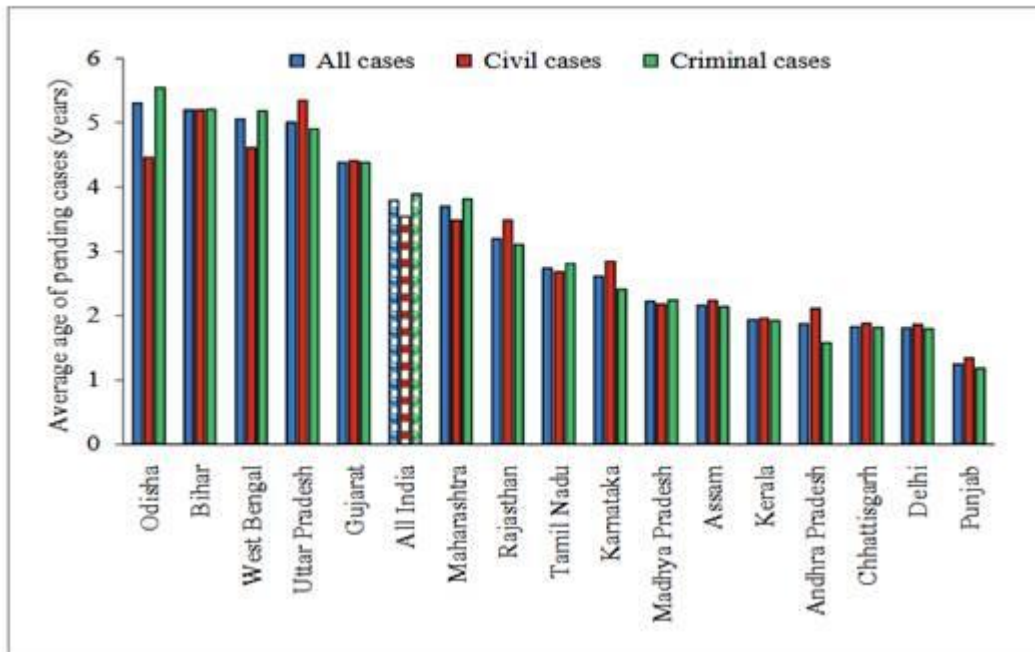
Answer : B

Solution :



- \* Among states and union territories, Punjab has the least number of pending cases
- \* 100 per cent clearance rate can be achieved by filling out merely 2279 vacancies in the lower courts and 93 in High Courts.
- \* States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal need special attention.

Figure 3: State-wise Average Pendency in D&S courts



73. With regard to Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) index, consider the following statements:

- 1) The index is published by World Bank
- 2) The index is created by quantifying newspaper coverage of policy-related economic uncertainty
- 3) According to index, Economic Policy Uncertainty was highest in 2011-12
- 4) The index is strongly correlated to inflation rate and repo rate

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only

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D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : C

Solution :

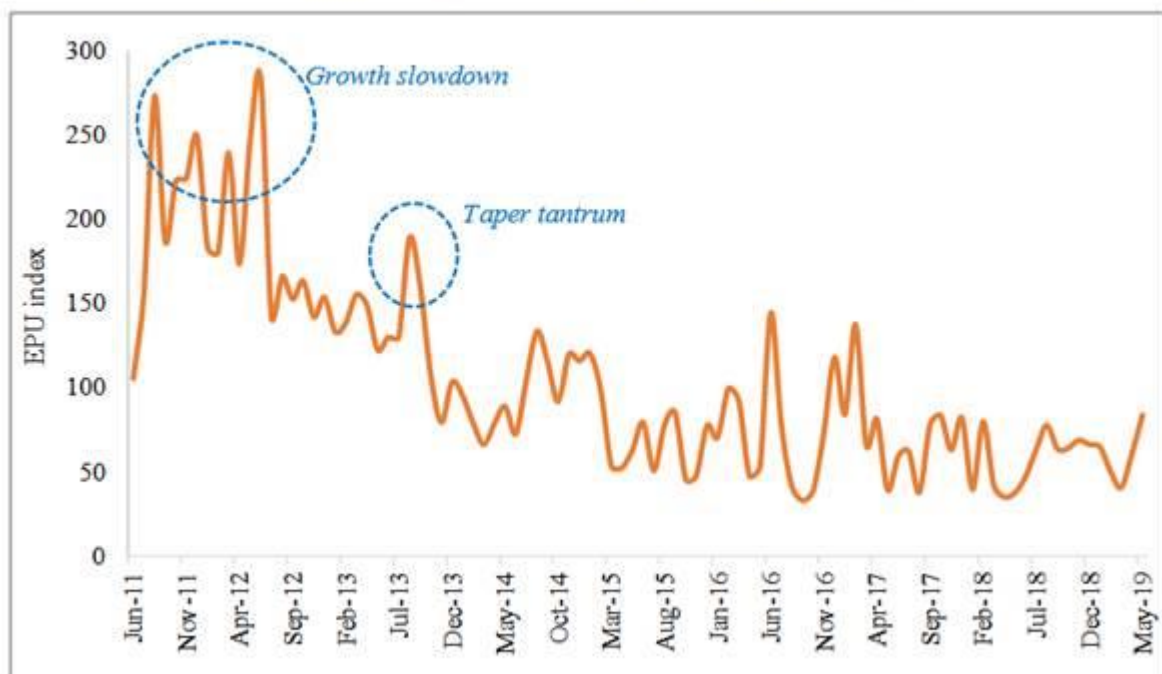
\* Economic Policy Uncertainty (EPU) index was developed by Baker. Scott Ross Baker is an Associate Professor of Finance at Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

