

100+ Current Affairs for AFCAT I 2020

1. Former India captain Sourav Ganguly took over as the BCCI's _____ president for the next nine months.

- A. 37th
- B. 38th
- C. 39th
- D. 40th
- E. 41st

Answer: C

Solution:

- Former India captain Sourav Ganguly (47-years) took over as the BCCI's (Board of control for Cricket in India) 39th president for the next nine months.
- Mahim Verma of Uttarakhand became the new vice-president.
- Jay Shah (son of Union Home Minister Amit Shah) has been selected as Secretary and Arun Dhumal (younger brother of MoS Finance Anurag Thakur) as Treasurer.
- Currently, CK Khanna is the acting president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- Saurabh Ganguly (President, Cricket Association of Bengal) was the chairman of the BCCI technical committee and has been a media personality for many years.

2. On October 24, 2019, India and Pakistan have signed a pact to operationalize the Kartarpur corridor. The Kartarpur Gurudwara (Darbar Sahib Kartarpur) is situated on the banks of which river, considered to be the first gurdwara ever built?

- A. Indus
- B. Jhelum

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- C. Ravi
- D. Bias
- E. Chenab

Answer: C

Solution:

* On October 24, 2019, India and Pakistan have signed a pact to operationalize the Kartarpur corridor.

* The pact would be signed by the officials of both the countries at Zero point at Dera Baba Nanak.

* Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the corridor in November 2019.

* The corridor connects 'Dera Baba Nanak' (in Gurdaspur district-India) to the 'Gurdwara Darbar Sahib' (in Kartarpur in Narowal district of Pakistan).

* The Kartarpur Gurudwara (Darbar Sahib Kartarpur) is situated on the banks of river 'Ravi', considered to be the first gurdwara ever built.

3. Which of the following airports of India has been adjudged as the best airport in terms of services offered to passengers as per the annual Airport Service Quality survey conducted by the Airport Council International (ACI)?

- A. Indira Gandhi International Airport
- B. Cochin International Airport

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- C. Kempegowda International Airport
- D. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
- E. Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport

Answer: B

Solution:

- As per the annual **Airport Service Quality survey** (conducted by the ACI), **Airport Council International** has recognized **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)** as the best airport in terms of services offered to passengers.
- CIAL was ranked amongst the best airports in the 5-15 million categories in the Asia Pacific region for the year 2018.
- The award was presented to the authorities of Cochin International Airport at the second Annual ACI Customer Experience Global Summit held at Bali, Indonesia.
- ACI ASQ survey is a world-renowned and established airport service quality benchmarking programme measuring passengers' satisfaction.

4. Which of the following team has won the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2019-20?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Gujarat
- E. Mumbai

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Answer: B

Solution:

- Karnataka won the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2019-20 defeating Tamil Nadu in the final by nine wickets in Bengaluru.

- This was Karnataka's fourth Vijay Hazare Trophy title with a dominant display against Tamil Nadu.

- Mayank Agarwal 69 and K L Rahul 52 not out and Abhimanyu Mithun 5/34 starred for Karnataka in the final in Bengaluru.

5. According to the Global Competitiveness Index which of the following is the world's most competitive economy in the world in 2019?

- A. Hong Kong
- B. Netherlands
- C. Switzerland
- D. Singapore
- E. USA

Answer: D

Solution:

- * According to the Global Competitiveness Index, Singapore is the world's most competitive economy in the world in 2019.

- * Singapore scored 84.8 out of a possible 100, pushing the United States to the top spot in the ranking of 141 economies.

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- * The US ranked on the 2nd place which is followed by Hong Kong at third place and Netherlands and Switzerland at 4th and 5th places respectively.
- * China was ranked at 28th position and was the highest-ranked among BRICS nations.
- * This year, India has moved down 10 places to rank 68th in the global competitiveness index. Last year in 2018, India was ranked 58th position.
- * The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), which was launched in **1979**, maps the competitiveness landscape of **141 economies through 103 indicators organised into 12 pillars**.
- * The Global Competitive Index is compiled by the **World Economic Forum**.

6. Joint Air Force Exercise 'Shinyuu Maitri', held between 17-23 October 2019 in Panagarh, West Bengal, is a joint exercise of Indian Air Force and Air Force of which of the following countries?

- A. USA
- B. Japan
- C. France
- D. Sri Lanka
- E. China

Answer: B

Solution:

- * The Indian Air Force and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) has carried out the annual joint military exercise 'Shinyuu Maitri' at Air Force Station, Arjan Singh, Panagarh, West Bengal (17 to 23rd October)
- * C-130 J aircraft of the Special Operations Squadron of IAF and C-130 H of Tactical Airlift Squadron of JASDF is participating in the exercise.

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* The focus of the exercise, to undertake Joint Mobility and Tactical interoperability among the two forces.

7.What is the monetary value beyond which Groups ‘A’ and ‘B’ government officials cannot accept Diwali Gift without the sanction of the government?

- A. 1500
- B. 2000
- C. 3000
- D. 4000
- E. 5000

Answer: E

Solution:

- The Union government has increased the monetary limits for accepting gifts by all its employees.
- All officials under Groups ‘A’ and ‘B’ categories shall not accept any gift without the sanction of the government if the value exceeds Rs 5,000 (earlier-Rs 1,500.).
- Group ‘C’ employees will be able to accept gifts up to Rs 2,000 (earlier- Rs 500) without taking government approval.
- The government has also removed the limit of Rs 1,000 for government employees to receive and retain gifts from foreign dignitaries.

8.Indian American Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee has been awarded Nobel Prize in Economics jointly with her wife Esther Duflo and United States Michael Kremer for their experimental approach to ‘alleviating global poverty’. Abhijit Banerjee is a professor at _____ in US.

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- A. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- B. Harvard University
- C. Yale University
- D. Stanford University
- E. Columbia University

Answer: A

Solution:

- The 2019 Nobel Prize for Economics has been jointly won by Indian American Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee (58-year), his wife, Esther Duflo (the French American) and United States Michael Kremer (professor at Harvard University) for their experimental approach to ‘alleviating global poverty’.
- Currently, Mr. Abhijit Banerjee (taken American citizenship in 2017) and Esther Duflo (46-years) are professors at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US.
- The prize amount of 9 million Swedish krona (Rs. 6,54,17,544) will be shared equally between the three Laureates.

9. Guru Ghasidas National Park is located in which state which is set to become the state’s 4th ‘tiger reserve’?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. West Bengal
- E. Chhattisgarh

Answer: E

Solution:

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- Chhattisgarh government has announced that the state is set to have Guru Ghasidas National Park in Kotiya district as its fourth 'tiger reserve'.

- This decision was taken in 11th meeting of Chhattisgarh State Wildlife Board chaired by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel.

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) had approved to declare Guru Ghasidas National Park as a tiger reserve in 2014.

- At present there are three tiger reserves in state:

- 1) Achanakmar Tiger Reserve in Bilaspur.

- 2) Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve in Gariaband,

- 3) Indravati Tiger Reserve in Bijapur district.

