



100+ September 2020 Current Affairs PDF



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1. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Punjab and Sindh Bank?

- A. Murali Ramakrishnan
- B. VKV Yadav
- C. S Krishnan
- D. Pramod Chandra Mody

Ans. C

Sol

- S Krishnan has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank.
- Prior to this appointment, he was an Executive Director at Canara Bank.
- He will replace S Harishankar, the current MD and CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank.
- Punjab & Sind Bank is among the few state-owned banks that had not been brought into the bank consolidation efforts of the Central Government.
- Headquarter: Delhi
- Tagline: Where Service is a Way of Life

2. Famous cricketer David Capel held from which country who passed away recently?

- A. South Africa
- B. Zimbabwe
- C. Australia
- D. England

Ans. D

Sol

- David Capel, the former cricket allrounder from England passed away recently.
- He had played around 15 tests and 23 One Day Internationals (ODIs) representing England from 1987 to 1990.
- He made his Test debut against Pakistan in 1987.
- Capel made 270 first-class appearances for Northamptonshire from 1981-1998
- He became the first cricketer born in the county to play a Test for England in 77 years when he made his debut against Pakistan in July 1987.

3. Which Maharatna Public Sector Undertakings has won the All India Management Association (AIMA) Chanakya (Business Simulation Game)

National Management Games (NMG) 2020?

- A. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- B. Coal India Limited
- C. Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- D. NTPC Limited

Ans. D

Sol

- Team of NTPC Limited, the Central PSU under Ministry of Power, has won the All India Management Association (AIMA) Chanakya (Business Simulation Game) National Management Games (NMG) 2020.
- The team from NTPC Vallur, Tamil Nadu won the championship which featured the participation of teams from 112 organisations from different parts of the country.
- AIMA Chanakya National Management Games is an online Business Simulation Game which is conducted every year.
- The championship aims to ensure that executives participating in the event get the onboard experience about the complexities of running an organisation and gain expertise and skills from this event.
- It also enables the Corporate Managers to face the thrill of Managing Business in a competitive mode.

4. Who has won the prestigious Annual World Open online chess tournament?

- A. Swayams Mishra
- B. P Iniyani
- C. Prithu Gupta
- D. Raunak Sadhwani

Ans. B

Sol

- Indian Grandmaster P Iniyani won the prestigious Annual World Open online chess tournament
- He scored 7.5 points out of a possible 9 with six victories and three draws to finish on top.
- The 48th edition of the annual event was held online from August 7-9.
- A total number of 120 players from 16 countries participated in the event which included more than 30 Grandmasters.

- Iniyam had recently defeated world number two Fabiano Caruana in an online blitz event.

5. With which of the following organization the Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Tribal Affairs organised a two-days long "National Tribal Research Conclave"?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- C. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- D. Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

Ans. D

Sol

- The Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) organised 2-days long "National Tribal Research Conclave".
- The inaugural session of conclave was addressed by the Union Minister for Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda.
- The National Tribal Research Conclave was organised to review the progress on the results of projects launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 10 research partners shared their projects in the 2-days long conclave.

6. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of the South Indian Bank?

- A. Murali Ramakrishnan
- B. VKV Yadav
- C. S Krishnan
- D. Pramod Chandra Mody

Ans. A

Sol

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Murali Ramakrishnan as Managing Director and CEO of the South Indian Bank for a period of three years with effect from October 1, 2020.
- Ramakrishnan had retired from ICICI Bank as Senior General Manager at Strategic Project Group on May 30, 2020, and joined the South Indian Bank as an advisor on July 1, 2020.

- He represented the bank in the board of CIBIL and the risk advisory board of VISA for the Asia Pacific.

7. Who has authored the book titled "Let Us Dream" set to release in December 2020?

- A. Benedict XVI
- B. Pope Francis
- C. John Paul II
- D. John Paul I

Ans. B

Sol

- Pope Francis is set to release the book "Let Us Dream" in December 2020.
- In the book, Pope Francis explains how a crisis can teach an individual to deal with problems they face in their lives.
- He cites three major crises from his own personal life.
- The book will be an outcome of numerous exchanges between Pope Francis and his Biographer Austen Ivereigh in the weeks following the Coronavirus outbreak around the world.
- Austen Ivereigh is a Roman Catholic Journalist, Commentator, the author based out of Britain.
- The book is being published by Simon & Schuster and will be released in English and Spanish Editions simultaneously.

8. Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Railway Board?

- A. Usha Padhee
- B. Hemant Khatree
- C. VK Yadav
- D. GP Garg

Ans. C

Sol

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of the current chairman of the Railway Board VK Yadav as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- The chairman and CEO will be the cadre controlling officer responsible for human resources (HR) with assistance from a DG (HR).
- The Cabinet had earlier approved the restructuring of the Railway Board, whose strength has been cut from eight to five,

as part of large scale reforms initiated by the national transporter.

- The process to merge eight railway-related wings into a single central service called the Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS) is underway.

9. Under Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat Programme, Goa is paired with which state?

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Odisha
- C. West Bengal
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Ans. A

Sol

- Under Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat, Goa is paired with Jharkhand.
- Lot of exchange activities are happening on this front.
- The intensity of programmes is less due to lockdown and so the focus is laid on virtual events.
- Lokotsav programmes held earlier in Goa in Panaji evoked good response.
- Stalls of Jharkhand displayed delicacies from that state and Goans enjoyed savouring the same.
- Folk dances presented by Jharkhand artistes also were appreciated by Goan artistes.
- Later Goan artistes also visited Jharkhand and presented Goan folk dances.
- Bangle making workshops were held in Goa wherein experts from handicraft arena of Jharkhand guided Goan artistes.

10. Google has partnered with which country to bring the flood warning services to the country?

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Maldives
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Myanmar

Ans. C

Sol

- Google has partnered with Bangladesh Water Development Board to bring the flood warning services to the country.
- Announcing this on its official blog Google said that it currently covers more than 40 million people in Bangladesh and

it is working to expand its coverage to the whole of the country.

- More than 65 per cent of people who receive advance flood warnings take action to protect themselves and their assets.
- The company is also partnering with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to build to deliver alerts to people who don't have smart phones to receive the alerts directly.
- The company uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyse historical data to predict flood in the river basins. Google launched its flood forecasting pilot programme in Patna in 2018.

11. Which state government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT) to set up a Bulk Drug Park (BDP)?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Ans. D

Sol

- The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd (APIIC) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT) as a step forward in the direction of setting up a Bulk Drug Park (BDP) under a scheme by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Department of Pharmaceuticals.
- The objective of the MoU is to develop a collaborative partnership between the State government and CSIR-IICT to establish Bulk Drug Pharma park in the State
- It seeks financial support from the Centre.
- As per the agreement, CSIR-IICT shall provide necessary technical support as the knowledge partner in preparing the proposal to be submitted by the Andhra Pradesh government to the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

- This would make the State a top destination for medicine manufacturers.

12. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in the field of geology and mineral resources with its counter part of which country?

- A. Japan
- B. Norway
- C. New Zealand
- D. Finland

Ans. D

Sol

- A Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in the field of geology and mineral resources between Geological Survey of India and Geological Survey of Finland.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the MoU.
- The MoU facilitates cooperation in the field of geology, training, mineral prognostication and suitability analysis, Seismic and other Geophysical surveys
- MoU aims at strengthening scientific links between the two Organisations.
- It also aims to provide with a framework and a platform to promote and foster cooperation in the fields of geology, and mineral resources between the participants for mutual economic, social and environmental benefit.

13. Union Power Minister R K Singh launched the GTAM initiative that will lead to an increase in the number of participants in the Renewable Energy Sector. What is full form of GTAM?

- A. Global Trade Apprehension Market
- B. Gross Tradable Ahead Market
- C. Green Term Ahead Market
- D. Green Tradable Ahead Market

Ans. C

Sol

- Union Minister R K Singh launched the Green Term Ahead Market (GTAM) for electricity.
- The move, that will lead to an increase in the participants in the renewable energy sector.

- The initiative will also help in achieving 175 GW renewable energy (RE) target of the country.

- It will lessen the burden on RE-rich states and incentivize them to develop RE capacity beyond their own RPO (Renewable Purchase Obligation).

- This would promote RE merchant capacity addition and help in achieving RE capacity addition targets of the country.

14. What is India's rank in the 13th edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2020 jointly released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Cornell University and INSEAD Business School?

- A. 42nd
- B. 48th
- C. 52nd
- D. 62nd

Ans. B

Sol

- India has joined the group of top 50 countries in the global innovation index for the first time, moving up four places to the 48th rank and keeping the top position among the nations in central and southern Asia.

- India ranks in the top 15 in indicators such as ICT (Information and Communication Technology) services exports, government online services, graduates in science and engineering, and R&D-intensive global companies.

- Switzerland, Sweden, the US, the UK and the Netherlands lead the innovation ranking, and the top 5 positions are dominated by high-income countries.

- The 13th edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2020 has jointly released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Cornell University and INSEAD Business School.

15. Who becomes the first women Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)?

- A. Soma Mondal
- B. Riva Ganguly
- C. Vini Mahajan
- D. Usha Padhee

Ans. D

Sol

- Joint secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Usha Padhee has been given additional charge as Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).
- She is the first woman and third IAS officer to have been appointed to the post.
- The central deputation tenure of Usha is scheduled to end on 16th July 2022.
- She succeeds Rakesh Asthana (IPS) who was appointed as the Director-General of Border Security Force (BSF) on 17th August 2020.

16. Which state government has launched 'Gandagi Bharat Chhodo' campaign?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Chhattisgarh

Ans. C

Sol

- Madhya Pradesh government has launched a 15-day campaign named 'Gandagi Bharat Chhodo'. Under the campaign awareness programmes were organized in seven thousand 178 settlements.
- About 35 lakh people from 378 urban bodies in Madhya Pradesh took part in the campaign.
- During the campaign, as per the performance of the urban bodies, the best ones were awarded by the chief minister.
- During the campaign over 7 lakh, people took the oath to maintain cleanliness and eight lakh 70 thousand people were approached to make compost from wet waste.
- Four lakh 65 thousand masks were distributed with the help of citizens under the mask awareness campaign.
- About 10,000 Corona Warrior sanitation workers were honoured. A total of 18 thousand 560 challans were made against polythene carry-bags.