\* In order to measure economic policy uncertainty, the index of the policy-related economic uncertainty is determined by quantifying the amount of newspapers. The index shows the frequency of articles in major newspapers, including the following triple: 'economic' or 'economy'; 'Search' or 'uncertainty'; And one or more policy-related terms 'fiscal policy', 'topical policy', 'PMO', 'sensitivity'

\* Economic Policy Uncertainty when measured using EPU index was the highest in 2011-12 coinciding with the years of policy paralysis. Economic policy uncertainty has reduced significantly over the last decade in India.

\* Apart from this, EPU index is very strongly correlated to volatility in exchange rate, stock market & inflation and various other macroeconomic variables. It is strongly correlated to inflation rate and repo rate as well.

**Figure 1: Economic Policy Uncertainty in India**



Source: <http://www.policyuncertainty.com/>



**74. Which of the following factors affect investment positively:**

- 1) Increase in repo rate
- 2) High consumption demand
- 3) Volatility of exchange rate

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 2 only

Answer : B

Solution :

Factors affecting investment:

\* First important factor that affects investment is cost of borrowing. Higher repo rate makes cost of borrowing higher which affects investment negatively.

\* Second important factor for investment is the prices that producers get for their products. Rise in prices are expected to trigger greater investments as businesses find it profitable to do so as long as consumption demand is sufficiently strong to overcome the impact of inflation.

\* The foreign component of fixed investment, FDI and FII flows are expected to be negatively related to the volatility of exchange rate, measured by its coefficient of variation. This is because the returns that the foreign investors actually realize are in foreign currency terms, which depend on the exchange rate. If the volatility of the exchange rate is higher, it may decrease the growth of foreign inflows.

**75. With regard to Indian demography, consider the following statements:**

- 1) The annual population growth rate in India is on constant decline since 1971-81
- 2) The national Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is expected to go below replacement level by 2021



### 3) Uttar Pradesh has the highest annual population growth rate in India

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : A

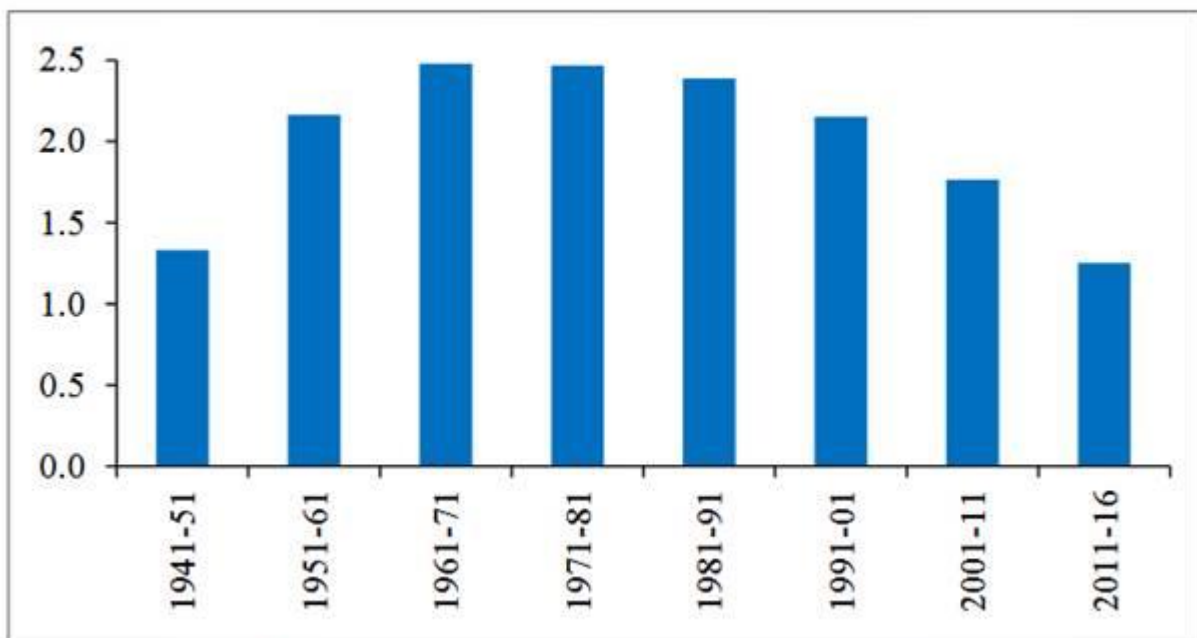
Solution :

\* Population growth in India has been slowing in recent decades from an annual growth rate of 2.5 per cent during 1971-81 to an estimated 1.3 per cent as of 2011-16.