10. Which of the following states has become the first state in the country to enact a law on contract farming?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Telangana
- D. Karnataka
- E. Haryana

Answer: B

Solution:

- Tamil Nadu has become the first state in the country to enact a law on contract farming with President Ram Nath Kovind giving assent to the Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2019.

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- The Bill aims to set a policy framework and institutional mechanism on agricultural produce and livestock contract farming. With the Bill approved, TN state becomes the first state to enact the law on contract farming.

- The Bill was adopted by the Tamil Nadu State government in February 2019. The Bill is first-of-its-kind legislation that assures farm income.

11. On November 18, 2019, the government of India has decided to extend the Visa-on-Arrival facility to nationals of the which country?

- A. United Arab Amirate
- B. Brazil
- C. South Africa
- D. France
- E. Singapore

Answer: A

Solution:

- Government of India (GoI) has decided to extend the Visa-on-Arrival facility to nationals of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for a period of up to 60 days with double entry for business, tourism, conference and medical purposes.

- This facility is available at six designated International Airports namely, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai.

- Visa-on-Arrival is available only to those UAE nationals who have earlier obtained an e-Visa or a normal paper Visa for India.

- Pakistan Origin UAE nationals will not be eligible for Visa-on-Arrival Scheme.

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- India also offers visa on arrival to two other countries besides the UAE, Japan, and South Korea.

12. International Institute of Information Technology is located in which place which has created the first-ever Indian Brain Atlas?

- A. Bengaluru
- B. New Delhi
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Nagpur
- E. Chennai

Answer: C

Solution:

- Researchers at the International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H), have created the first-ever Indian Brain Atlas.

- The study has revealed that the Indian brain, on an average, is smaller in height, width and volume when compared to Western and other Eastern populations. This will help in better/early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and other brain-related ailments.

- The research has been published in Neurology India, a peer-reviewed journal.

13. What is the name of the first-ever joint military exercise between India-Uzbekistan held at Chirchiq Training Area near Tashkent?

- A. Yudh Abhyas
- B. Dustlik

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- C. Hand in Hand
- D. Dharma Guardian
- E. SIMBEX

Answer: B

Solution:

* The first-ever India-Uzbekistan joint military exercise 'Dustlik-2019' was held at Chirchiq Training Area near Tashkent.

* The exercise will enable the sharing of best practices and experiences between the Armed Forces of the two countries and will lead to greater operational effectiveness.

14. What is India's rank in 2nd edition of the Women, Peace, and Security Index for the year 2019 released on November 2, 2019 by the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS) in association with the 'Peace Research Institute of Oslo (PRIO)?

- A. 116th
- B. 133rd
- C. 167th
- D. 173rd
- E. 191st

Answer: B

Solution:

* On November 2, 2019, the 2nd edition of the 'Women, Peace, and Security Index 2019 was released by the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS), America in collaboration with the Peace Research Institute of Oslo (PRIO), Norway.

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* India's rank in the list was 133rd among 167 countries.

* The list was topped by Norway followed by Switzerland and Finland in the second and third places respectively while Yemen was ranked last at 167th place in the index.

15. Who among the following has been crowned 'Miss Asia Global 2019' at Gokulam Convention centre in Kochi, Kerala?

- A. Samiksha Singh
- B. Nguyen Thi Yen Trang
- C. Leeseul Kim
- D. Sara Damnjanovic
- E. Jeanyeer Ozbot

Answer: D

Solution:

* Serbia's Sara Damnjanovic has been crowned 'Miss Asia Global 2019' (5th Edition) at Gokulam Convention centre in Kochi, Kerala.

* Vietnam's Nguyen Thi Yen Trang was crowned 'Miss Asia', while Samiksha Singh (India) won the sub-title of 'Miss Beautiful Face'.

* Miss Asia Global aims to find the most beautiful and talented women from all over the globe.

* Asia Global is one of the three beauty pageant contests in India which doesn't have a bikini and other similar rounds.

* The 'Miss Asia Global Title 2020' will be held in Malaysia.

16. In which station Indian Railway has installed two health ATM that will provide 16 health check-ups for Rs 50-100?

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- A. New Delhi Railway Station
- B. Howrah Junction
- C. Lucknow Charbagh railway station
- D. Jaipur Railway Station
- E. Mumbai Central Railway Station

Answer: C

Solution:

- * The Indian Railways has installed two 'Health ATMs' at the Charbagh railway station in Lucknow.
- * The kiosks, promoted by YOLO Health ATM, provide 16 health check-ups for Rs 50-100.
- * There are two types of check-ups a 9-minute one that costs Rs 100, and a 6-minute one that costs Rs 50.
- * The report is delivered instantly to the email or smartphone of the user.
- * The check-ups include body mass index, blood pressure, body fat, haemoglobin, metabolic age, muscle mass, weight, height, temperature, muscle mass, basal metabolic rating, visceral fat, oxygen saturation, pulse rate, blood glucose, and bone mass.

17. Asian Youth Boxing Championship 2019 was held in which country in which Indian women have clinched five gold, while men bagged two silver medals?

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- A. China
- B. Thailand
- C. Mongolia
- D. UAE
- E. Qatar

Answer: C

Solution:

- Indian women have clinched five gold, while men bagged two silver at Asian Youth Boxing Championship in Mongolia.

- All five women finalists, Naorem Chanu (51kg), Vinka (64kg) Sanamacha Chanu (75kg), Poonam (54kg) and Sushma (81kg) won Gold for the country in a phenomenal sweep.

- Among the men, Selay Soy (49kg) and Ankit Narwal (60kg) settled for the second place after going down in their respective summit clashes.

- India signed off with 12 medals in the event with bronze coming from Arundhati Choudhury (69kg), Komalpreet Kaur (81kg), Jasmine (57kg), Satender Singh (91kg) and Aman (91kg).

18. Who among the following was conferred with the 'Raja Ram Mohan Roy award' for his outstanding contribution towards journalism?

- A. Aroon Purie
- B. Gulab Kothari
- C. Shobhana Bhartia

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D. Vineet Kumar Jain

E. Prannoy Roy

Answer: B

Solution:

* The Raja Ram Mohan Roy award was presented to Rajasthan Patrika group chairman Gulab Kothari for his outstanding contribution towards journalism.

* Mr Kothari was selected for the prestigious award by the Press Council of India for his outstanding contribution in the field of journalism.

* The award was presented to Mr. Kothari on the National Press Day (16th November 2019).

19. Which of the following cities has hosted the Ganga Utsav to mark the 11th anniversary of Ganga as a National River?

A. Patna

B. Haridwar

C. New Delhi

D. Varanasi

E. Kanpur

Answer: C

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Solution:

* The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), in coordination with the Jal Shakti Ministry, organised 'Ganga Utsav' in the Major Dhyanchand stadium in the national capital to mark the 11th anniversary of Ganga being declared as the national river.

* The event was organised in a bid to create awareness and gather public participation in the efforts to clean River Ganga and its tributaries.