17. According to the J&K official languages Bill 2020, which one is not an official of Jammu and Kashmir union territories?

- A. Kashmiri

- B. Dogri
- C. Bhoti
- D. Urdu

Ans. C

Sol

- The Union Cabinet has approved J&K official languages Bill 2020. According to the J&K official languages Bill 2020, Kashmiri, Dogri and Hindi along with Urdu and English, will be the official languages in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The J&K official languages Bill 2020 will be introduced in Parliament in the upcoming Monsoon Session. This bill will include Dogri, Hindi and Kashmiri as official languages of the Union Territory.
- Bhoti is spoken in Ladakh region.

18. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India has decided to block how many mobile apps in view of the emergent nature of threats?

- A. 101
- B. 110
- C. 118
- D. 121

Ans. C

Sol

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India has decided to block 118 mobile apps in view of the emergent nature of threats.
- These applications have been blocked as there was information that these apps are engaged in activities which is prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state as well as public order.
- The step is expected to safeguard the interests of crores of Indian mobile and internet users and will also ensure safety, security and sovereignty of Indian cyberspace.
- 118 mobile apps have been blocked by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology by invoking its power under section 69A of the Information Technology Act read with the relevant provisions of the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards

for Blocking of Access of Information by Public) Rules 2009.

19. The students from which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) have launched a free-of-cost mobile scanner application "AIR Scanner"?

- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Delhi
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. IIT Bombay

Ans. D

Sol

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, students have launched a free-of-cost mobile scanner application "AIR Scanner".
- The app saves the scanned document in PDF format and stores directly in the device.
- The AI (Artificial Intelligence) based Reading Assistant and Document Scanner app is developed by Rohit Kumar Chaudhary and Kavın Agrawal.
- AIR Scanner app does not collect any information about the user and all the documents are stored in the phone's local storage.
- The document scanned using a mobile camera will be saved in PDF format and will be stored in the device only.

20. Which renewable power company of India has been ranked as World's Largest Solar Power Generation Asset Owner in terms of operating, under-construction and awarded projects by the Mercom Capital?

- A. Loom Solar
- B. Vikram Solar
- C. Tata Solar
- D. Adani Green Energy Ltd

Ans. D

Sol

- Mercom Capital ranked Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) as World's Largest Solar Power Generation Asset Owner in terms of operating, under-construction and awarded projects.
- GCL New Energy (7.1 GW), a Hong Kong-listed independent solar power producer, ranked second, followed by

Tokyo-based renewable energy developer, SB Energy (7 GW).

- Mercom Capital Group is a clean energy communication consulting firm.
- AGEL's under-construction and awarded capacity stands at 10.1 GigaWatts (GW) and its operational capacity is nearly 3 GW.
- AGEL's renewable energy portfolio stands at 12.32 GW, which exceeds the total capacity installed by the entire US solar industry in 2019.

21. Which became the first Indian Dairy Company to enter Rabobank's Annual listing of Global Dairy Top 20 Companies of 2020?

- A. Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation
- B. Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt Ltd
- C. Mehsana District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Ltd
- D. Parag Milk Foods Ltd

Ans. A

Sol

- Amul, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) became the first Indian Dairy Company to enter Rabobank's Annual listing of Global Dairy Top 20, 2020 Companies.
- Amul was ranked 16th with an annual turnover of USD 5.5 billion (approximately Rs 40,240 Crores). Switzerland's Nestle topped the list.
- Rabobank is a Dutch multinational banking and financial services company.
- Amul has experienced a 17% Compound Annual Growth Rate over the past decade due to growing milk collections, expanding into processing capacity, entering new markets and launching new products.
- Switzerland's Nestle topped the list with a turnover of USD 22.1 Billion, followed by France's Lactalis with USD 21 Billion turnovers.

22. Which three countries have to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) in the Indo-Pacific region?

- A. India-Indonesia-Singapore
- B. India-Australia-Japan

- C. India-Australia-USA
- D. India-Vietnam-Philippines

Ans. B

Sol

- India, Japan and Australia agreed to launch a trilateral Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI) in the Indo-Pacific region.
- The initiative will help in building a resilient supply chain with focus on free, transparent trade & investment environment in the region.
- Proposed by Japan and to reduce the dependency on China.
- Australia, Japan and India are part of Quadrilateral Security Dialogue which includes the U.S.

23. Who has authored the book titled 'The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind'?

- A. Ramachandra Guha
- B. Bipin Chandra
- C. Irfan Habib
- D. Romila Thapar

Ans. A

Sol

- Indian writer Ramachandra Guha has authored a new book, 'The Commonwealth of Cricket: A Lifelong Love Affair with the Most Subtle and Sophisticated Game Known to Humankind'.
- The book portrays the entire arc of the game (cricket) in India, across all levels at which it is played and gives a glimpse of local heroes, provincial emblems and international stars.
- The book will be co-published by HarperCollins India and William Collins.
- Indian right of the book is acquired by Publisher Udayan Mitra, while UK and Commonwealth rights (excluding India) is acquired by Arabella Pike, William Collins Publishing Director
- The book is to be released in November, 2020.
- The author offers a brilliantly charming memoir and a charter of the life of cricket in India.

24. Which state government has launched AMA SAHAR and SWACHHA SAHAR web app?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Karnataka
- D. Odisha

Ans. D

Sol

- Odisha government has launched two citizen-centric mobile phone applications-AMA SAHAR and SWACHHA SAHAR' on the occasion of Local Self Government Day.
- With the launching of web app, the urban local bodies (ULBs) will be able to submit utilisation certificate online which will bring better fiscal management.

25. Which Life Insurance company has launched "Chhavni COVID: Yodha Sanrakshan Yojana" a group life insurance scheme for employees working in the military cantonment areas across India?

- A. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)
- B. Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company
- C. HDFC Life Insurance Company
- D. ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company

Ans. A

Sol

- "Chhavni COVID: Yodha Sanrakshan Yojana" a group life insurance scheme through the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), for more than 10000 employees working in the military cantonment areas across India.
- Launched during the two-day webinar organised by the Ministry of Defence and Directorate General of Defence Estates (DGDE) to improve the implementation of Central Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in the 62 cantonments around India.
- The scheme will benefit the employees of all the 62 cantonment boards and will provide a cover of Rs.5 lakhs each in the event of any fatal misfortune.
- This scheme will benefit the permanent, contractual employees which includes doctors, paramedics and sanitation staff.

26. Who is the chairman of the steering committee constituted by central government for green initiatives in the coal sector?

- A. Vinod Paul
- B. VK Saraswat
- C. Anil Kumar Jain
- D. Ramesh Chand

Ans. B

Sol

- Webinar on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction was organized by Ministry of Coal and Mines which was addressed by Union Minister of Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi along with Anil Kumar Jain, Secretary, Coal and Dr Vijay Kumar (VK) Saraswat, Member NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog.
- The objective behind this webinar was to discuss the road map for achieving the 100 million tonnes (MT) coal gasification target by 2030 with investments worth over Rs4 lakh crores.
- Notably, a Steering Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. VK Saraswat for green initiatives in the coal sector.
- The webinar was attended by around 700 delegates from Government of India, Coal India Limited (CIL) and the coal sector.

27. Who becomes the first Indian to win a singles main draw match at a Grand Slam in the last 7 years?

- A. Sumit Nagal
- B. Yuki Bhambri
- C. Somdev Devvarman
- D. Ramkumar Ramanathan

Ans. A

Sol

- Sumit Nagal (23 years) has become the first Indian to win a singles main draw match at a Grand Slam in the last 7 years.
- He went into second round of the ongoing US Open Tennis by defeating Bradley Klahn of USA 6-1, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round of the US Open
- Prior to him, Somdev Devvarman is the last player to reach the second round of the Australian Open, French Open and US Open in 2013

- He will now face Austria's Dominic Thiem in the 2nd round.

28. India along with which country scheduled to hold the bilateral naval exercise, Indra 2020, in the Andaman Sea, close to the strategic Strait of Malacca?

- A. UAS
- B. Singapore
- C. Russia
- D. Indonesia

Ans. C

Sol

- Amid high operational alert by the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) due to the ongoing standoff with China in Ladakh, India and Russia are scheduled to hold the bilateral naval exercise, Indra 2020, in the Andaman Sea, close to the strategic Strait of Malacca.
- Three Russian navy ships will take part in the exercise along with an equal number from the Indian Navy, along with some aircraft.
- This is also the first bilateral naval exercise since all such engagements were suspended due to COVID-19.
- INDRA NAVY exercise was initiated in 2003 and since then it has matured over the years with increase in scope, complexity and level of participation.

29. According to the annual National Crime Records Bureau report the maximum cases of mass/family suicides were reported from which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Kerala
- D. Punjab

Ans. A

Sol

- The cases of suicide and the number of accidental deaths registered an increase across the country last year compared to 2018, according to the annual National Crime Records Bureau report.
- The maximum cases of mass/family suicides were reported from Tamil Nadu (16), followed by Andhra Pradesh (14),

Kerala (11) and Punjab (9) and Rajasthan (7).

30. Who has authored the children's picture book titled "The Big Thoughts of Little Luv"?

- A. Kiran Kher
- B. Karan Johar
- C. Prason Joshi
- D. Javed Akhtar

Ans. B

Sol

- Bollywood Filmmaker, Karan Johar authored a children's picture book titled "The Big Thoughts of Little Luv" inspired by his Twins Yash and Roohi.
- The book will be published by Juggernaut Books.
- The book narrates the story of the twins Luv and Kusha and features the challenges faced by the parents and the difference imposed between the boys and girls by the parents while raising them.
- Karan Johar released his autobiography titled "An Unsuitable Boy" in 2017.

31. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract worth Rs 2580 Cr with which of the following companies for supply of six Pinaka Regiments?