\* TFR is the average number of children born per woman at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next, without migration. This rate is roughly 2.1 children per woman. Indian TFR is expected to be below replacement level by 2021

\* Bihar has the highest annual population growth rate in India.

**Figure 1: Annual Population Growth Rate in India (per cent)**

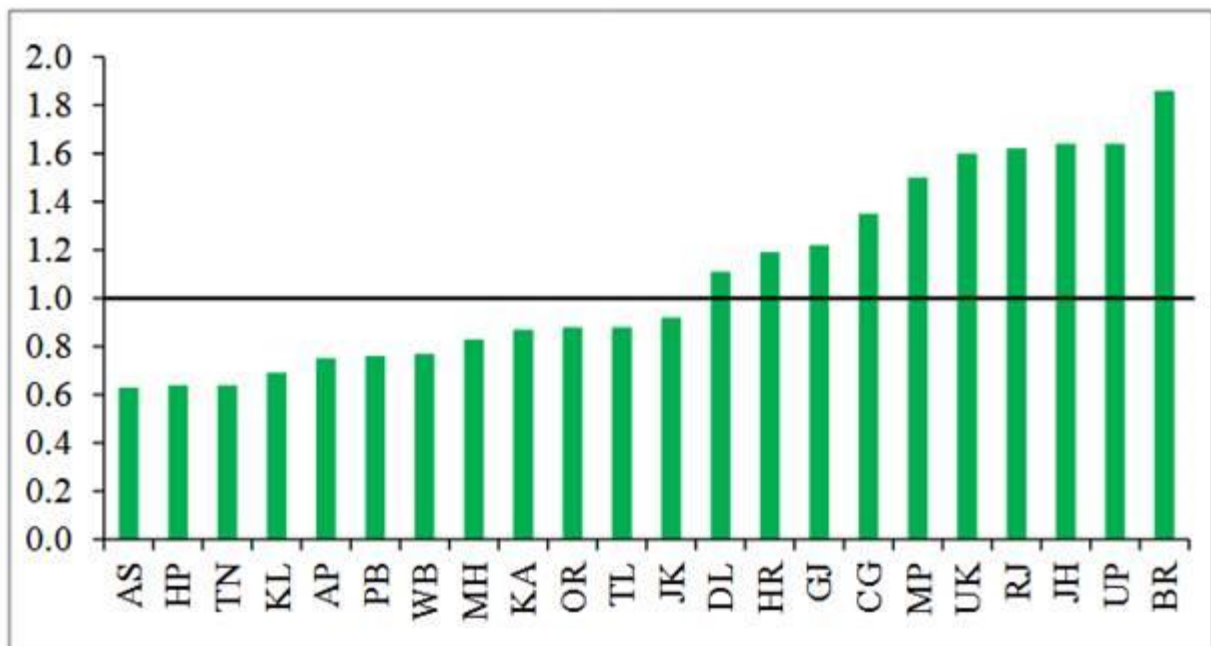


Source: Census 2011, International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) estimates.





Figure 2: Annual Population Growth Rate by State during 2011-16 (per cent)



76. Which of the following states have their fertility rate well below the replacement rate:

- 1) Himachal Pradesh
- 2) Punjab
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Maharashtra

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : D

Solution :





It is a perception that only south Indian states have fertility rate below the replacement rate. However, now, above mentioned states too have their fertility rate well below the replacement rate (TFR of 2.1).

**77. India's foreign exchange reserves:**

- 1) Are over USD 400 billions
- 2) Are rising continuously since 2015

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer : A

Solution :

India's foreign exchange reserves are USD 422 as on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. Foreign exchange reserves have declined in 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18.



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**78. Consider the following statements:**

- 1) Over 90% of the rural households in India have access to toilets**
- 2) Hardly 60% of those with access to toilets are using them in rural India**
- 3) Usage of toilets comes with economic benefits**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer : C**

**Solution :**

\* Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was initiated in 2014 to achieve universal sanitation coverage by 2 October 2019. In 2014, around 100 million rural and about 10 million urban households in India were without a sanitary toilet.

\* In 2014, over 564 million, i.e. close to half the population, practiced open defecation. Since October 2014, over 9.5 crore toilets have been built all over the country and 564,658 villages have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Now, 93.1% of the households have access to toilets and 96.5% of those with access to toilets are using them in rural India.