20. Which country will host the 'No Money for Terror' Conference to be held in 2020?

A. England

B. Japan

C. India

D. France

E. USA

Answer: C

Solution:

* India will be the host nation for the 'No Money For Terror' Conference to be held in 2020.

* The 'No Money For Terror' conference is organised by Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of over 100 countries, jointly known as the Egmont Group.

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21. Who will receive the 27th Ekalabya Award for 2019?

- A. Atanu Das
- B. Deepika Kumari
- C. Jhilli Dalabehera
- D. Hima Das
- E. Dutee Chand

Answer: C

Solution:

- Odia women weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera will receive the 27th Ekalabya Award for 2019.
- Jhilli Dalabehera has brought laurels for both the State and the country in several national and international events.
- She has won two gold, three silver and a bronze medal in different International weightlifting events.
- The annual award instituted in 1993 by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT) comprises a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh along with a citation.
- Ekalabya Award instituted to encourage and inspire young sportspersons to perform at the national and international arena

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22.Name the state of which Ancient Water System ‘Suranga Bawadi’ has been selected as the World Monument Watch List for 2020?

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

Answer: D

Solution:

- As per by the New York-based non-governmental organisation, Suranga Bawadi in Bijapur (Karnataka) has been selected as the World Monument Watch List for 2020,

- Suranga Bawadi was selected under the category of “Ancient Water System of the Deccan Plateau” along with 24 monuments across the world.

- It was built in the 16th century of Adil Shahi-I in Vijayapura.

- It is one of the integral parts of the ancient Karez system of supplying water through subterranean tunnels.

23.Name the person known as India’s oldest Yoga teacher, who passed away recently on October 26, 2019?

- A. Abhijata Sridhar Iyengar
- B. Brahmakumari Shivani
- C. V. Nanammal

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- D. Devki Desai
- E. Deepika Mehta

Answer: C

Solution:

- The 99-year-old Nanammal, popularly known as yoga grandma, passed away on October 26, 2019 at her residence near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- She was conferred the Padma Shri in 2018 and had bagged the Nari Shakti Puraskar and Yoga Ratna awards in 2016 and 2017 respectively.
- Nanammal had trained over 10 lakh students over 45 years, with nearly 100 students daily.

24. Which country will host the Multilateral Naval Exercise 'MILAN 2020' to be held in March 2020?

- A. France
- B. United Kingdom
- C. South Africa
- D. India
- E. Japan

Answer: D

Solution:

- The Indian Navy will host military drill 'Milan 2020' in March which will witness the participation of several countries.
- MILAN stands for 'Multilateral Naval Exercise'.
- 41 nations from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and Europe that share defence cooperation with India have been invited for the drill.

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25. Pooja Gehlot is associated with which sport?

- A. Badminton
- B. Wrestling
- C. Shooting
- D. Boxing
- E. Gymnastic

Answer: B

Solution:

* Pooja Gehlot (53kg) in wrestling claimed India's second silver medal after going down to Japan's Haruna Okuno in the finals of the UWW Under-23 World Championships in Budapest.

* Pooja lost 0-2 to Okuno in the summit clash.

* She had entered the finals after beating Turkey's Zeynep Yetgil in the semifinals of the tournament.

26. Which state government has decided to create a new Foreign Cooperation department in order to streamline and provide focus to various initiatives taken by the state government for the promotion of investment, employment for youth and welfare of Non-Resident Indians?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Tamil Nadu
- E. Haryana

Answer: E

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Solution:

* Haryana Government has decided to create a dedicated new department namely Department of 'Foreign Cooperation'.

* The department has been created in order to streamline and provide focus to various initiatives taken by the state government for the promotion of investment, employment for youth and welfare of Non-Resident Indians.

* The new department will deal in the formulation of country-wise strategies for the promotion of investment, employment in the state, education and skill development and promotion of Haryanvi culture and welfare of Haryanvi diaspora.

27. What is the theme of the 2019 NuGen Mobility Summit?

- A. Sustainable & Green Mobility
- B. Smart & Sustainable Mobility
- C. Smart & Green Mobility
- D. Mobility for Greener Development
- E. None of these

Answer: C

Solution:

- The 2019 NuGen Mobility Summit was held at Manesar, Haryana from 27-29th November 2019.
- The Theme of 2019 is “Smart & Green Mobility”.
- The objective of the summit is to share new ideas, learnings, global experiences, innovations and future technologies trends for the faster adoption, assimilation and development of advanced Automotive Technologies for a smarter and greener future.

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28. Name the movie which has won the 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Director' awards at the 'Asian Film Festival' in Barcelona, Spain.

- A. Gully Boy
- B. Kalank
- C. Raazi
- D. Bhonsle
- E. Stree

Answer: D

Solution: • Manoj Bajpayee-starrer and critically acclaimed movie "Bhonsle" has won the 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Director' awards at the 'Asian Film Festival' in Barcelona, Spain. • Manoj Bajpayee-starrer and critically acclaimed movie "Bhonsle" has won the 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Director' awards at the 'Asian Film Festival' in Barcelona, Spain.

- The movie was directed by Devashish Makhija.
- The movie "Bhonsle" revolves around a police constable played by Manoj Bajpayee, who tries to help in the struggles of migrants and their battles with the local politicians.
- It also addresses the concerns of various ethnic groups and highlights the issues that they face in order to survive in a city like Mumbai, away from their home.
- "Bhonsle" was premiered in the 'A Window on Asian Cinema' section of the 2018 Busan International Film Festival.

29. What is the deadline for the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to launch Chandrayaan-3?

- A. April 2020
- B. July 2020
- C. October 2020
- D. November 2020
- E. December 2020

Answer: D

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Solution:

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), which failed to land a probe on Moon in its first attempt in September 2019 (Chandrayaan-2), has begun work on Chandrayaan-3 with a deadline of November 2020.
- ISRO has formed multiple committees — an overall panel and three sub-committees — and held at least four high-level meetings since October.
- The new mission will include only a lander and rover, as the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter is functioning well.

30. On November 26, 2019, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched which satellite from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh by Polar Satellite Launching Vehicle C47?

- A. EMISAT
- B. CARTOSAT 3
- C. GSAT-31
- D. Microsat-R
- E. GSAT-7A

Answer: B

Solution:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched India's the most sophisticated Earth observation satellite Cartosat-3 and 13 US nanosatellites from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- The launch enhanced India's ability in high-resolution imaging and also reinforce India as a global launch destination for small satellites using its workhorse rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV.

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- According to the ISRO, the 1,625 kg Cartosat-3 is an advanced agile satellite to obtain panchromatic and multispectral imagery with an operational life of five years.
- The advanced earth observation and imaging satellite will be used for weather mapping, cartography or army defence and other strategic applications.

31. Who won the 55th Jnanpith Award 2019?

- A. Itigi Eranna
- B. Akkitham Achuthan Namboodri
- C. P.T. Narasimhachar
- D. Jayant Kaikini
- E. Kumaran Asan

Answer: B

Solution:

- Noted Malayalam poet Akkitham Achuthan Namboodiri (known as 'Akkitham' - 93 years) has been declared the recipient of the 55th Jnanpith Award (country's highest literary honour) for the year 2019.
- His work includes Irupatham Noottandinte Ithihasam, or the legend of the 20th century, which is considered to have brought modernism into Malayalam poetry.
- Akkitham is the 6th Malayalam writer to be conferred this award.