- A. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. (BEML)
- B. Tata Power Company Ltd. (TPCL)
- C. Larsen & Toubro (L&T)
- D. All A, B and C

Ans. D

Sol

- Acquisition Wing of Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract worth Rs 2580 Cr with M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. (BEML), M/s. Tata Power Company Ltd. (TPCL) and M/s. Larsen & Toubro (L&T).
- The contract has been signed for supply of six Pinaka Regiments to the Regiment of Artillery of the Indian Army and hence will enhance the operation preparedness of our Armed Forces.
- Induction of Six Pinaka Regiments which comprise 114 Launchers with Automated Gun Aiming & Positioning System (AGAPS); 45 Command Posts to be procured from M/s TPCL and M/s L&T and 330 Vehicles to be procured from M/s

BEML, is planned to be completed by 2024.

- It will also provide further boost to the 'Make in India' initiative of Government of India in the Defence Sector.

32. Who has been appointed as the trade envoy to India by Australian government along with Indian-origin politician Lisa Singh for advancing business ties with India?

- A. Rickey Ponting
- B. Matthew Hayden
- C. Michael Clarke
- D. Steve Waugh

Ans. B

Sol

- The Australian government has appointed former cricketer Matthew Hayden and Indian-origin politician Lisa Singh as trade envoys for advancing business ties with India.
- Three new appointments to the board of the Australia-India Council were announced
- Lisa Singh, former Labor Party Senator from Tasmania, would be the Deputy Chair.
- Former Victoria Premier Ted Baillieu and former cricketer Hayden are the other new members.
- The council plays an important role in advancing Australia's foreign and economic policy interests with India.

33. Veteran politician and former President of India, Pranab Mukherjee passed away recently, which of the following post he did not serve?

- A. Leader of the Lok Sabha
- B. External Affairs Minister
- C. Home Minister
- D. Finance Minister

Ans. C

Sol

- Leader of the Lok Sabha, the Lower House of the Indian Parliament, is the Prime Minister by default if they are a member of the Lok Sabha.
- If the Prime Minister is not a member of the Lower House of Parliament, they can nominate another minister as the Leader of the House. He was nominated as

Leader of Lok Sabha by Dr. Manmohan Singh.

- He was never served as Home minister of India.
- He hold post finance minister and External Affairs Minister Twice
 - Finance minister from 1982-84 and 2004-2012
 - External Affairs Minister from 1995-96 and 2006-2009
- He also hold the post of Defence Minister from 2004-2006

34. What is the name of the remote-controlled medical trolley developed by the Indian Railway to help deliver food and medicines to COVID-19 patients?

- A. MEDYAN
- B. MEDBOT
- C. SEWABOT
- D. SEWAYANB

Ans. B

Sol

- Indian Railways has developed a remote-controlled medical trolley named 'MEDBOT' to help deliver food and medicines to COVID-19 patients.
- During Corona crisis, apart from providing transport facilities and essential items like foodgrains to people, Indian Railways has also provided facilities for COVID-19 patients.
- It is providing service in the Central Hospital of the Diesel Rail Engine Factory of Indian Railways.

35. Which organization has developed World's Largest Solar Tree?

- A. Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, Dhanbad
- B. Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi
- C. Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani
- D. Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur

Ans. D

Sol

- World's Largest Solar Tree has been developed by the CSIR-CMERI. The solar tree has been installed at the Residential Colony of CSIR-CMERI in Durgapur, West Bengal.

- The solar tree has the annual capacity to generate 12,000-14,000 units of Clean and Green Power while its installed capacity is above 11.5 kWp.
- The Solar Tree has been designed in such a way that it ensures maximum exposure of each Solar PV Panel to Sunlight.
- A single solar tree comprises of 35 Solar PV Panels each having a capacity of 330 wp each.

36. Who becomes the first Divyanga sportsperson of the country to get the prestigious Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020?

- A. Devendra Jhajharia
- B. Mariyappan Thangavelu
- C. Satyendra Singh Lohia
- D. Deepa Malik

Ans. C

Sol

- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh Lohia of Madhya Pradesh is the first Divyanga Indian sportsperson of the country, who has been awarded today with the Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award.
- He is also the first Asian Divyanga swimmer to cross the 42-kilometer Catalina Channel in the US in just 11 hours 34 minutes.
- Para-swimmer Satyendra Singh was also conferred with the Best Sportsperson National Award by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on World Divyanga Day.
- He has also been awarded the highest sports award of Madhya Pradesh as well as many other national and international honours.

37. Which Indian International Airport has won the 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit' awards at the 21st National Awards for 'Excellence in Energy Management'?

- A. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad
- B. Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
- C. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad
- D. Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru

Ans. A

Sol

- The GMR led Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad won the 'National Energy Leader' and 'Excellent Energy Efficient Unit' awards at the 21st National Awards for 'Excellence in Energy Management'.
- It was organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Godrej Green Business Centre (GBC).
- The award was given during the 19th edition of 'Energy Efficiency Summit', Virtual Conference and Exposition on Energy Efficiency held from August 6-28, 2020.
- The 'National Awards for Excellence in Energy Management' is instituted by CII to recognize significant and innovative practices of the energy efficiency sector, for the energy efficient and sustainable growth of the Indian industry.

38. Under whose chairmanship a three-member committee has been to review the effective utilisation of the Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Services (AFHQ CS) cadre?

- A. R. Chandrashekhar
- B. AN Das
- C. DB Shekatkar
- D. Ajay Kumar

Ans. C

Sol

- * The Defence Ministry is set to optimise the civil and military administrative appointments in the service headquarters.
- * A three-member committee has been set up to review the effective utilisation of the Armed Forces Headquarters Civil Services (AFHQ CS) cadre.
- * This is in line with the recommendation of the Lt. Gen. DB Shekatkar (retd) committee on enhancing the military's combat potential and rebalancing defence expenditure.
- * The committee will be headed by Lt. Gen. Shekatkar (retd).
- * Other members are R. Chandrashekhar, a retired AFHQ cadre officer and AN Das from the MoD finance wing.

* The committee will interact with various branches, directorates of service headquarters and ISOs for the study and is expected to submit its report by November.

39. Which state will establish the first international women's trade centre (IWTC) of India?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Maharashtra

Ans. B

Sol

- * Kerala will establish the first international women's trade centre (IWTC) of India at Angamaly.
- * The IWTC would be set by Kerala in consonance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- * The IWTC seeks to accelerate the women entrepreneurship and secure gender parity.
- * It will also offer a safe place away from home to women to start new businesses, set up or expand, and get their products marketed globally.

40. In partnership with which organization the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) has launched the Sustainable Finance Collaborative (SFC) to Promote Sustainable Finance in India?

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- C. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- D. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Ans. A

Sol

- * The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India launched the Sustainable Finance Collaborative (SFC).
- * In this regard, a three days consultation centered on the broad scope of Sustainable Finance architecture in India was held to accelerate green finance by

bringing together leading experts and organizations.

41. Who represented India in the virtual 8th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) chaired by Vietnam?

- A. Anurag Thakur
- B. Nirmala Sitharaman
- C. Piyush Goyal
- D. Prakash Javadekar

Ans. C

Sol

* The 8th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) was held virtually.

* It was attended by Economic Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States.

* The Meeting was chaired by Tran Tuan Anh, Minister of Industry and Trade of Viet Nam.

* From Indian side it was attended by Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry.

* During the meet discussions were held to accelerate economic growth, maintain supply chains and market stability, and strengthen the economic resilience of the EAS region post COVID-19.

* Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal assures that 'Acting East' is central element in India's Indo-Pacific vision.

42. What is India's rank in the global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com?

- A. 45th
- B. 56th
- C. 66th
- D. 72nd

Ans. D

Sol

* In accordance with the global ranking of average wages prepared by Picodi.com, India ranked 72nd among 106 countries with an average monthly wage of Rs 32,800 (USD 437).

* Picodi.com is an international e-commerce platform, headquartered in Poland, provides discount coupons. Its analysis team looked into earnings of

countries around the world and created a global ranking of average wages.

* The ranking has been topped by Switzerland, where the average wage converted into rupees amounts to Rs 4,49,000 (USD 5,989).

* On the other hand the average monthly wage of Cuba is the lowest at Rs 2,700 (USD 36).

43. "Nayi Disha" is the HR initiative of which bank for which it has been awarded with Brandon Human Capital Management (HCM) Excellence Award 2020?

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

Ans. B

Sol

* State Bank of India (SBI) to receive Brandon Human Capital Management (HCM) Excellence Award

* The award is also known as the Academy Awards of Learning & Development 2020.

* The SBI has been awarded with the global recognition for its HR initiative, "Nayi Disha".

* The award winners will be honored at Brandon Hall Group's annual HCM Excellence Conference, January 26-28, 2021 at the Hilton West Palm Beach, Florida.

* The selected winners will also present in breakout sessions, sharing their leading practices during the conference.

* SBI partnered with M/s Chrysalis & developed the "Nayi Disha" Programme.

44. Which Paramilitary forces of India has created and launched an in-house mobile Application (app), 'Pensioners Corner' to get in touch with the pensioners and to bring them to the digital platform as a one stop solution?

- A. CISF
- B. BSF
- C. CRPF
- D. ITBP

Ans. A

Sol

* The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has created & launched an in-house mobile Application (app), 'Pensioners Corner' to get in touch with the pensioners and to bring them to the digital platform as a one stop solution.

* It will also cater to the needs of its pensioners.

* It is a part of its 'e-karyalay', an electronic office app launched in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

* Through Pensioners Corner app, the pensioners will be connected to the CISF units across the country.

* The app will have an SMS (Short Message Service) invitation system, which will notify the pensioners on important events happening at their nearest CISF unit.

45. Which state government has launched 'Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana' scheme under which 19 International Players will get road connectivity to their homes?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Karnataka

Ans. C

Sol

* Uttar Pradesh has launched 'Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana' scheme under which 19 International Players will get road connectivity to their homes.

* The initial list includes 19 International Players from the state, and later on more players are expected to be added to the list.

* The list includes Indian Cricketers Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Praveen Kumar, Piyush Chawla and Mohammad Kaif.

* A road will be named after Late Cricketer and Former Cabinet Minister Chetan Chauhan.

46. The Union Government is planning to come up with Mega Bamboo Industrial Park in which place?

- A. Katra
- B. Samba
- C. Ghati
- D. Shivsagar

Ans. C

Sol

* The union government is planning to develop three Bamboo Clusters in Jammu, Katra and Samba areas for making of Bamboo basketry, Agarbatti and Bamboo Charcol.