\* A recent study conducted by UNICEF on behalf of MoDWS assessed the economic impacts (benefits) of SBM. The study focused on the household and community financial and economic benefits as well as costs of improved sanitation and hygiene. The study found that on an average, every household in an open defecation free village saved about 50,000 per year on account of financial savings due to lower likelihood of disease from using a toilet and practicing hand washing and the value of time saved due to a closer toilet.

**79. Which of the following statements are correct:**

- 1) Increase in per capita energy consumption leads to increase in human development**
- 2) India's per capita energy consumption is one third of the global per capita average**

**Choose the correct option:**



- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

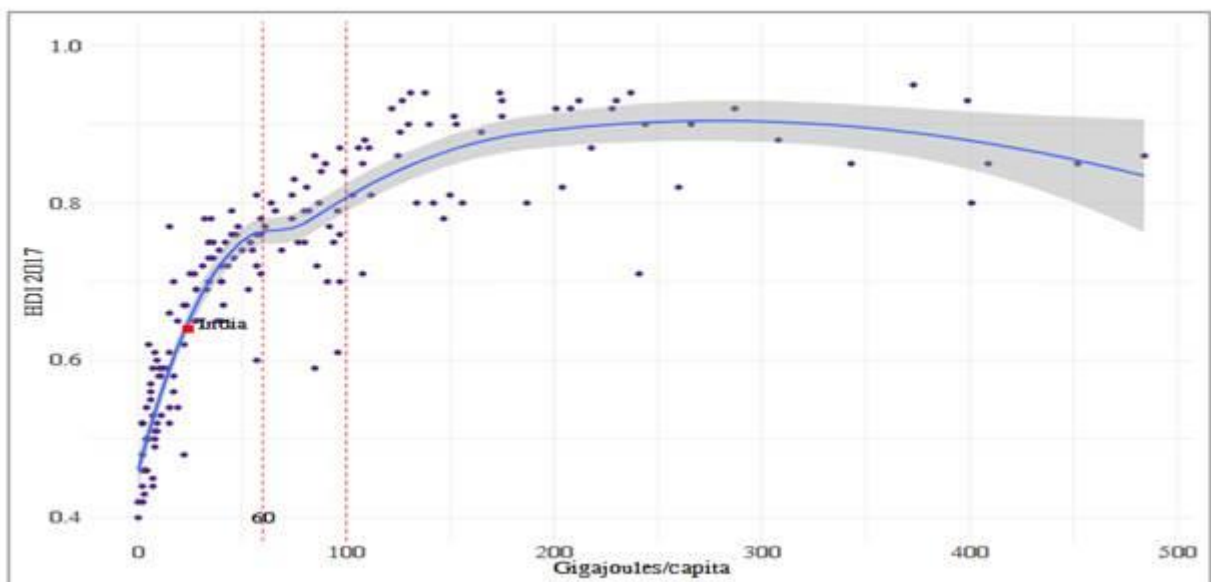
Answer : C

Solution :

\* There is a strong relationship between Human Development Index (HDI) and Per capita energy consumption. At low levels of energy consumption, increases in per capita energy consumption leads to considerable increases in human development.

\* India's per capita energy consumption equals 0.6 tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) as compared to the global per capita average of 1.8 toe.

**Figure 4: Human Development and Per Capita Energy Consumption for a cross-section of countries (2017)**



Source: Data from BP Energy Outlook 2019

**80. Choose the correct order of growth (low to high) of Agriculture, Industry and Services sectors of Indian economy in FY 2018-19:**

- A. Agriculture, Services, Industry
- B. Agriculture, Industry, Services
- C. Industry, Agriculture, Services



## D. Services, Agriculture, Industry

Answer : B

Solution :

Agriculture, Industry and Services sectors have grown @ 2.9%, 6.9% and 7.5% respectively.



81. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 protects regular workers only and not casual workers
- 2) India was one of the first developing countries to introduce minimum wages
- 3) Bhoothalingam Committee had given recommendations on determination of minimum wages

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : B

Solution :



\* India was one of the first developing countries to introduce minimum wages with the enactment of the Minimum Wages Act way back in 1948. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 protects both regular and casual workers.

\* Bhoothalingam Committee(1978) had argued for adoption of National Floor Level Minimum Wage to ensure a uniform wage for all workers and enhance protection of the most vulnerable workers and eliminate arbitrariness in the determination of level of minimum wages for different States and occupations. Recommendations were mainly for the organized sector.

**82. With regard to energy sector in India, consider the following statements:**

**1) About 60% of electricity is generated from thermal power**

**2) Globally India stands at 5<sup>th</sup> position in wind power**

**3) Globally India stands at 4<sup>th</sup> position in solar power**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : A

Solution :

\* India has set ambitious targets for renewable energy and has been undertaking one of the world's largest renewable energy expansion programmes in the world. Now, globally India stands 4<sup>th</sup> in wind power, 5<sup>th</sup> in solar power and 5<sup>th</sup> in renewable power installed capacity.