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- Akkitham Achuthan Namboodiri is the recipient of the Padma Shri (in 2017), Kerala Sahitya Academy Award (in 1971), the Sahitya Academy Award (in 1973), and the Vayalar Award (in 2012).

- Writer Amitav Ghosh was the recipient of the Jnanpith Award in 2018.

32. The 24th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) was held in which place from 25th to 29th November, 2019?

- A. Vienna, Austria
- B. Geneva, Switzerland
- C. The Hague, Netherlands
- D. Berlin, Germany
- E. Reykjavik, Iceland

Answer: C

Solution:

- From 25th to 29th November, 2019, the 24th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is gathering this week in The Hague to address new projects, encourage cooperation, and chart the progress of their shared endeavor.
- The Conference of the States Parties (CSP) oversees the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), promotes the treaty's objectives and reviews compliance with the treaty.
- The Conference is composed of representatives of all Member States of the OPCW, each of which has one vote. The CSP meets annually in The Hague.

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33. In which place the Indian Army has successfully test-fired two Spike long-range anti-tank missiles?

- A. Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- B. Pokhran, Rajasthan
- C. Mhow, Madhya Pradesh
- D. Pune, Maharashtra
- E. Balasore, Odisha

Answer: C

Solution:

- The Indian Army has successfully test-fired two Spike long-range anti-tank missiles at Mhow, Madhya Pradesh.
- Army Chief General Bipin Rawat and several commanders witnessed the firing of the newly acquired missiles on Wednesday.
- Spike is a fourth-generation missile which can engage any target with precision at ranges up to 4-kilo metres.
- The Spike long-range anti-tank missiles will bolster the Army's firepower capability.

34. As per the Union Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan by which date Hallmarking for Gold jewellery and artefacts will be mandatory?

- A. 15th January 2020
- B. 1st April 2020
- C. 1st October
- D. 15th January 2021
- E. 1st April 2021

Answer: D

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Solution:

- According to Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan, Hallmarking for Gold jewellery and artefacts will be mandatory from 15th January 2021.
- He said, Notification in this regard will be issued by 15 of January next year Jewellers and Retailers will get one-year time for clearing their old or existing stock.
- More than 26 thousand jewellers have taken the Bureau of Indian Standards, BIS (Hallmarking) registration till now.
- If anyone is found violating the set rules after 15th January 2021, they may attract a fine of minimum one lakh rupees or five times the value of the items or a jail term of one year.

35. The 7th edition of India-Sri Lanka joint exercise “MITRA SHAKTI” was held in ____.

- A. Pune
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Jabalpur
- D. Ambala
- E. Nagpur

Answer: A

Solution:

- In Dec 2019, India-Sri Lanka conducted the joint exercise “MITRA SHAKTI” (7th edition) at Aundh Military Station, Pune.
- It aims to build and promote positive relations between armies of both the countries focusing subunit level training on counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in the urban and rural environment.
- It is conducted annually as part of military diplomacy and interaction between armies of two nations.

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36. Who among the following created history by becoming the first woman pilot of the Indian Navy?

- A. Shivangi
- B. Avani Chaturvedi
- C. Mohana Singh
- D. Vaaruni
- E. Anjali Singh

Answer: A

Solution:

- Sub Lieutenant Shivangi has created history to become the first woman pilot of the Navy.
- Shivangi was inducted into the Indian Navy under the Short Service Commission Pilot entry scheme.
- She was commissioned into the Navy in June 2018.
- A batch of three trainee officers of the 7th Dornier Conversion Course including a lady officer qualified as Dornier pilots and were awarded at the coveted golden Wings ceremony held at INS Garuda.

37. Name the authors who won the 12th 'Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize' for his book, "Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From"?

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- A. Tony Joseph
- B. Ruskin Bond
- C. Gregory David Roberts
- D. Taslima Nasrin
- E. Rudyard Kipling

Answer: A

Solution:

- English author Tony Joseph has won the 12th ‘Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize’ for his book, “Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From“.
- The book tells the tale of the people of South Asia through research in six disciplines, including path-breaking new DNA evidence.
- The award was instituted in 2008 and it carries a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh along with a trophy.
- Last year, the prize was awarded to Sujatha Gidla for her Ants Among Elephants: An Untouchable Family And The Making Of Modern India.

38. Which of the following organization constituted a committee that recommends launching a scheme for the promotion of endangered languages in central and state universities?

- A. National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT)
- B. Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
- C. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- D. University Grants Commission (UGC)
- E. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)

Answer: D

Solution:

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- On 02nd December 2019, the Union Human Resource and Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank announced in Parliament that the government has launched a scheme for the promotion of endangered languages in central and state universities.
- The scheme was launched following recommendations of an expert committee constituted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for studying issues pertaining to preservation and promotion of endangered languages.
- To ensure the preservation of endangered languages, the identified universities have been grouped together into separate clusters like North Eastern languages, tribal languages, numeric and coastal languages and theoretical work of endangerment.

39. The Election Commission of India has decided to implement the PPRTMS for political parties. What does 'S' stand for in PPRTMS?

- A. System
- B. Symbol
- C. Section
- D. Sector
- E. Solidarity

Answer: A

Solution:

- The Election Commission of India will implement the Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System (PPRTMS).
- It will be implemented through an online portal to facilitate tracking of the status of the application by applicants.
- According to Election Commission, the applicant who is applying for party registration from 1st January 2020 onwards will be able to track the progress of his or her application and will get status through SMS and email.

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40. Which country hit typhoon Kammuri?

- A. Japan
- B. Philippines
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. China
- E. Myanmar

Answer: B

Solution:

- In the Philippines, typhoon Kammuri has made landfall at Luzon, the country's largest and most populous island.
- Around two lakh residents have been evacuated from coastal and mountainous areas over fears of flooding, storm surges and landslides.
- Now, Kammuri is expected to pass to the south of the capital Manila, which is hosting thousands of athletes for the regional Southeast Asian Games.

41. Name the Railway station which got the 'Eat Right Station' certification with four stars rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai Central
- C. Chennai Central
- D. Patna Junction
- E. Howrah Junction

Answer: B

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Solution:

- The Mumbai Central Railway station was conferred with the ‘Eat Right Station’ certification with four stars rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- It is the country’s first “Eat Right Station.”
- The focus of the movement is on improving the health and well-being of people by ensuring they eat healthily.

42. India’s first maritime museum coming up at _____.

- A. Marina, Chennai
- B. Arossim, Goa
- C. Juhu, Mumbai
- D. Lothal, Gujarat
- E. Kandla, Gujarat

Answer: D

Solution:

- Government of India (GoI) & Portugal has decided to cooperate in the setting up of an India’s 1st National Maritime Heritage Museum at Lothal in Gujarat.
- Lothal is famous for the discovery of several ruins of Indus Valley Civilization. Lothal is located between the Sabarmati river and its tributary Bhogavo, in the Saurashtra region. It was the famous port during Indus valley civilization.