* Apart from this government is also planning to set up a Mega Bamboo Industrial Park at Ghati near Jammu and Bamboo Technology Training Centre will also come up in the region.

* This was announced by the Minister of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh.

47. Which next-generation startup Challenge contest has been launched by the Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Ravi Shankar Prasad?

- A. Champion
- B. Chunauti
- C. Pratisparddha
- D. Pratiyogita

Ans. B

Sol

* Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched next-generation startup Challenge contest "Chunauti" to encourage startups and software products with special focus on Tier-II towns.

* This contest is a part of Rs 95 crore programme, spanning over 3 years, will hunt for around 300 startups working in identified areas and to provide them seed funds of up to Rs 25 lakh and other support from government through the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI).

48. Which country will host the G20 Education Ministers Meeting to be held at the end of 2020?

- A. Indian
- B. Saudi Arabia
- C. Argentina
- D. Brazil

Ans. B

Sol

* The Education Ministers Meeting will take place as part of the Sherpa Track for the G20 Leaders Summit 2020, which is to be hosted by Saudi Arabia at the end of 2020.

* The Saudi Arabian Presidency has selected the following theme for the G20's 2020 activities: Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All.

* The meet was chaired by Saudi Arabia's Education Minister Dr Hamad Al-Asheikh where India was represented by Union Minister of Education, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, in the virtual mode.

49. Which helpline has been launched by the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry for mental health rehabilitation?

- A. KIRAN
- B. CHAMPION
- C. SANCHAR
- D. SANVAD

Ans. A

Sol

* Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry have launched a toll-free mental health rehabilitation helpline "KIRAN".

* The helpline was launched in view of the growing incidence of Mental Illness, particularly in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

* The helpline - 1800-500-0019 will provide relief and support to persons with mental illness.

* The helpline will resolve mental health issues that are related to the following namely, anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), depression, Panic Attack(s) Adjustment Disorders, suicidal thoughts, substance abuse, Post Traumatic Stress Disorders and the psychological issues & mental health emergencies induced by the pandemic.

* It will offer mental health rehabilitation services. It functions as a lifeline to provide 1st stage advice, counselling. It is available 24*7 with the Technical Coordination of BSNL.

50. Famous personality Jiri Menzel passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Film Actor
- B. Football Player

- C. Film Director
- D. Baseball Player

Ans. C

Sol

* Oscar-winning Czech film director, Jiri Menzel passed away. He was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia on 23 February 1938.

* His 1st feature film, 'Closely Watched Trains' won an Academy Award (Oscars) for Best Foreign Language film in 1968.

* Menzel won the Czech Lion for lifetime artistic contribution and was honoured by the Karlovy Vary festival.

* He is a recipient of the Medal of Merit, the French Order of Arts and Literature and a score of other international awards.

* He was awarded an IIFA Lifetime Achievement Award in November 2013.

51. Which of the following appointed Vinkesh Gulati as its 35th President for the year 2020-22?

- A. Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations
- B. Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India
- C. Automotive Research Association of India
- D. Society of India Automobile Manufacturers

Ans. A

Sol

* The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) has announced the appointment of Vinkesh Gulati as its 35th President for the year 2020-22. He succeeds Ashish Harsharaj Kale as the new FADA President.

* Gulati is the Director of United Automobiles, based out of Allahabad and Faridabad.

* United Automobiles is involved in the Auto Dealership business since the year 1985 and are dealers for brands like Mahindra & Mahindra and Bajaj Auto.

* United Automobiles is part of the United Group that started as Transport Business in 1951.

52. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested a Hypersonic

Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) with the ability to travel at _____ the speed of sound.

- A. two times
- B. three times
- C. four times
- D. six times

Ans. D

Sol

* Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully flight-tested a Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV), which is an unmanned scramjet vehicle with the ability to travel at six times the speed of sound.

* The test was conducted from Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Launch Complex at Wheeler Island, off the coast of Odisha.

* Now, India has joined the elite club of the United States, Russia and China to develop and successfully test Hypersonic Technology.

* The HSTDV tests the indigenously developed hypersonic air-breathing scramjet technology. The scramjets are a variant of air-breathing jet engines and have the ability to handle airflows of speeds much higher than the speed of sound.

* The hypersonic cruise vehicle was launched using a proven solid rocket motor, which took it to an altitude of 30 kilometres, where the aerodynamic heat shields were separated. The cruise vehicle separated from the launch vehicle and the air intake opened as planned.

53. Who has been appointed as the president of All India Tennis Association (AITA)?

- A. Shahnawaz Husain
- B. Anil Jain
- C. Smriti Irani
- D. Ramdas Agarwal

Ans. B

Sol

* Anil Jain, Member of Parliament of Rajya Sabha, has been elected as All India Tennis Association's (AITA) new President at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

* He was elected unanimously to lead the administration of AITA after Praveen Mahajan's tenure as AITA President came to an end this year.

* Anil Dhupar was elected as the Secretary-General and Rohit Rajpal will serve as the Treasurer of AITA.

54. First ever Cannabis medicine project will be setup in which state/UT?

- A. Jammu and Kashmir
- B. Ladakh
- C. Sikkim
- D. Assam

Ans. A

Sol

* Union minister Jitendra Singh announced that first-ever Cannabis Medicine Project will soon be set up in Jammu.

* Cannabis Medicine Project will be set up in collaboration with Canada and Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM) in Jammu.

* It is the first major foreign investment in Jammu and Kashmir after it became a Union Territory (UT).

55. Which state government has constituted a seven-member high-level committee to study the National Education Policy of the Centre and to make recommendations?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Jharkhand

Ans. C

Sol

* The Tamil Nadu government has constituted a seven-member high-level committee to study the National Education Policy of the Centre and to make recommendations.

* Vice-Chancellors of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University K. Pitchumani; Alagappa University N. Rajendran; Madurai Kamaraj University M. Krishnan; and Thiruvalluvar University S. Thamarai Selvi are among the members in the panel.

* Former Vice-Chancellors of the University of Madras S.P. Thyagarajan,

who has served in national academic panels, and P. Duraisamy, are the other members.

56. With which country and eight companies of that country the Andhra Pradesh government has signed MoUs in the food processing sector?

- A. Australia
- B. Germany
- C. Japan
- D. The Netherlands

Ans. D

Sol

* The state government on Friday signed MoUs with eight companies including the Netherlands government in the food processing sector.

* Representatives of seven companies from across the country and the Netherlands government signed the MoU in the presence of chief minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy.

* These companies would help farmers through the state government in the food processing sector, including harvesting, processing and packaging of fruits, vegetables, fish and aqua products.

* The Netherlands government would help the state government and the farmers in food processing, technology, packaging, containers and other areas.

57. Which city tops the list of destinations for a career in Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

- A. Chennai
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Mumbai
- D. Bengaluru

Ans. D

Sol

* Bengaluru tops the list of destinations for a career in AI, followed by Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, and Chennai.

* Job searches in the field have risen 106 per cent in the past year (June 2019 to June 2020), and this has increased further by 20 per cent from March to July 2020, in line with the onset of the pandemic.

* AI-related job postings have also seen a steady rise in the last two years, with a

51 per cent jump between June 2019 and June 2020.

58. Which state government has signed \$82 million loan agreement with the World Bank for the implementation of the State Roads Transformation Project?

- A. Assam
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Haryana

Ans. C

Sol

* World Bank and the government of Himachal Pradesh signed \$82 million loan for the implementation of Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project.

* The project will strengthen the transport and road safety institutions of Himachal Pradesh.

* It aims at improving the condition, safety, resilience, and engineering standards of state road network.

59. Famous cricketer, Ian Bell announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, he held from which country?

- A. South Africa
- B. England
- C. Australia
- D. New Zealand

Ans. B

Sol

• England cricketer, Ian Bell has announced that he will retire from all forms of cricket at the end of the 2020 domestic season.

• He made his debut in 2004. He played 118 Tests, 161 ODIs, and 8 T20Is for England. He retired from ODIs in 2015 to focus on Test cricket.

• He won five Ashes series out of seven. He was the Player of the Series in the 2013 series, where he scored 562 runs at an average of 62.44.

60. Who has won the Formula One Italian Grand Prix 2020 held at Autodromo Nazionale Monza, Italy?

- A. Carlos Sainz Jr.
- B. Lewis Hamilton
- C. Pierre Gasly

D. Charles Leclerc

Ans. C

Sol

- Pierre Gasly (Scuderia AlphaTauri, France) has won the Formula One Italian Grand Prix 2020 held at Autodromo Nazionale Monza, Italy.
- This is his first Grand Prix win. Carlos Sainz Jr. (McLaren, Spain) came second followed by Lance Stroll (Racing Point, Canada) in third place.
- Lewis Hamilton ended at 7th place after he earned a 10-second stop and go penalty.

61. Which institutions has launched a special decontamination device called 'Chakr DeCoV', to decontaminate N95 masks?

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IIT Madras

Ans. C

Sol

- The IIT Delhi incubated startup Chakr Innovation has launched a special decontamination device called 'Chakr DeCoV', to decontaminate N95 masks.
- The Chakr DeCoV device is designed in the shape of a cabinet.
- Chakr DeCoV is built with an innovative decontamination mechanism, which utilises the high penetrability of Ozone gas for cleaning the pores of the N95 mask, ensuring complete decontamination of its intricate layers.

62. Which of the following countries chaired the 35th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC 35) held virtually?

- A. India
- B. Bhutan
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Indonesia

Ans. B

Sol

- The 35th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (APRC

35) was held virtual format due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Conference was held under the Chair of the Host Country, Bhutan. The Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala represented India in the conference.
- The conference focused on regional priorities and issues such as COVID 19, the state of agriculture, natural resources management, food security and nutrition.
- Bangladesh will host the 36th Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific of the in 2022.
- It will be the first time that the country will host the event, ever since it joined the organisation in 1973.
- The Regional Conference is held once every two years. The first regional conference was held in Bangalore, India, in 1953.

63. The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) has signed an MoU with which institution for collaboration in areas of universal design principles and inclusive development in the backdrop of 'Building Accessible Safe Inclusive Indian Cities' (BASIIIC) program?