\* Share of renewable (excluding hydro above 25 MW) in total electricity generation increased from 6% in 2014-15 to 10% in 2018-19. Thermal power still plays a dominant role at 60% share.

**83. NITI Aayog has developed a composite index for each State/UT which aggregates progress towards attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The best performing states with highest score are (from high to low):**



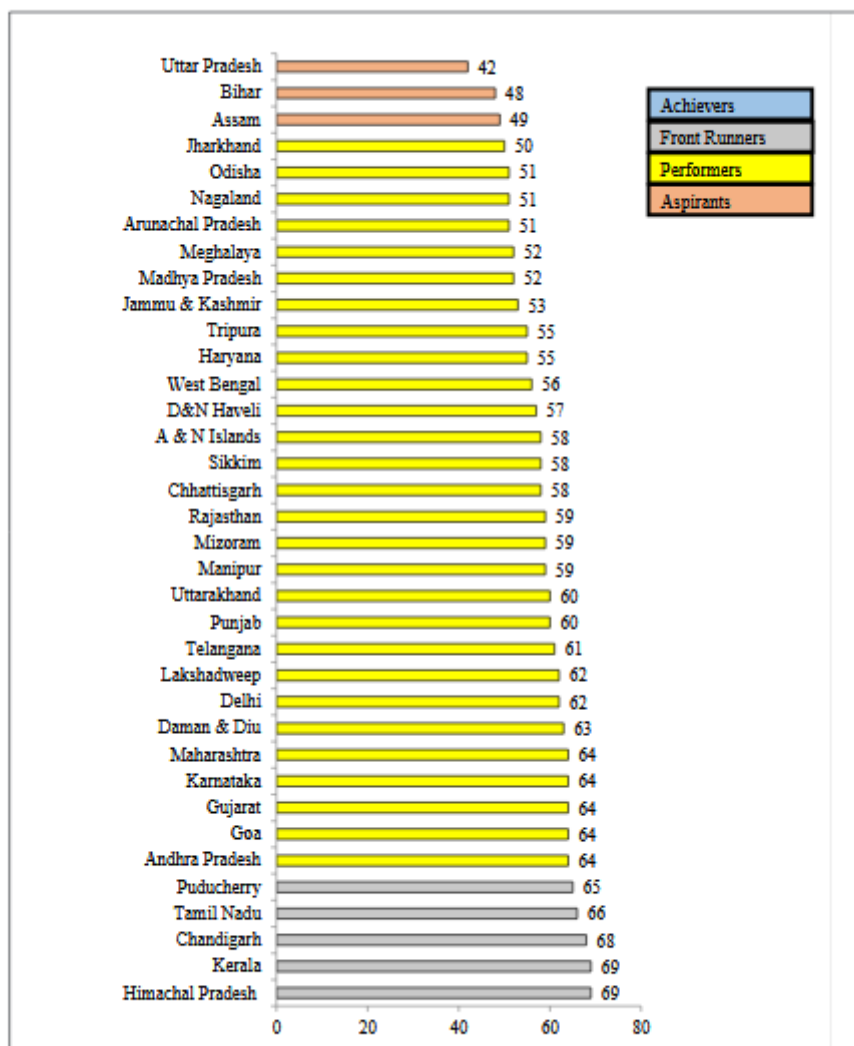
- A. Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala
- B. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh
- C. Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
- D. Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh

Answer : C

Solution :

The scores of various states and UTs are given in chart:

**Figure 1: Performance of States and UTs on SDG Composite India Index**



Source: NITI Aayog's SDG India Index Baseline Report, 2018

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**84. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has recently launched a satellite named 'EMISAT' using PSLV-C45. The primary objective of EMISAT is:**

- A. to boost India's space surveillance capacity.**
- B. to help forecasting about monsoon, cyclone and associated weather phenomenon**
- C. to provide better communication facilities**
- D. to map forests and biodiversity in country**

Answer : A

Solution : • EMISAT has been developed under DRDO's Project Kautilya which aims to boost India's space surveillance capacity. The project is named after the ancient Indian economist who emphasised the importance of spying for a king to protect his kingdom.  
• EMISAT is modelled after an Israeli spy satellite called SARAL (Satellite with ARgos and ALtika). The main capability of EMISAT is in signal intelligence — intercepting signals broadcast by communication systems, radars, and other electronic systems on the ground from hundred of kilometers away in space.