43. India gifted a ‘Made in India’ Patrol Vessel to the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF), what is the name of the vessel?

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- A. Varaha
- B. Vikram
- C. Samudra
- D. Samarth
- E. Kaamiyab

Answer: E

Solution:

- India gifted a ‘Made in India’ Patrol Vessel named "KAAMIYAAB” to the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).
- It will be net security provider in the region amid China’s increasing forays in the Indian Ocean Region.
- Meanwhile, 2500 LED streetlights donated by India were installed in Male recently.
- These streetlights save 80% energy and will result in cost savings of approx. 8.35 lakh MVR per year for Male city.
- In 2019, tourist arrivals from India to the Maldives have doubled and India has risen from 5th to the 2nd position in the tourism market of Maldives.

44. UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) was held in the Spanish capital, Madrid, under the Presidency of which country?

- A. Argentina
- B. Chile
- C. Japan
- D. France
- E. Spain

Answer: B

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Solution:

- UN Climate Change Conference (known as COP25) was held in the Spanish capital, Madrid. It was from 2 to 13 December 2019 under the presidency of the Chilean government.

Note:

Due to amid raging street protests in the country, Chile government withdrawal as host of COP25. Chilean President Sebastian Pinera said Sanchez had offered to host the summit in Spain on the same days as previously scheduled, between Dec. 2 and Dec. 13.

- COP 25 is an important conference as countries prepare to move from the pre-2020 period under the Kyoto Protocol to the post-2020 period under the Paris Agreement.

- India's approach will be guided by principles and provisions of UNFCCC and Paris Agreement particularly the principles of Equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capability (CBDR-RC).

45. Name the wrestler who won the gold medal in the senior national wrestling championships in the 77-kilogram category?

- A. Harpreet Singh
- B. Sunil Kumar
- C. Gurpreet Singh
- D. Prabhal
- E. Sajan Bhanwal

Answer: C

Solution:

- Gurpreet Singh clinched gold medals at the senior national wrestling championships in Jalandhar.

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- Gurpreet defeated Sajan Bhanwal by a 3-1 margin, in the 77-kilogram category.

46. Which of the following teams has won the Syed Mushtaq Trophy 2019-20?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Karnataka
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Chhattisgarh
- E. Haryana

Answer: B

Solution:

- Karnataka lifted the Syed Mushtaq Trophy 2019-20 (Cricket) after a thrilling one-run win over Tamil Nadu in the final.
- This is the second consecutive title win for Karnataka.
- Karnataka rode on skipper Manish Pandey's 60 runs (45-ball) to post a total of 180/5 in 20 overs.
- The encounter went to the last over in which off-spinner K Gowtham was asked to defend 13 runs.

47. Which cricketer has become the fastest man to reach 7,000 Test runs?

- A. Virat Kohli
- B. Rohit Sharma
- C. Steve Smith
- D. Cheteshwar Pujara
- E. Kane Williamson

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Answer: C

Solution:

- Steve Smith (30-year) has become the fastest cricketer to score 7,000 Test runs.
- Australian Steve Smith had gone past legendary Don Bradman's 73-year-old record to become the fastest batsman to score 7000 runs in just 126 innings.
- He has a mountain to climb to reach Ricky Ponting, who amassed 13,378 runs in his 168 Tests.
- India's Virender Sehwag is the third fastest in 134 innings.

48. Who crowned as a Miss Universe 2019?

- A. Madison Anderson
- B. Sofia Argon
- C. Vartika Singh
- D. Katy Perry
- E. Zozibini Tunzi

Answer: E

Solution: Zozibini Tunzi (26-years) of South Africa has been crowned Miss Universe 2019 in a glitzy ceremony held in Atlanta, the capital of the US state of Georgia.

49. Who received the 100th Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. Abiy Ahmed
- B. Greta Thunberg
- C. Isaias Afwerki
- D. Nadia Murad

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E. Denis Mukwege Mukengere

Answer: A

Solution:

* Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed received the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize (100th) for his efforts to achieve international peace and co-operation.

* On July 9, 2018, following a historic meeting in Eritrea's capital Asmara, Abiy Ahmed and Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki formally ended a 20-year-old stalemate between their countries in the wake of the 1998-2000 border conflict.

* The Nobel Committee announced in October it was honoring Abiy Ahmed for his efforts to resolve the long-running conflict with neighboring foe Eritrea.

* The Nobel Peace Prize consists of a diploma, a gold medal and a cheque for nine million Swedish kronor (850,000 euros).

* The Chairman of the **Norwegian Nobel Committee** presents the **Nobel Peace Prize** in the presence of the King of Norway on **10 December** each year (the anniversary of Nobel's death).

50. UNICEF has announced Danny Kaye Humanitarian award 2019, who among the following is the winner of this award?

- A. Priyanka Chopra
- B. Diane von Furstenberg
- C. Sonam Kapoor
- D. Hima Das
- E. Sonakshi Shina

Answer: A

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Solution:

- Bollywood actress **Priyanka Chopra** has been awarded the **Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award** from UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) at the Snowflake Ball in New York.
- She has been associated with UNICEF for the past 15 years as a Goodwill Ambassador.

51. A 3-day annual national conference of DGPs and IGPs has begun in, which city of India?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. Bhopal
- E. Pune

Answer: E

Solution:

- A 3-day annual national conference of DGPs and IGPs has begun in Pune.
- The conference is to be held at two venues - Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research in Baner and the Centre for Police Research in Pashan.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, heads of Central investigative and intelligence agencies, and paramilitary forces are also attending this conference.
- The theme of the conference this year is to promote scientific and forensics-based investigation as well as technology-enabled policing.

52. What is the rank of India in the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2019?

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- A. 21
- B. 10
- C. 9
- D. 11
- E. 12

Answer: C

Solution:

* The 2019 Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) has been presented at the ongoing COP25 climate summit in Madrid, Spain.

* For the first time, India has emerged among the top 10 countries with higher climate performance.

* India has been ranked at 9th spot in the index for its Climate Policy performance among 57 countries and the European Union.

53. Union Home Ministry has sanctioned a sum of rupees _____ from Nirbhaya Fund for setting up and strengthening of Women Help Desks in Police Stations of States and Union Territories (UT).

- A. 200 Crore
- B. 300 Crore
- C. 100 Crore
- D. 500 Crore
- E. 1000 Crore

Answer: C

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Solution:

Nirbhaya Fund was announced by the Finance Minister (then FM P. Chidambaram) in his 2013 budget speech, with Government contribution of Rs. 1000 Crores for empowerment, safety, and security of women and girl children. The Fund is administered by the Department of Economic Affairs of the finance ministry.