- A. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee
- B. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- C. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- D. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur

Ans. A

Sol

- National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee for collaboration in areas of universal design principles and inclusive development in the backdrop of 'Building Accessible Safe Inclusive Indian Cities' (BASIIIC) program.
- The MoU facilitates cooperation in the field policy research, technical support, knowledge creation, and dissemination.
- It is envisaged that the association will benefit Indian cities through a range of

activities and partnership projects that can be scaled up and replicated for several Indian cities.

64. Social Media platform Whatsapp has partnered with which of the following foundation to create awareness on cyber safety among students?

- A. WiCyS
- B. CyberPeace Foundation
- C. Center for Internet Security
- D. International Association of Privacy Professionals

Ans. B

Sol

- WhatsApp announced a strategic partnership with CyberPeace Foundation with the aim to create awareness on cyber safety among students.
- The facebook-owned messaging platform noted in a press release that "this is an effort to build on their earlier partnership with WhatsApp under the "e-Raksha" program that reached thousands of students.
- With the collaboration, the platforms aim to reach nearly 15,000 students across five states including Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra by the end of 2020.

65. Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Bajaj Allianz Life?

- A. Ayushmann Khurrana
- B. Sonu Sood
- C. Kartik Aryan
- D. Akshay Kumar

Ans. A

Sol

- Private life insurer, Bajaj Allianz Life has appointed Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana as its brand ambassador.
- The actor will promote its products and digital services across offline and online mediums.
- Khurrana will feature in the brand's next campaign 'Smart Living' that encompasses its term plan – Smart Protect Goal and the new digital service – Smart Assist.
- Chief Executive Officer of Bajaj Allianz Life: Tarun Chugh

66. Name the cricketer who has been appointed as the first cricket ambassador of SBOTOP sportsbook brand?

- A. Chris Gayle
- B. Dwayne Bravo
- C. Kieron Pollard
- D. Kemar Roach

Ans. B

Sol

- West Indies cricket icon Dwayne Bravo has been appointed as the first cricket ambassador of SBOTOP sportsbook brand.
- Isle of Man betting group Celton Manx has confirmed his appointment.
- Bravo is recognised as one of Caribbean cricket's best ever 'all-rounders', representing the West Indies in all formats of the sport.
- He has represented the country in 256 test matches and 120 one-day-internationals and is also considered as one of the best ever 'all-rounders' of the sport.

67. Which International organization has launched a new publication, "The Little Book of Green Nudges" for university students?

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- C. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- D. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Ans. B

Sol

- The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) launched a new publication, "The Little Book of Green Nudges".
- The books aimed to inspire up to 200 million students around the globe to adopt environmentally friendly habits and greener lifestyles.
- The book is UNEP's first on behavioural science and nudge theory, which focuses on human actions and how to change them, and was drafted with The Behavioural Insights Team and GRID-Arendal.

68. Which state government has launched 'I Rakhwali' app for Environment Protection?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Karnataka
- C. Punjab
- D. Haryana

Ans. C

Sol

- To preserve and maintain the environment in Punjab and make people stakeholders in the process, the State Government launched 'I Rakhwali' app.
- This will help netizens to become 'Greenery Saviours'.
- With this new initiative, the state govt aims to safeguard the state forest area by making people a stakeholder in this process.
- The state govt came up with the concept of the app to encourage people to come forward and contribute to the protection of the environment.

69. Which of the following Universities has developed the 'EnglishPro' mobile app that was launched by the Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank?

- A. Banaras Hindu University- BHU Varanasi
- B. Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- D. Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad

Ans. D

Sol

- Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched EnglishPro, a free mobile app.
- The app is developed by the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.
- The app will help learners develop Indian English Pronunciation in the unique "Indian" way.
- This app will be "a useful digital tool" and will act as an educational resource for the teachers, students and for people from varied backgrounds.

70. Who has been elected as the President of Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)?

- A. Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- B. Anand Gopal Mahindra
- C. Vishnu Mathur
- D. Kenichi Ayukawa

Ans. D

Sol

- Maruti Suzuki MD and CEO, Kenichi Ayukawa has been elected as the new President of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) for a term of two years.
- He will replace Rajan Wadhwa.
- Ashok Leyland MD and CEO, Vipin Sondhi has been elected as the new vice president of SIAM.
- SIAM is the apex body of the Indian automotive industry.

71. The petitioner of a historic case, Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala, Kesavananda Bharati passed away recently, he was chief pontiff of which Mutt/temple?

- A. Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple, Thiruvananthapuram
- B. Edneer Mutt, Kasaragod
- C. Attukal Bhagavathy Temple, Thiruvananthapuram
- D. Udiyanoor Devi Temple, Thiruvananthapuram

Ans. B

Sol

- Kesavananda Bharati Swamiji, was the sole unwitting petitioner in the historic Fundamental Rights case, which prevented the nation from slipping into a totalitarian regime.
- Shri Kesavananda Bharati was the chief pontiff of Edneer Mutt in Kasaragod district, Kerala, India.
- He was a follower of Smartha Bhagawatha tradition and the Advaita Vedanta school of Hindu philosophy.
- He took Sanyasa at the age of 19 and headed the Edneer Mutt as the Peetadhipathi until his death.
- Kesavananda Bharati was a Carnatic and Hindusthani vocalist, and master of Yakshagana, an Indian art and theater form.
- He was a patron of education, Kannada culture and arts, including Yakshagana, music and dramas.

- In 1970, He had filed a case challenging the Kerala Government's attempts to acquire the Mutt's property, through the Kerala Land Reforms Act of 1963 as amended in 1969.

72. Which among the following is not in the top ten states under State Reform Action Plan 2019?

- A. Andhra Pradesh,
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Telangana
- D. Odisha

Ans. D

Sol

- Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman has announced the 4th edition of Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) ranking of states.

- Ranking of various States of India on the basis of implementation of Business Reform Action Plan had started in 2015. The Business Reform Action Plan 2018-19 was a comprehensive plan including 180 reform points covering 12 business regulatory areas such as Access to Information, Single Window System, Labour, Environment, etc.

- The top ten states under State Reform Action Plan 2019 are

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Uttar Pradesh
3. Telangana
4. Madhya Pradesh
5. Jharkhand
6. Chhattisgarh
7. Himachal Pradesh
8. Rajasthan
9. West Bengal
10. Gujarat

- The lowest 3 ranks in the list belong to Odisha, Sikkim and Tripura.

73. Which state government has launched Educational WhatsApp Chatbot "Apka Mitra" and Online Admission Platform for UnderGraduate courses in government-aided and self-financed colleges for the new academic session 2020-21?

- A. Punjab
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Haryana

D. Rajasthan

Ans. C

Sol

- * Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal Khattar has launched Educational WhatsApp Chatbot "Apka Mitra" & Online Admission Platform for UnderGraduate (UG) courses in government-aided and self-financed colleges for the new academic session 2020-21.

- * 'Apka Mitra' is the first-of-its-kind educational WhatsApp Chatbot to resolve admission related queries of the students.

- * Students can send a message on Whatsapp chatbot number 7419444449 to get information regarding admission & scholarship.

- * Using the new platform, the students will be able to complete the entire admission process in the convenience of home.

74. Renowned personality Govind Swarup passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Space Scientist
- B. Environmentalist
- C. Nuclear Scientist
- D. Astronomer

Ans. D

Sol

- * Father of India's Radio Astronomy, Prof Govind Swarup passed away.

- * He was born on March 23rd, 1929 in Thakurdwara, United Provinces, British India (Now in Uttar Pradesh).

- * He was the founding director of National Centre for Radio Astrophysics of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

- * He is well known for his many important research contributions in several areas of astronomy and astrophysics.

- * He served as president of the Astronomical Society of India during 1975-77.

- * A strong group in radio astrophysics was formed under his leadership at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, which is comparable to the best in the world.

- * He has received Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (SSB)(1972); TWAS Prize in Physics (1988); H. K. Firodia Award

(2001) and the Grote Reber Medal (2007) among others

75. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Patrika Gate in which city of India?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Jaipur
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Dehradun

Ans. B

Sol

* Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Patrika Gate in Jaipur through video conference.

* The Iconic Gate is built by the Patrika Group of Newspapers on the Jawaharlal Nehru Marg in the Pink City.

* Prime Minister Modi also released two books written by the Group Chairman on the occasion, authored by Gulab Kothari, Editor in Chief of Rajasthan Patrika Group and Chairman of Patrika Group of Newspaper.

* The Patrika Gate is a memorial that reflects the cultural heritage and architectural style of Rajasthan.

* This memorial is an attempt to integrate the art, craft and cultural heritage of Rajasthan in one structure.

76. Renowned personality Johnny Bakshi passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Film maker
- B. Actor
- C. Music Director
- D. Choreographer

Ans. A

Sol

* Veteran producer-director, Johnny Bakshi passed away. He mostly worked as a producer, backing films such as Manzilein Aur Bhi Hain, (1974), Raavan, (1984) and Phir Teri Kahani Yaad Aayee (1993).

* He has also directed two films Daku Aur Police (1992) and Khudai (1994).

77. Which state government has launched Sampoorna Poshana Yojana scheme for providing food to lactating mothers and

pregnant women so as to fulfil their nutritional requirements?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Karnataka

Ans. C

Sol

* Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched YSR Sampoorna Poshana scheme.

* The scheme aims at providing food to lactating mothers and pregnant women so as to fulfil their nutritional requirements.

* The scheme will bring down malnutrition among the vulnerable section of state.

* It is going to benefit 30.16 lakh children and lactating mothers.

* It focuses on malnutrition and anaemia in pregnant and lactating mothers.

* It will provide supplementary nutrition in all the Anganwadi centres.

78. Who will chair the Multidimensional Poverty Index Coordination Committee (MPICC) constituted by the NITI Aayog?

- A. Rajiv Maharishi
- B. Abhishek Parthasarathy
- C. Rajiv Kumar
- D. Sanyukta Samaddar

Ans. D

Sol

* NITI Aayog constituted a Multidimensional Poverty Index Coordination Committee (MPICC) which will be chaired by Ms Sanyukta Samaddar.

* She is an advisor to Sustainable Development Goals

* It has members from Ministry of Power, Women & Child Development, Telecommunication, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Rural Development, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Food & Public Distribution, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Education, Housing & Urban Affairs, Health & Family Welfare, and Financial Services.

79. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has partnered with which networking company to provide

access to free learning resources for imparting digital skills to youth for enhancing employability?

- A. Naukri.com
- B. Shine.com
- C. LinkedIn
- D. Lunchmeet

Ans. C

Sol

* National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and LinkedIn announced a partnership to provide access to free learning resources for imparting digital skills to youth for enhancing employability.

* According to LinkedIn, Indian professionals with digital skills are 20 percent more in demand than professionals without digital skills in 2020.

* Under the partnership, 10 free LinkedIn learning paths, consisting of 140 courses for a range of in-demand tech jobs will be made available for free on eSkill India digital platform till March 31, 2021. It will help India's youth to develop skills needed for jobs.

* LinkedIn will provide insights on the Labour market based on an economic graph of more than 69 million members in India.

* It will also share in-demand skills, emerging jobs, and global hiring rates with NSDC to better understand the skilling ecosystem.

80. Who has authored the book titled 'Breaking The Cocoon @ 40' ?

- A. Akshita Singh
- B. Niharika Bhalla
- C. Rashmi Tiwary
- D. Radha Nair

Ans. D

Sol

* Breaking the Cocoon @ 40 has been authored by septugenarian Radha Nair.

* It is a delightful collection of select events from her life, which also holds a mirror to the time the incidents are set in.

* Acting on her brother's suggestion, Radha decided to write about her experience of working as a dream merchant in the ad agency.

* However, she realised that it would be a slim book indeed if it were to cover only her ad agency days.

81. Which state government has inaugurated an online portal for e-filing of consumers' complaints?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Delhi

Ans. D

Sol

* Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated the government's online portal for e-filing of consumers' complaints. He said Delhi is the first State to have this system.

* Accessible via delhistatecommission.nic.in, the software has been developed by National Informatic Centre (NIC) in coordination with State Bank of India, which is providing payment gateway for payment of fees digitally.

* The Delhi State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (DSCDRC) decided to launch the portal for the convenience of consumers especially due to the pandemic.

82. Who has been appointed Honorary Consul of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Chennai, with consular jurisdiction over Tamil Nadu and Kerala?

- A. R. Masakui
- B. S. Mahalingam
- C. Suhasini Maniratnam
- D. Manisha Kapoor

Ans. B

Sol

* S. Mahalingam has been appointed Honorary Consul of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Chennai, with consular jurisdiction over Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

* Mr. Mahalingam retired as chief financial officer and executive director of Tata Consultancy Services.

* Mr. Mahalingam is replacing former Honorary Consul Suhasini Maniratnam, whose mandate was terminated after five years.

83. Which state government has launched Kitchen Garden to promote nutritious food, as part of the Poshan Maah?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Bihar
- C. Assam
- D. Jharkhand

Ans. C

Sol

* The Social Welfare Department of Assam has taken steps to promote nutritious food through Kitchen Garden, as part of the Poshan Maah.

* The idea of the Kitchen Garden is to plant locally available nutritional food and vegetables.

* Kitchen Garden or Nutri garden will be set up at Anganwadi Centres and Government Primary Schools across the state.

* Poshan Maah is India's flagship programme, launched in March 2018 to improve the nutritional status of children up to 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

* The programme aims to achieve specific targets for reduction in low birth weight babies, stunting growth, undernutrition and prevalence of anaemia over the next three years.

84. Which state government has launched a portal for eye donation?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Karnataka

Ans. C

Sol

• Tamil Nadu chief minister K Palaniswami launched a dedicated portal of the state Health and Family Welfare Department to help eye donors.

• He also pledged to donate his eyes as part of the National Eye Donation Fortnight.

• The portal will enable persons who wish to pledge to donate their eyes - www.hmis.tn.gov.in/eye-donor.

• The website was created with the aim of creating awareness on eye donations and the processes involved, among

people and to create a registry of eye donors in Tamil Nadu.

85. Zolfaghar-99 is an annual three-day naval exercise of which country that was held near the strategic Strait of Hormuz?

- A. Pakistan
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Oman
- D. Iran

Ans. D

Sol

• Iran's army conducted an annual three-day naval exercise near the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

• Units from the navy, air force and ground forces participated in the maneuver in the Gulf of Oman.

• Iranian submarines and drones were used during the exercise.

• The annual maneuver dubbed as Zolfaghar-99 was aimed at improving readiness in confronting foreign threats and any possible invasion.

86. Which entity has launched the Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE-Atal New India Challenges?

- A. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- D. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Ans. A

Sol

• Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, has launched the Aatmanirbhar Bharat ARISE-Atal New India Challenges.

• The programme will spur applied research and innovation in Indian MSMEs and startups.

• The initiative will help identify and promote innovations necessary for boosting the MSME sector.

• The programme will be driven by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), four ministries including Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Food Processing Industries; Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs along with associated

industries to facilitate innovative solutions to sectoral problems.

87. The first World Solar Technology Summit 2020 held virtually was attended by how many countries?

- A. 83
- B. 88
- C. 121
- D. 149

Ans. D

Sol

- On 8th September 2020, the 1st World Solar Technology Summit was held virtually.
- The summit was inaugurated by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi.
- The main objective of the summit is to pay attention to state-of-the-art technologies and next-generation technologies.
- Such technologies will play an important role in making solar energy more efficiently, more than 26,000 participants from 149 nations joined the summit virtually.
- The first World Solar Technology Summit (WSTS) is organised by the International Solar Alliance (ISA) along with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), as the convenor of ISA Global Leadership Task Force on Innovation, to focus on new Technologies and Innovations in the field of Solar.

88. Karnataka Chief Minister, B.S. Yediyurappa inaugurated a flyover named after which historic personality?

- A. Veer Savarkar
- B. Nana Bhai Deshmukh
- C. Madan Mohan Malveeya
- D. Din Dayal Upadhyaya

Ans. A

Sol

- Karnataka Chief Minister, B.S. Yediyurappa inaugurated the 'Veer Savarkar' flyover in Bengaluru.
- The inauguration of the 400-metre long flyover built on Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan Road in the city.

- The Bengaluru's civic body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) built the flyover at the cost of Rs 34 crore.
- The project of constructing the flyover began in September 2017.

89. Renowned personality Jaya Prakash Reddy passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Politician
- B. Actor
- C. Telugu Writer
- D. Journalist

Ans. B

Sol

- Telugu actor Jaya Prakash Reddy passed away.
- He was working as a sub-inspector of police when he got an opportunity to act in Venkatesh's 1988 film Brahma Puthrudu.
- He was last seen in Mahesh Babu starrer Sarileru Neekevvaru (2020).
- Reddy was popular for his role in films like Samarasimha Reddy, Preminchukundam Raa, Narasimha Naidu, Nuvvostanante Nenoddantana, Julayi, Ready, Kick, Jayam Manadera, Jamba Lakidi Pamba, Avunu Valliddaru Istapaddaru, Kabaddi Kabbadi, Evadi Gola Vadidi and Kithakithalu.

90. Who has been conferred with the prestigious Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2019?

- A. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
- B. Sir David Attenborough
- C. Tereza Fajksova
- D. Sheikh Hasina

Ans. B

Sol

- Sir David Attenborough was conferred with the prestigious Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2019.
- He is an English broadcaster and a historian.
- He is popular for writing and presenting the BBC Natural History Unit.
- He worked to make aware to preserve and protect the biodiversity of the planet.
- The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize award is for peace, disarmament and development.

- It has been named after the former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- It is being conferred every year since 1986 by Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. It consists of a monetary award of Rs 25 lakhs.

91. American global aerospace and defence technology company, Northrop Grumman, announced to name its next Cygnus capsule after which astronaut?

- A. Sunita Williams
- B. Sharmila Bhattacharya
- C. Manisha Ganeshan
- D. Kalpana Chawla

ns. D

Sol

- An American commercial cargo spacecraft bound for the International Space Station has been named after fallen NASA astronaut Kalpana Chawla, the first India-born woman to enter space, for her key contributions to human spaceflight.

• Northrop Grumman, an American global aerospace and defence technology company, announced that its next Cygnus capsule will be named the "S.S. Kalpana Chawla", in memory of the mission specialist who died with her six crewmates aboard the space shuttle Columbia in 2003.

• The S S Kalpana Chawla capsule is scheduled to launch on the NG-14 mission atop a Northrop Grumman Antares rocket from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia on September 29. The spacecraft will arrive at and be attached to the space station two days later.

• For the NG-14 mission, the Cygnus spacecraft will deliver approximately 3,629 kg of cargo to the space station.

• Chawla was born in Karnal, Haryana on March 17, 1962. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering from Punjab Engineering College in India in 1982.

92. With a focus on enhancing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region which three

countries have held the first trilateral dialogue?

- A. India, Japan, Australia
- B. India, Indonesia, Malaysia
- C. India, France, Australia
- D. India, Malaysia, Philippines

Ans. C

Sol

• With a focus on enhancing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, India, Australia and France held the first trilateral dialogue where they discussed "economic and geostrategic challenges and cooperation" in the region, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and domestic responses to it.

• The three countries also had an exchange on the priorities, challenges and trends in regional and global multilateral institutions, including the best ways to strengthen and reform multilateralism.

• The trilateral dialogue helped underscore the goal of guaranteeing peace, security and adherence to international law in the Indo-Pacific.

93. India and which country signed the Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services agreement boosting the interoperability between the armed forces of the two countries?

- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. France
- D. Singapore

Ans. B

Sol

• India and Japan signed an Agreement between the two countries concerning Reciprocal Provision of Supplies and Services.

• The agreement was signed by Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar and Ambassador of Japan Mr Suzuki Satoshi

• This agreement establishes the enabling framework for closer cooperation between the Armed Forces of India and Japan in the reciprocal provision of supplies and services while engaged in bilateral training activities, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, Humanitarian International Relief and other mutually agreed activities

- The agreement will also enhance the interoperability between the Indian security forces and Japan thereby further increasing the bilateral defence engagements under the Special Strategic & Global Partnership between the two countries.
- The agreement comes at a time when India and China are engaged in a face-off along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

94. Under whose chairmanship the Government of India has constituted an Expert Committee for making an overall assessment of relief to bank borrowers related to waiver of interest and waiver of interest on interest on the COVID-19 related moratorium?