**85. The term 'Ways and Means Advances' was recently seen in news. Ways and Means Advances refers to:**

- A. the loan taken by RBI from World Bank**
- B. temporary loan facilities given by RBI to the centre and state governments**
- C. external commercial borrowings taken by Indian corporate houses**
- D. funds borrowed by commercial banks from RBI**
- E. Other than the given options**

Answer: B

Solution:

- Ways and Means Advances refers to the temporary loan facilities given by RBI to the centre and state governments. The interest rate for WMA is currently charged at the repo rate.
- The Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the Government of India, has decided that the limits for Ways and Means Advances (WMA. for the first half of the financial year 2019-20 (April 2019 to September 2019) will be Rs 75000 crore.

**86. 'Candida auris' is an emerging serious global health threat. 'Candida auris' is a:**





- A. Virus
- B. Bacteria
- C. Fungus
- D. Invasive plant species

Answer : C

Solution : • Candida auris is a species of fungus which grows as yeast.  
• The killer germ, a fungus called Candida auris, has showed up in countries as far apart as Australia and Canada, Venezuela and Japan, over the past few years.  
• It has set alarm bells ringing because it is often resistant to multiple anti-fungal drugs.

**87. Consider the following statements regarding World Press Freedom Index:**

- 1) The index is published by an organization named Reporters Without Borders
- 2) India has been ranked at 140<sup>th</sup> position
- 3) The index has been topped by Sweden
- 4) Reporters Without Borders is a specialized agency of United Nations

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 4 only

Answer: A

Solution:

- India has dropped two places on a world press freedom index to be ranked 140th out of 180 countries in the annual Reporters Without Borders analysis released recently.
- The World Press Freedom Index 2019 has been topped by Norway.
- Reporters Without Borders, is a Paris based, non-profit organisation that works to document and combat attacks on journalists around the world.

**88. The Asian Tea Alliance (ATA. is a recently launched union of five tea-growing and consuming countries. Which of the following countries is not a member of ATA:**

- A. China
- B. Indonesia
- C. Japan



D. Malaysia

**Answer : D**

**Solution :**

- The Asian Tea Alliance (ATA), a union of five tea-growing and consuming countries, has been launched recently in Guizhou in China.
- The members of the alliance are the Indian Tea Association, China Tea Marketing Association, Indonesian Tea Marketing Association, Sri Lanka Tea Board and Japan Tea Association.
- ATA plans to work towards enhancing tea trade, cultural exchanges, technology exchanges as well as globally promoting tea.
- It will also work towards enhancing global consumption of tea, while creating a sustainability agenda for the future of Asian tea.

**89. Earth Day is celebrated annually on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. Consider the following statements in this regard:**

- 1) The theme of Earth Day 2019 is 'Protect our Planet'**
- 2) The Earth Day is being celebrated since first earth summit, 1992**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer: D

Solution:

- The theme of Earth Day 2019 is 'Protect our Species'.
- The earth day is being celebrated since 1970.
- World Earth Day is celebrated so that each of us remembers that we are all responsible for the sustenance of Earth and its ecosystems.
- The day also identifies the collective responsibility to promote harmony with nature and the Earth in order to achieve a balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations of humanity.



**90. The May Fourth Movement was an intellectual and reformist movement that reached its peak on May 4th, 1919. Recently, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the May Fourth Movement was celebrated. The May Fourth Movement is concerned with:**

- A. India
- B. China
- C. USA
- D. Russia

Answer: B

Solution:

In 1919, the May Fourth Movement was triggered by a student revolt against the capitulation of the nationalist Chinese government to Western powers during the Treaty of Versailles negotiations, held at the end of the First World War. China had allied with the Western powers in the War on the assumption that its coastal province of Shandong, then under German occupation, would be returned to its sovereign control. But before the war ended, German occupation of Shandong was replaced by that of Japan, which imposed onerous additional conditions on the Chinese.

**91. 'Kafala' was recently seen in news. Kafala is:**

- A. cultural festival of Western Asian countries
- B. proposed free trade agreement between Western Asian countries
- C. exit visa system prevalent in Western Asian countries
- D. recent initiative to help workers of Kerala working in Western Asian countries

Answer: C

Solution:

- Kafala is a controversial exit visa system prevalent in Middle Eastern countries.
- Kafala regulates the relationship between employers and migrant workers in many countries in West Asia.

**92. Gudi Padwa, Ugadi and Yugadi are New Year festivals celebrated in various states of India on 6th April. Consider the following statements in this regard: 1) Gudi Padwa is a Maharashtrian new year 2) Ugadi is the New Year's Day for the people of Andhra**



**Pradesh and Telangana 3) Yugadi is new year festival of Karnataka**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

- Gudi Padwa is a Maharashrian new year and is celebrated in parts of Maharashtra.
- Ugadi is the New Year's Day for the people of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- In Karnataka, the festival is celebrated as Yugadi.

**93. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Jeje Lalpekhluva have been recommended for Arjuna award 2019. Consider the following statements in this regard:**

- 1) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Jeje Lalpekhluva play Hockey
- 2) Arjuna Award is the highest sporting award of country

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer: D

Solution:

- Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Jeje Lalpekhluva play Football.
- Arjuna Award is India's second highest sporting award after Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.