54. Avantee mega Food Park inaugurated in_____.

- A. Dewas, Madhya Pradesh
- B. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- C. Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- D. Satna, Madhya Pradesh
- E. Riwa, Madhya Pradesh

Answer: A

Solution: Union Minister for food processing Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated Avantee mega Food Park in Dewas in Madhya Pradesh. This first food park of central India is spread over 51 acres and has been constructed at a cost of about 150 crore rupees. About 5 thousand local people will get employment from this Mega Food Park.

55. Which country has tested 1st fully electric commercial aircraft?

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

Answer: A

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Solution:

- The world's first fully-electric commercial aircraft took its inaugural test flight, in Vancouver, Canada.
- The technology would mean significant cost savings for airlines, not to mention zero emissions.
- The range is enough to start the revolution, adding that batteries and electric motors will eventually, be developed to power longer flights.
- The company designed the plane's motor and worked in partnership with Harbour Air.

56. Which Country has tested driverless 5G technology vehicles?

- A. Japan
- B. South Korea
- C. USA
- D. Israel
- E. UAE

Answer: E

Solution:

- Driverless vehicles are being tested on 5G technology ahead of a planned deployment of such vehicles on roads in the United Arab Emirates.
- According to industry reports, 5G-enabled driverless vehicles will be able to have more efficient and quick communication with each other and traffic infrastructure, which will help to minimize traffic jams and bottlenecks.

57. Who becomes the first Indian to play 150 Ranji matches?

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- A. Cheteshwar Pujara
- B. Pankaj Dharmani
- C. Amarjit Kaypee
- D. Mithun Manhas
- E. Wasim Jaffer

Answer: E

Solution:

- * Veteran opener Wasim Jaffer (41 years) has become the first player in Indian cricket to feature in 150 Ranji matches.
- * Overall, Jaffer has played 253 first-class games, scoring 19,147 runs at an average of 51.19.
- * He has scored 57 hundred and 88 fifties with 314 being his highest score.
- * Jaffer is followed by batsman Devendra Bundela (145 matches) and Amol Muzumdar (136 matches).
- * Now, Wasim Jaffer is just 853 runs away from completing 20,000 runs in first-class cricket.

58. Who has been announced as a brand ambassador of German multinational brand PUMA?

- A. Hima Das
- B. Saina Nehwal
- C. Sunil Chhetri
- D. P B Sindhu
- E. M S Dhoni

Answer: C

Solution:

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- German multinational brand PUMA has announced Sunil Chhetri as its new brand ambassador for three -years.
- With this deal, Chhetri has joined the brand's the roster of global players like Antoine Griezmann, Romelu Lukaku, Luis Suarez and Sergio Agüero among others.
- Sunil Chhetri is the captain of the Indian national the football team and Bengaluru Football Club.
- Currently, Chhetri is the second-highest goal-scorer in international football after Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo.
- Sunil Chhetri was also conferred with the Arjuna award in 2011 and Padma Shri in 2019.

59. Who became the first woman Referee in Men's One Day International Cricket match?

- A. G S Lakshmi
- B. Jamuna Venkatesh
- C. Aarti Ajay
- D. Chanda Mehta
- E. Sumitra Rajan

Answer: A

Solution:

- Former Indian Cricketer Gandikota Sarva Lakshmi (51-years) has become the first woman referee in the Men's ODI (One Day International) the match held in Sharjah Cricket Stadium, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- The match was played between the UAE and the United States of America (USA).
- Lakshmi was appointed as the first woman in the ICC (International Cricket Council) International Panel of Match Referees in May 2019.

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• Gandikota Sarva Lakshmi has overseen three women's ODI matches, 16 men's T20 Internationals and seven women's T20 Internationals.

60. "HAND-IN-HAND 2019" joint training exercise was begun in Umroi Meghalaya. Which country participated in the exercise along with India?

- A. Mongolia
- B. China
- C. Singapore
- D. Vietnam
- E. Russia

Answer: B

Solution:

India-China joint training exercise '**HAND-IN-HAND 2019**' (8th) has begun today at **Umroi, Meghalaya**. The theme of the exercise is '**counter-terrorism under United Nations mandate**'.

61. Who is the first living person in Switzerland to have a coin minted in his honor?

- A. Albert Einstein
- B. Roger Federer
- C. Carl Gustav Jung
- D. Louis-Joseph Chevrolet
- E. Charles-Édouard Jeanneret

Answer: B

Solution:

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- On 3rd December 2019, Roger Federer(38), from Basel Switzerland becomes the first ever living Swiss to have his face engraved in the Swiss coin. Roger's image was engraved in a 20-Franc silver coin by the Swissmint, official mint of the Swiss Confederation.
- It is the first time in history that a living person's is being honoured with his image engraved on the Swiss coin.
- The first minting ran off 55,000 units being sold out between the 2nd and 19th of December 2019 and more coins will be minted during May 2020 on a 50-Franc gold coin with a different design.

62.6th Indian Ocean Dialogue 2019 held in which city?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Manila
- C. Pattaya
- D. Colombo
- E. Male

Answer: A

Solution:

* External Affairs Ministry is hosting the 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue and Delhi Dialogue XI at the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New Delhi.

* For the first time, these two dialogues held consecutively and on similar Indo-Pacific themes.

* The theme of 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue is "Indo-Pacific: Re-imagining the Indian Ocean through an Expanded Geography".

* Delhi Dialogue XI has been started and run through the next day.

* The theme for this year's Delhi Dialogue is "Advancing Partnership in Indo-Pacific".

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63. Which State organized three-days Orange Festival 2019?

- A. Punjab
- B. Assam
- C. Manipur
- D. Bihar
- E. Uttar Pradesh

Answer: C

Solution:

• Chief Minister **N. Biren Singh** inaugurated the **three days State-level Orange festival** at district headquarters Tamenglong in Manipur.

64. Which State Government has approved the creation of fast-track courts in the state to curb crimes against women and children that is also known as “DISHA ACT”?

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

Answer: A

Solution:

* Andhra Pradesh Government has approved the creation of fast-track courts in the state to curb crimes against women and children.

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- * It is proposed to complete the case along with the punishment within 21 days of the registration of the FIR.
- * This decision was taken in the cabinet meeting held on under the chairmanship of Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy.
- * Now, Andhra Pradesh will become the first state in India to give death sentences in rape cases if this bill is passed in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly.
- * There is no provision in the law of the country to give the death penalty to the rape accused.

65. Which financial company has launched India's first corporate bond exchange-traded fund (ETF), called the Bharat Bond ETF?

- A. Edelweiss Asset Management Company (AMC)
- B. Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited
- C. Muthoot Finance Ltd
- D. HDB Financial Services
- E. Tata Capital Financial Services Limited

Answer: A

Solution:

- Edelweiss Asset Management Company (AMC) has launched India's first corporate bond exchange-traded fund (ETF), called the Bharat Bond ETF.
- Bharat Bond ETF is also the country's largest new fund offer (NFO) ever.
- Edelweiss AMC will invest in AAA-rated bonds of public sector companies and aims to raise up to Rs 15,000 crore through this initiative.
- ETF is an initiative of the Government of India, from the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management while Edelweiss AMC is given the mandate to design and manage the product.

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66. Which mission was launched by union minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad to engage all the people in digital communication infrastructure?