- A. Rajiv Kumar
- B. Ravindra H. Dholakia
- C. Rajiv Mehrishi
- D. B Sriram

Ans. C

Sol

- Government of India has constituted an Expert Committee for making an overall assessment of relief to bank borrowers related to waiver of interest and waiver of interest on interest on the COVID-19 related moratorium.
- State Bank of India will provide secretarial support to the committee.
- The Committee may consult banks or other stakeholders, as deemed necessary, for the purpose.
- Former CAG Rajiv Mehrishi will chair the committee and other members include Ravindra H. Dholakia, former Professor, IIM Ahmedabad & ex- Member, MPC of Reserve Bank of India and B. Sriram, Former Managing Director, State Bank of India & IDBI Bank.

95. Hubballi Railway Station in Karnataka has been renamed after who among the following?

- A. Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar
- B. Siddharoodha Swamiji
- C. A K Subbaiah
- D. Jagannathrao Joshi

Ans. B

Sol

- Hubballi Railway Station in Karnataka will now be known as 'Shree Siddharoodha Swamiji Railway Station.
- Union government has approved long-pending demand of Hubballians of renaming the Hubballi railway station.
- Name of Hubballi railway station, which is headquarters of South Western Railway, is being changed for the second time in the last five years. It was changed in 2015 from 'Hubli' to 'Hubballi'.
- Siddharoodha Swamiji was an Indian Hindu guru and philosopher.

96. Who has been crowned as Wushu World Champion Iran's Maryam Hashemi failed her dope test?

- A. Poonam Khatri
- B. Pooja Kadian
- C. Roshibini Devi
- D. Rajni Deori

Ans. A

Sol

- Martial artist Poonam Khatri, who won a silver medal at the Wushu World Championship, is now being upgraded to a gold medal.
- Her medal got upgraded after Iran's Maryam Hashemi failed her dope test.
- Maryam won the gold medal in the Women's Sanda event at this Championship last year in October.
- She defeated Poonam in the 75 kg category in the final which was held in China.
- A four-time world champion, Maryam has received a four-year ban after testing positive for the anabolic steroid nandrolone.
- Poonam is now the third Indian to win a gold in Wushu World Championship after Pooja Kadiyan (2017) and Praveen Kumar (2019).

97. Who has been appointed to the World Health Organisation's independent panel for pandemic preparedness?

- A. Soma Mondal
- B. Riva Ganguly
- C. Vini Mahajan
- D. Preeti Sudan

Ans. D

Sol

- The World Health Organisation's independent panel for pandemic preparedness and response appointed former health secretary, Preeti Sudan as one of its 11 panellists from across the world.
- The decision by the panel's two heads, former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clarke and former Liberia President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.
- In a meeting of the Chairs, Helen Clarke is believed to have conveyed that Sudan's experience as the head of the government ministry that led India's response to the pandemic makes her much more suited for the job.

98. Who has been appointed as the new chief of National School of Drama (NSD)?

- A. Anupam Kher
- B. Paresh Rawal
- C. Boman Irani
- D. Kulbhushan Kharbanda

Ans. B

Sol

- Former Lok Sabha MP and Bollywood actor, Paresh Rawal have been appointed as the new chief of National School of Drama by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- In a career span of over three decades, Rawal has been acknowledged with numerous awards, including the prestigious National Film Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1994.
- He was conferred with the Padma Shri in 2014 for his contribution to the entertainment industry.
- Rawal made his debut with the 1985 film Arjun. He played a supporting role in the film. He, however, gained recognition after the release of the 1986 blockbuster Naam.

99. Which pair of cricketers has been appointed as the brand ambassadors of the fantasy sports gaming platforms, Playerzpot?

- A. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Smriti Mandhana
- B. Mohammad Sami, Harmanpreet Kaur
- C. Ravindra, Jadeja, Shafali Verma
- D. Shikhar Dhawan, Taniya Bhatia

Ans. A

Sol

- The fantasy sports gaming platforms, Playerzpot has announced the signing of cricketers Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Smriti Mandhana as its brand ambassadors.

- Playerzpot is a fantasy sports gaming app that allows its users to play fantasy cricket.

- The partnership will see the cricketers in the brand's upcoming campaigns and promote Playerzpot through engagement activities.

- The duo will anchor the brand with their sports charisma and help in creating a higher brand recall amongst the key target audience.

100. From which state country's second and South India's first "Kisan Train" was flagged off?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Ans. D

Sol

- The country's second and South India's first "Kisan Train" was flagged off from Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh to Adarsh Nagar Railway Station in Delhi.

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy & Union Minister for Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar flagged off the train, via a video link from New Delhi and Amaravati. This train, loaded with 14 parcel vans, will cover a distance of 2,150 km in 40 hours.

- On August 7, the first Kisan Rail was flagged off between Devlali in Maharashtra and Danapur in Bihar as a weekly service, which was later made bi-weekly due to increasing demand. Now the second Kisan Rail will benefit farmers of the states coming en route.

- Kisan Rail is being started to help in the speedy transportation of farm produce to distant places, in keeping with the goal of doubling farmers' income.

- This facility will also help in increasing agricultural exports.

101. Famous personality Diana Rigg passed away recently she was a veteran _____.

- A. Politician
- B. Social Activist
- C. Actor
- D. Business Tycoon

Ans. C

Sol

- British actress Diana Rigg, whose commanding career stretched from iconic 1960s spy series *The Avengers* to fantasy juggernaut *Game of Thrones* passed away.

- Ms. Rigg also starred in 1967 James Bond thriller *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* as the only woman ever to marry Agent 007.

102. Who has been appointed as the first women Chief Executive Officer of the Citigroup?

- A. Mary McNiff
- B. Jessica Roos
- C. Karen Peetz
- D. Jane Fraser

Ans. D

Sol

- Citigroup named Jane Fraser as its next chief executive officer (CEO).

- She will be the first women CEO of Citigroup

- She will take over the top job in February, replacing Michael Corbat who will retire.

- Fraser, who has served as president and CEO of global consumer banking since 2019, will join the board of directors immediately

- She has held prior roles for Citi in Latin America and in investment banking.

103. India has been elected as a member of the United Nation's Commission on Status of Women (CSW) from _____.

- A. 2020-2023
- B. 2021-2024
- C. 2021-2025
- D. 2021-2026

Ans. C

Sol

- India has recently been elected as one of the members of the Commission on

Status of Women (CSW) which is a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

- India will be a member for four years from 2021 to 2025.

- India, Afghanistan and China had contested the elections to the Commission on Status of Women.

- Even as India and Afghanistan won the ballot among the 54 members, China could not cross the half-way mark.

104. Who has been appointed as new Executive Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila?

- A. Subhash Kamath
- B. Preeti Sudan
- C. Vinkesh Gulati
- D. Sameer Kumar Khare

Ans. D

Sol

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Sameer Kumar Khare as new Executive Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila.

- Khare is a 1989-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Assam cadre. He is currently serving as Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs under Ministry of Finance.

- He has been appointed to the post for a tenure of three years with effect from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

105. Who has been appointed as Executive Director at World Bank in Washington DC?

- A. Rajesh Khullar
- B. Rajiv Srivastava
- C. Ashwini Bhatia
- D. Sameer Kumar Khare

Ans. A

Sol

- A 1988 batch IAS officer, Rajesh Khullar has been appointed as Executive Director at World Bank in Washington DC.

- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Rajesh Khulla for a tenure

of three years from the date of assumption of charge or till the date of his superannuation (August 23, 2023).

- Khullar is currently posted as principal secretary to chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar. He will join the World Bank in the first week of November.
- As executive director, Khullar will represent India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka in the World Bank.

106. Who has been elected as the new Chief of Japan's ruling, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Prime Minister-designate of the country?

- A. Taro Aso
- B. Yoshihide Suga
- C. Takaichi Sanae
- D. Hashimoto Seiko

Ans. B

Sol

- Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary, Yoshihide Suga has been elected as the new Chief of country's ruling, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Prime Minister-designate of Japan.
- The 71-year-old will assume charge of the office from 16 September 2020.
- Suga received maximum votes of 377 of the 534 valid votes in the Party election, held to pick a successor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who announced in August 2020 that he would resign due to health problems.

107. The Thomas and Uber Cup 2020 was postponed to next year by the Badminton World Federation, the tournament was scheduled to be held in which country?

- A. Belgium
- B. Sweden
- C. Norway
- D. Denmark

Ans. D

Sol

- The Thomas and Uber Cup in Denmark was postponed to next year by the Badminton World Federation following a wave of withdrawals by top teams due to the raging COVID-19 pandemic.
- India had announced both the men's and women's squads for the prestigious

event which was scheduled to be held in Aarhus, Denmark from October 3 to 11.

- However, after Indonesia and South Korea on Friday joined Thailand, Australia, Chinese Taipei and Algeria in pulling out due to the dreaded disease, the sport's governing body held a virtual emergency council meeting.

108. Recently, a team of researchers found traces of phosphine gas in which planet is associated with the living organisms which on Earth?

- A. Mercury
- B. Venus
- C. Mars
- D. Jupiter

Ans. B

Sol

- Recently, a team of experts while observing the Venus found that the atmosphere of Venus contains traces of phosphine gas.
- Phosphine gas is associated with the living organisms which on Earth.
- The team used telescopes in Hawaii and Chile's Atacama Desert in order to observe upper cloud deck of Venus which is around 60 km from the surface.
- They detected traces of phosphine, a flammable gas that on Earth occurs from the breakdown of organic matter.
- Venus is named after the ancient Roman goddess of love and beauty known as Aphrodite to the Ancient Greeks.

109. Who has been conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020?

- A. Aditya Puri
- B. KV Kamath
- C. Amitabh Chaudhary
- D. Sandeep Bakshi

Ans. A

Sol

- Aditya Puri, MD, HDFC Bank was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020.
- The publication has recognised the iconic leader for his skills in building a world-class Indian bank at a time where

there were no similar institutions in existence.

- The coveted honour from the global financial magazine in recognition of his illustrious career in banking comes just ahead of his retirement next month.