**94. Recently, Govt. of India has released a postage stamp to commemorate the 750th birth anniversary of Sri Vedanta Desikan. Consider the following statements regarding Sri Vedanta Desikan:**

- 1) He was a Telugu poet
- 2) He was one of the most prominent preceptors in the Srivaishnava tradition

Choose the correct option:



- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: B**

**Solution:**

Sri Vedanta Desikan (1268–1369) was a tamil poet.

**95. Which of the following statements are correct regarding International Day for Biological Diversity:**

- 1) It is celebrated on 22<sup>nd</sup> May
- 2) The theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity, 2019 is "Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health"

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- International Day for Biological Diversity, also known as World Biodiversity Day, is observed on May 22 to promote biodiversity issues.
- This year's theme "Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health" focuses on biodiversity as the foundation for our food and health and a key catalyst in transforming food systems and improving human health.

**96. The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue was recently held in Thailand. Which of the following countries is not a member of the dialogue:**

- A. India
- B. Russia
- C. Japan
- D. Australia

Answer : B



Solution : The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is an informal strategic grouping consisting of India, US, Australia and Japan. The members recently met in Bangkok in Thailand.

**97. Graphite is used in electronic products such as electrodes, batteries, and solar panels. Choose the correct decreasing order of Graphite reserves found in following states of India:**

- A. Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu
- B. Jammu & Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu
- C. Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand,
- D. Jammu & Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand,

Answer : A

Solution : According to a recent survey of GSI, Arunachal Pradesh has got highest reserves of Graphite in country.

**98. 'Artemis' program was recently in news. Consider the following statements in this regard:**

- 1) This is the program of NASA.
- 2) Under 'Artemis' program, humans would be sent to Mars by 2024.

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer : A

Solution : In May 2019, NASA unveiled the calendar for the 'Artemis' 2024 Moon mission that will send astronauts to the lunar surface by 2024, including the first woman and the next man.

**99. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Vayoshreshtha Samman:**

- 1) These are the National Awards for Senior Citizens
- 2) These awards come under purview of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

**Choose the correct option:**



- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer : C

Solution : • In May 2019, the Department of Social Justice And Empowerment had invited nominations for Vayoshreshtha Samman- National Awards for Senior Citizens 2019  
• The National Awards are conferred by the President of India on the International Day of Older Persons i.e. 1st October every year.

**100. Joint meetings of Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam conventions were held in Geneva in May, 2019. In this regard, consider the following statements:**

- 1) Basel convention is concerned with prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade
- 2) Stockholm convention aims to eliminate the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).
- 3) Rotterdam convention aims to control the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

Answer: B

Solution:

- The Basel Convention aims to control of transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal.
- Stockholm convention aims to eliminate the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).
- Rotterdam Convention is concerned with the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade.

**101. Sasakawa Award is given in the field of:**





- A. Management of Health
- B. Architecture
- C. Inventions in field of Medicine
- D. Disaster Risk Management

Answer: D

Solution:

- Sasakawa Award is the most prestigious international award in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) area.
- In May 2019, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) conferred Sasakawa Award 2019 for Disaster Risk Reduction to Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra, Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India.

**102. India has recently joined a major global initiative named 'Christchurch call to action'. This initiative is concerned with:**

- A. to combat extremism online
- B. to combat hunger
- C. to combat nuclear disasters
- D. to combat crime against woman

Answer: A

Solution:

- India has recently joined a major global initiative to combat terrorism and extremism online and secure the internet.
- The initiative -- 'Christchurch call to action' -- has been named after the New Zealand city where 51 people were killed in an attack on mosques.
- It was launched in Paris by India, France, New Zealand, Canada and several other countries.

**103. Operation Safed Sagar was recently in news. It is concerned with:**

- A. Making oceans free from pollution
- B. Reducing damage from cyclones
- C. Indian army operation in middle east to protect Indians from ISIS
- D. Operation of Indian Air Force during Kargil war

Answer: D



**Solution:**

- Operation Safed Sagar was the code name of Indian Air Force's role in acting jointly with Ground troops during the Kargil war.
- At 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kargil War, Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Chief Marshal (ACM) B.S. Dhanoa paid homage to the air warriors who made supreme sacrifice during Operation Safed Sagar at Kargil.

**104. Consider the following statements regarding Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Climate Change Conferences:**

- 1) The 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COP, 2018 was held in Katowice, Poland
- 2) The 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COP, 2019 will be held in Brazil

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

The Conference of the Parties (COP) is the governing body of the United Nations Climate Change Conferences. Till date 24 meetings have been held.

- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was held in Berlin in 1995
- 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was held in Kyoto in 1997 [Kyoto Protocol]
- 24<sup>th</sup> meeting was held in Katowice, Poland in 2018
- 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was to take place in Brazil in 2019. However, Brazil has pulled out of hosting the event. Hence, COP25 will be organized by Chile in December 2019.