- A. Bharat Broadband Mission (BBM)
- B. Bharat Internet Mission (BIM)
- C. National Broadband Mission (NBM)
- D. National Digital Mission (NDM)
- E. Rashtreey Digital Mission (RDM)

Answer: C

Solution:

- The Union Minister for Communications, Law & Justice and Electronics and Information Technology (IT), Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched National Broadband Mission (NBM) in New Delhi on December 17, 2019.
- The objective of the mission is to enable all the people to engage in digital communication infrastructure.
- During the occasion he also launched logo of the National Broadband Mission (NBM) and a booklet.

67. Who among the following has won the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Player of the Year Award 2019?

- A. Timea Babos
- B. Ashleigh Barty
- C. Bianca Andreescu
- D. Sofia Kenin
- E. Belinda Bencic

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Answer: B

Solution:

- Ashleigh Barty, Australia was bestowed with the 2019 WTA Player of the year award with 82% vote, she became the first Australian to be named WTA No.1 since Evonne Goolagong Cawley in 1976.
- She has recorded 57 matches, the most matches won in the 2019 tour, and won 4 titles from 6 finals. She advanced to the quarter-finals at the Australian Open and the round 16 of Wimbledon and U.S open becoming the 1st player to reach the 2nd week at all four Grand Slams in 2019.

68. Who among the following has won the Sports Person of the Year award 2019?

- A. Saurabh Chaudhary
- B. Rani Rampal
- C. MC Mary Kom
- D. Geeta Phogat
- E. Both A and B

Answer: E

Solution:

- * India's Rani Rampal (women's hockey team captain) has been awarded the Sportsperson of the Year Award 2019 at the FICCI India Sports Awards 2019.
- * In the male category, Asian Games gold medalist shooter Saurabh Chaudhary won the Sportsperson of the Year Award 2019.

69. The book titled "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life" is authored by _____.

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- A. Baichung Bhutia
- B. Rahul Deavid
- C. VVS Laxman
- D. Viswanathan Anand
- E. Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Answer: D

Solution:

- Indian Chess player Viswanathan Anand has authored a book titled “Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life”.
- The book is based on the experience he had in the game of Chess.
- In the book, he revisits his greatest games and worst losses, his unique experiences of playing against the best minds.
- The methods he employs to prepare for wins, cope with disappointments and, simply, stay in the game.

70. According to World Economic Forum report 2019, what is the rank of India in terms of gender gap?

- A. 113
- B. 116
- C. 108
- D. 112
- E. 120

Answer: D

Solution:

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- India has slipped four places to rank 112th globally in terms of gender gap amid widening disparity in terms of women's health and survival and economic participation.
- Iceland remains the world's most gender-neutral country, India has moved down the ladder from its 108th position last year on the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report.

71. Who was honoured with the Gangadhar National Award 2019, which is bestowed in the remembrance of renowned poet Gangadhar Meher?

- A. Ashok Chakradhar
- B. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari
- C. Phoolchand Gupta
- D. Leeladhar Jagoori
- E. Rajendra Kishore Panda

Answer: B

Solution:

- Eminent Hindi poet Viswanath Prasad Tiwari would be honoured with the prestigious 'Gangadhar National Award' during the 53rd Foundation Day celebrations of the Sambalpur University, Odisha.
- The award, carrying a cash prize of Rs 50,000, a shawl and citation, would be presented to Tiwari in January.
- Instituted in memory of Odisha's renowned bard Gangadhar Meher, the award is conferred on a poet of national repute every year since 1991.

72. Defence Expo 2020 was held in which city of India?

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- A. Bengaluru
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. Lucknow
- E. New Delhi

Answer: D

Solution:

- The 11th biennial edition of **DefExpo India-2020** was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Main theme of the** DefExpo India-2020 will be 'India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub'.

One of the two Defence Industrial Corridors (DICs) of India is also planned in Uttar Pradesh. The Corridor will encourage Defence Micro Small and Medium

Enterprises (MSMEs), including our Indian defence industry and promote Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs). The other DIC is proposed in Tamil Nadu.

73.The Chief Minister of which of the following states inducted OCTOPUS (Organisation for Counter-Terrorist Operations) in his security cover?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Telangana
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka
- E. Tamilnadu

Answer: A

Solution:

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- The security cover of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has been strengthened with the induction of OCTOPUS (Organisation for Counter-Terrorist Operations), replacing the Greyhounds commandos.

74. Which country has declared an emergency to contain the environmental impact of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands, after a barge carrying 600 gallons of diesel fuel sank.

- A. Mauritius
- B. Morocco
- C. Fiji
- D. Ecuador
- E. Indonesia

Answer: D

Solution:

- Ecuador has declared an emergency to contain the environmental impact of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands, after a barge carrying 600 gallons of diesel fuel sank.
- The Islands are located 1,000 kilometers east of mainland Ecuador.

75. 'Oxygen Parlour' has set up at which railway station to combat the rising air pollution?

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- A. Visakhapatnam
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Dispur
- E. Nashik

Answer: E

Solution:

- In a unique initiative to battle rising air pollution in cities, an **‘Oxygen Parlour’** has been opened at Nashik railway station to provide an experience of breathing clean air to the commuters.
- The initiative comes with the efforts of the **Airo Guard** in collaboration with the Indian Railways.

76. Information & Broadcasting minister Prakash Javadekar has announced the launch of Digital Radio in which year?

- A. 2020
- B. 2024
- C. 2022
- D. 2025
- E. 2023

Answer: B

Solution:

- According to Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar, the union government is bringing Digital Radio in 2024.
- The audio of digital radio will be clearer and its reach will be higher.

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77. Who was honoured with the Gangadhar National Award 2019, which is bestowed in the remembrance of renowned poet Gangadhar Meher?

- A. Ashok Chakradhar
- B. Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari
- C. Phoolchand Gupta
- D. Leeladhar Jagoori
- E. Rajendra Kishore Panda

Answer: B

Solution:

- Eminent Hindi poet Viswanath Prasad Tiwari would be honoured with the prestigious 'Gangadhar National Award' during the 53rd Foundation Day celebrations of the Sambalpur University, Odisha.
- The award, carrying a cash prize of Rs 50,000, a shawl and citation, would be presented to Tiwari in January.
- Instituted in memory of Odisha's renowned bard Gangadhar Meher, the award is conferred on a poet of national repute every year since 1991.

78. Defence Expo 2020 was held in which city of India?

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. Lucknow
- E. New Delhi

Answer: D

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Solution:

- The 11th biennial edition of **DefExpo India-2020** was held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Main theme of the** DefExpo India-2020 will be 'India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub'.

One of the two Defence Industrial Corridors (DICs) of India is also planned in Uttar Pradesh. The Corridor will encourage Defence Micro Small and Medium

Enterprises (MSMEs), including our Indian defence industry and promote Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs). The other DIC is proposed in Tamil Nadu.