110. Who has authored the book titled "My Life in Design"?

- A. Malaika Arora
- B. Madhuri Dixhit
- C. Gauri Khan
- D. Farah Khan

Ans. C

Sol

- Interior designer, Gauri Khan has authored her first book titled "My Life In Design", which will be published by Penguin Random House India in 2021.
- It is a coffee-table book, in which Gauri has written about her journey as a designer.
- The book will feature unseen pictures of her interior design projects, family and residence. She will also talk about her design philosophy and style.
- The book will be very visually appealing with exclusive pictures and information that guide aspiring designers or those who are just generally interested in the art of design.

111. The India Gold Policy Centre (IGPC) at which IIM has signed an MoU with between International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA) to provide consultation to facilitate the establishment of International Bullion Exchange (IBE) in India?

- A. Indian Institute of Management – Ahmedabad
- B. Indian Institute of Management – Lucknow
- C. Indian Institute of Management – Kolkata
- D. Indian Institute of Management – Kozhikode

Ans. A

Sol

- International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA) and India Gold Policy Center (IGPC) at Indian Institute of Management – Ahmedabad (IIMA)

(IFSCA-IIMA) signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the IFSCA, GIFT City Gandhinagar to provide consultation to facilitate the establishment of International Bullion Exchange (IBE) in India.

- As part of the MoU, IGPC-IIMA an independent think tank with in-house expertise in the area of gold markets shall be a knowledge partner for IFSCA to successfully roll out the International Bullion Exchange.
- IGPC-IIMA by setting broader vision, developing success strategies and creating operating guidelines for smooth functioning of the bullion exchange, will take a top-down approach.

112. Which state government has launched 'My Family, My Responsibility' Campaign to tackle COVID 19?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Karnataka

Ans. C

Sol

- In a bid to tackle the coronavirus pandemic among further relaxation of lockdown curbs, Maharashtra Chief Minister (CM) Uddhav Thackeray announced the launch of 'My Family, My Responsibility' Campaign.
- The campaign aims to motivate the maximum number of people to adopt a new lifestyle for effective COVID-19 control and also aims to reach people before the virus reaches them.
- It's main objective is to achieve effective healthcare education for the control of COVID-29. It will be conducted in 2 phases.

113. Who among the following has won the men's singles title at the 2020 US Open tournament?

- A. Daniil Medvedev
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Dominic Thiem
- D. Stefanos Tsitsipas

Ans. C

Sol

- Austria's Dominic Thiem defeated Alexander Zverev to win the men's singles title at the 2020 US Open tournament.
- It was Thiem's first Grand Slam title, and he becomes the first player in the Open Era to rally from two sets down in a US Open final.
- Thiem is also the first player to capture a Grand Slam title from two sets down since Gaston Gaudio at 2004 French Open.
- For the first time in six years, there was a first-time Grand Slam champion at the US Open.

114. Japan's Naomi Osaka has won the women's single title at the 2020 US Open tournament defeating _____.

- A. Serena Williams
- B. Victoria Azarenka
- C. Sofia Kenin
- D. Jennifer Brady

Ans. B

Sol

- Japan's Naomi Osaka defeated Victoria Azarenka of Belarus to clinch the Women's Singles title in the 2020 US Open Tennis tournament.
- This is the third Grand Slam title for the fourth seed Osaka.
- Osaka previously won the title at the 2018 US Open and 2019 Australian Open.
- She is now the first Asian player to win three Grand Slam singles titles.
- The victory has moved up Osaka to number 3 in the world rankings.

115. Renowned personality Raghuvansh Prasad Singh passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Hindi Poet
- B. Politician
- C. Journalist
- D. Sportsman

Ans. B

Sol

- Former Union minister and veteran leader of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), Raghuvansh Prasad Singh passed away.
- He was a member of the 15th Lok Sabha of India and represented the Vaishali constituency of Bihar.

- Singh had served as the Union Minister for Rural Development in Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's cabinet.
- He was widely regarded as the brain behind the conceptualization and implementation of NREGA (National rural employment guarantee act).

116. An Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (IGRAMS) has been launched in which state/UTs?

- A. Puducherry
- B. Ladakh
- C. Jammu and Kashmir
- D. Haryana

Ans. C

Sol

- This is launched on pilot basis for Jammu, Srinagar, and Reasi districts.
- The system will replace the current portal launched by the government in 2018.
- This is the first UT that will be linked to the central government system—CPGRAMS.
- The move comes at a time when a sense of disconnection and alienation has been growing among the people, especially in the Kashmir Valley, which has remained on edge ever since J&K's special status was revoked last year.

117. 'Streets for People' challenge has been launched by which entity?

- A. Union Housing and Urban Affairs (HUA) Ministry
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry
- D. Ministry of Finance

Ans. A

Sol

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched the Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework (CSCAF) 2.0, along with the 'Streets for People Challenge' under the Smart Cities Mission.
- The objective of CSCAF is to provide a clear roadmap for cities towards combating Climate Change while planning and implementing their actions, including investments.

- The framework has 28 indicators across five categories namely; (i) Energy and Green Buildings, (ii) Urban Planning, Green Cover & Biodiversity, (iii) Mobility and Air Quality, (iv) Water Management and (v) Waste Management.
- The Climate Centre for Cities under National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is supporting MoHUA in implementation of CSCAF.

118. According to the ranking of States/UTs by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) which state emerged as the best performer in developing start-up ecosystem for budding entrepreneurs?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Gujarat

Ans. D

Sol

- Gujarat has again emerged as the best performer in developing start-up ecosystem for budding entrepreneurs, according to the ranking of States and Union Territories by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Gujarat was categorised as the best performer among all States and one Union Territory (UT) Delhi, barring north-eastern States and other UTs.
- A total of 22 States and 3 UTs participated in the exercise.

119. Which of the following institutions has developed Indian Brain Templates (IBT) and a brain atlas?

- A. All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS)
- B. National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences (NIMHANS)
- C. Safdarjung Hospital
- D. National Brain Research Centre

Ans. B

Sol

- National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences has developed Indian Brain Templates (IBT) and a brain atlas.
- The neuroscientists studied over 500 brain scans of Indian patients to develop

five sets of Indian brain templates and a brain atlas for five age groups covering late childhood to late adulthood (six to 60 years).

- The research by a team of doctors led by Bharath Holla, Professor of Psychiatry, Department of Integrative Medicine; Rose Dawn Bharath, Professor and Head of the Department of Neuro-Imaging and Interventional Radiology; and Dr. Benegal, was published in the journal Human Brain Mapping on August 26.

120. Name the Indian filmmaker who won the best screenplay award at the Venice Film Festival?

- A. Chaitanya Tamhane
- B. Anurag Kashyap
- C. Ali Fazal
- D. Alakrita Srivastava

Ans. A

Sol

- Indian Filmmaker Chaitanya Tamhane won the best screenplay award for his screenplay 'The Disciple' at the 77th Venice Film Festival.
- The Disciple, written and directed by Tamhane, premiered last week at the prestigious festival, which became the first film fest to have taken place physically since the world underwent a coronavirus-induced lockdown.
- Chinese-American filmmaker Chloe Zhao bagged the top prize of the coveted Golden Lion for her drama Nomadland.
- The Jury headed by two-time Oscar winner Cate Blanchett.
- Mr. Tamhane a, became the first director from the country to compete in the main category of a European film festival after Mira Nair.

121. Which state government has launched 'GARIMA' scheme to ensure the economic safety and social dignity of core sanitation workers in the state?

- A. Jharkhand
- B. West Bengal
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Odisha

Ans. D

Sol

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched 'GARIMA' scheme to ensure the economic safety and social dignity of core sanitation workers in the state.
- The scheme has been allocated total cost of Rs 50 crore
- State Housing and Urban Development department will be the scheme's implementing agency in all the 114 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Odisha.
- The scheme will benefit around 20,000 core sanitation workers and their families.

122. Who has been appointed as the celebrity advocate for children's rights campaign titled as 'For Every Child' by UNICEF?

- A. Ranveer Kapoor
- B. Ayushmann Khurrana
- C. Bhumi Pednekar
- D. Kriti Sanon

Ans. B

Sol

- Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana has been appointed as celebrity advocate for children's rights campaign titled as 'For Every Child' by UNICEF
- He will support UNICEF towards ending violence against children, by working towards this initiative in India.
- After his appointment, Ayushmann Khurrana joins the like of former football star David Beckham who is working on this campaign globally.
- UNICEF's HQs: New York, US.

123. Abraham Accord, which is the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years has been signed which three countries?

- A. Israel, UAE, Syria
- B. Israel, Oman, Bahrain
- C. Israel, UAE, Bahrain
- D. Israel, Yemen, Iraq

Ans. C

Sol

- Israel, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain signed the historic Abraham Accord, which is the first Arab-Israeli peace deal in 26 years.
- This was hosted by the US President Donald Trump.

- The UAE was represented by Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed and Bahrain by Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani.
- The Arab Accord — essentially bilateral agreements with Israel — does not mention the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

124. Cyclone 'Sally' hits which of the following countries?

- A. USA
- B. England
- C. Maldives
- D. Mauritius

Ans. A

Sol

- Hurricane Sally moved slowly closer to the U.S. Gulf Coast, threatening historic floods as rain and storm-force winds started lashing the shore, and governors of four states urged people to flee the coastline.
- Sally could hit Alabama, Florida and Mississippi coasts causing massive flash flooding and storm surges of up to 7 feet in some spots.
- Its languid pace recalls 2017's Hurricane Harvey, which dumped several feet of rain over a period of days on the Houston area, causing major damage.

125. Renowned personality Kapila Vatsyayan passed away recently, she was a veteran _____.

- A. Classical Dancer
- B. Classical Dance Scholar
- C. Painter
- D. Classical Singer

Ans. B

Sol

- Leading art and dance scholar Kapila Vatsyayan passed away in New Delhi
- Dr. Vatsyayan was a former member of Parliament and life time trustee of India International Centre (IIC).
- Dr. Vatsyayan, the grand matriarch of cultural research, has for decades been an icon for students of the arts and for aesthetes in general.
- Among India's earliest arts administrators, hers is a rare personality — unique even today — that combines theoretical knowledge with practical

experience, artistic priorities with
administrative acumen.

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