**105. Biosphere Reserves are declared to ensure the conservation of ecosystems and species. Generally, a Biosphere Reserve is divided into 3 parts viz. Core, Buffer and Transition. Choose the correct match in this regard:**



- 1) **Core Zone: R&D is allowed**
- 2) **Buffer Zone: Tourism, fishing and grazing are allowed**
- 3) **Transition Zone: Settlement and other economic activities are allowed**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: D**

**Solution:**

Biosphere reserves aim to monitor the natural and human-cause changes on spatial and temporal scales. They also promote economic development which is culturally, socially and ecologically sustainable.

Structure of Biosphere Reserve:

1. **Core Area:** Absolutely undisturbed. A core zone allows R&D that does not affect wildlife. It is free from all human pressures.
2. **Buffer zone:** Buffer Zone surrounds the core zone. It protect the core zone. Here Tourism, fishing and grazing are permitted.
3. **The Transition Zone:** The Transition Zone is the outermost part of a Biosphere Reserve. This includes settlements, crop lands, managed forests and area for intensive recreation, and other economic activities.

**106. With respect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), consider the following statements:**

- 1) **The convention was signed in 1973**
- 2) **Its secretariat is located in Geneva**
- 3) **The 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the CITES was held in Colombo in 2019**



Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : C

Solution :

- CITES aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species in the wild.
- It is also known as the Washington Convention. Its secretariat is located in Washington.
- The 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the CITES was held in Colombo in 2019.

**107. With respect to World Wildlife Day, consider the following statements:**

- 1) World Wildlife Day is observed every year on 3rd March**
- 2) The theme of the year 2019 for World Wildlife Day is “Life below water: for people and planet”**

**Choose the correct option:**

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two

Answer: C

Solution:

- On this day, World Wildlife Day is celebrated every year on 3 March because the Convention on International Trade is signed in the endangered species of wildlife and flora (CITES) on this day.
- World wildlife day aims to raise awareness about the world’s wild fauna and flora.



- The 2019 theme is “Life below water: for people and planet”

**108. With respect to Ramsar Convention, consider the following statements:**

- 1) The convention aims to protect the rivers and other water bodies**
- 2) The convention was signed in 1971**
- 3) The last conference of parties of convention was held in Dubai in 2018**

**Choose the correct option:**

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Solution:

- The Ramsar Convention aims to protect wetlands (not rivers). It is named after the city of Ramsar in Iran, where the Convention was signed in 1971.
- Every three years, countries meet to discuss the sustainable use of wetlands. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in October 2018.

**109. The Sahitya Academy Award, one of the highest literary honor in India, is conferred on writers of the most outstanding books published in:**

- Hindi only
- Hindi and English only
- 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution only
- None of the above

Answer: D

Solution:

The Sahitya Academy Award is conferred on writers of the most outstanding books published in 22 listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, along with English and Rajasthani.



**110. The Jnanpith Award:**

- 1) has been conferred upon author Amitav Ghosh recently**
- 2) can only be conferred upon an Indian citizen**
- 3) is given to writers writing in Indian languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India only**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

- On 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Author Amitav Ghosh was felicitated with the 54th Jnanpith Award for his “outstanding contribution to the enrichment of Indian Literature in English.
- The Jnanpith award is the highest literary award in India and can only be conferred upon an Indian citizen. It is given to writers writing in Indian languages included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India and English. English language was added to the list of languages for consideration after the 49th Jnanpith Award.

**111. Which of the following statements are correct:**

- 1) The Ambassador of Conscience Award is one of the most prestigious human rights awards, awarded by United Nations**
- 2) Greta Thunberg has been awarded the Ambassador of Conscience Award, 2019**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2
- D. Neither of the two



Answer: B

Solution:

- The Ambassador of Conscience Award is one of the most prestigious human rights award, awarded by Amnesty International.
- Sweden's teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg has recently been awarded the prestigious Amnesty International prize for mobilising world public opinion on the looming peril of global warming.

**112. India has signed a Rs 200 crore deal with Russia to acquire 'Strum Ataka'. Strum Ataka is:**

- A. A Submarine
- B. A fighter Aircraft
- C. An Anti-Tank Missile
- D. An Anti-Missile Shield

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

Seeking to keep itself battle-ready in situations like the one post-Balakot aerial strikes, India has recently signed a deal to acquire 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missile from Russia for its fleet of Mi-35 attack choppers.

**113. The BrahMos**

- 1) is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world**
- 2) is a joint venture between India and USA**
- 3) can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land**

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only





D. 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: C**

**Solution:**

- The BrahMos is a medium-range supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarine, ships, aircraft, or land.
- It is a joint venture between India and Russia.
- It is the fastest supersonic cruise missile in the world with a speed of 4800 kmph.

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