79.The Chief Minister of which of the following states inducted OCTOPUS (Organisation for Counter-Terrorist Operations) in his security cover?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Telangana
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka
- E. Tamilnadu

Answer: A

Solution:

- The security cover of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has been strengthened with the induction of OCTOPUS (Organisation for Counter-Terrorist Operations), replacing the Greyhounds commandos.

80.Which country has declared an emergency to contain the environmental impact of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands, after a barge carrying 600 gallons of diesel fuel sank.

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- A. Mauritius
- B. Morocco
- C. Fiji
- D. Ecuador
- E. Indonesia

Answer: D

Solution:

- Ecuador has declared an emergency to contain the environmental impact of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands, after a barge carrying 600 gallons of diesel fuel sank.
- The Islands are located 1,000 kilometers east of mainland Ecuador.

81. 'Oxygen Parlour' has set up at which railway station to combat the rising air pollution?

- A. Visakhapatnam
- B. Chennai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Dispur
- E. Nashik

Answer: E

Solution:

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- In a unique initiative to battle rising air pollution in cities, an '**Oxygen Parlour**' has been opened at Nashik railway station to provide an experience of breathing clean air to the commuters.
- The initiative comes with the efforts of the **Airo Guard** in collaboration with the Indian Railways.

82. Information & Broadcasting minister Prakash Javadekar has announced the launch of Digital Radio in which year?

- A. 2020
- B. 2024
- C. 2022
- D. 2025
- E. 2023

Answer: B

Solution:

- According to Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar, the union government is bringing Digital Radio in 2024.
- The audio of digital radio will be clearer and its reach will be higher.

83. 11-day long 'Dhanu Jatra' is celebrated in which state of India?

- A. West Bengal
- B. Orissa
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Tamil Nadu
- E. Karnataka

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Answer: B

Solution:

- On **31st December** 2019 the famous 11-day long '**Dhanu Jatra**', has begun in **Odisha**.

84. Which state government has planned to deliver sand at doorsteps?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Utter Pradesh
- C. New Delhi
- D. Andhra Pradesh
- E. Bihar

Answer: D

Solution:

- The Andhra Pradesh government is planning to introduce door-delivery of sand from January 2, 2020.
- Under this initiative, the AP government will deliver sand at doorsteps and collect transportation charges from the customers.

85. China has started a joint naval drill with which among the following countries in the Gulf of Oman?

- A. Iran and India
- B. Iran and Russia
- C. Iran and Oman
- D. Oman and India
- E. India and Russia

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Answer: B

Solution:

- **China, Russia, and Iran** will hold trilateral naval exercises in the **Gulf of Oman** from 27th December to 30th December 2019.
- This will be the first such move by the three countries in the **volatile Middle East**.

86. Consider the following:

- 1) GHG Emissions
- 2) Renewable Energy
- 3) Energy Use
- 4) Climate Policy

Which of the following is not an indicator for monitoring countries in Climate change performance index?

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 2, 3 and 4
- C. 1, 3 and 4
- D. All the above-mentioned indicators are correct

Answer: D

Solution:

CCPI is an independent monitoring tool of countries' climate protection performance. It aims to enhance transparency in international climate politics and enables the comparability of climate protection efforts and progress made by individual countries.

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The ranking results are defined by a country's aggregated performance in 14 indicators within the four categories "GHG Emissions", "Renewable Energy" and "Energy Use", as well as on "Climate Policy", in a globally unique policy section of the index.

The CCPI 2020 results illustrate the main regional differences in climate protection and performance within the 57 evaluated countries and the EU. Still no country performs well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in the index. Therefore, once again the first three ranks remain empty.

In this year's index, Sweden leads the ranking on rank 4, followed by Denmark (5) and Morocco (6). The bottom five in this year's CCPI are Islamic Republic of Iran (57), Republic of Korea (58), Chinese Taipei (59), Saudi Arabia (60) and the United States (61), rated low or very low across almost all categories.

India is among the top 10 nations as per the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) This assumes significance in view of India's resolve to reach 175 GW of clean energy capacity by 2022. The country has already achieved around 84 GW of clean energy capacity, including 32 GW of solar and 37 GW of wind energy. At present, India's total installed power generation capacity is around 365 GW.

87. What is the theme of 28th edition of annual World Book Fair 2020?

- A. Suryodaya: Emerging voices from North East India
- B. Manushi – Books Written on and by Women
- C. Environmental issues
- D. Gandhi: The Writers' Writer
- E. 'Books for Readers with Special Needs'

Answer: D

Solution:

- As part of Mahatma Gandhiji's 150 birth anniversary celebrations, the theme of this year is Gandhi: The Writers' Writer.

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88. The Union Home Minister Amit Shah has released a book 'Karmayoddha Granth' on the life of _____.

- A. Mohan Bhagwat
- B. Arun Jaitley
- C. Yogi Adityanath
- D. Narendra Modi
- E. Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Answer: D

Solution:

- On January 06, 2020, the Union Home Minister Amit Shah has released a book 'Karmayoddha Granth' on the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Home Minister addressed the gathering at the launch and said that the qualities of a Karmayoddha such as a beautiful heart for people, a statesman, a hard taskmaster, an able administrator and an ideal leader who leads by example, are represented by Narendra Modi.

89. Which Union-territory/State hosted 1st-ever Food Processing Summit to attract investors to the region?

- A. Ladakh
- B. Daman and Diu
- C. Delhi
- D. Chandigarh
- E. Uttar Pradesh

Answer: A

Solution:

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- Union Territory Ladakh is hosting the 1st-ever Food Processing Summit to attract investors to the region. This summit is organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, the UT Administration of Ladakh.

90. Government of India (GoI) has decided to set up 11-member Committee on royalty rates revision of minerals, who will be the Chairman of the Committee?

- A. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan
- B. Akhilesh Ranjan
- C. K. Rajeswara Rao
- D. Rajnath Singh
- E. Balwant Rai Mehta

Answer: C

Solution:

- The central government has decided to set up an 11-member committee to look into the issues related to revision of royalty rates for minerals other than coal, lignite, sand for stowing and minor minerals.
- The committee will be headed by K. Rajeswara Rao, the additional secretary of the ministry mines.

91. Which Indian scientist has been awarded the “Merck Young Scientist Award 2019” for doing remarkable research in chemical science?

- A. Sakya Singha Sen
- B. Bipul Behari Saha
- C. hiv Prakash Singh
- D. Divya Sharma

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E. Akalesh Kumar Verma

Answer: A

Solution:

* A senior scientist Sakya Singha Sen from National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL) Pune, has been awarded the “Merck Young Scientist Award 2019” for doing remarkable research in chemical science.

* This award is instituted by Merck, a science and technology company operating worldwide. Merck Young Scientist Award is given to researchers with less than ten years of experience with expertise in solving some of the toughest problems in chemical sciences.

92. The third international symposium on marine ecosystems – challenges and opportunities (MECOS-3) held at which city?

- A. Washington DC
- B. Amsterdam
- C. Paris
- D. London
- E. Kochi

Answer: E

Solution:

• The **third** international symposium on marine ecosystems – challenges and opportunities (MECOS-3) held in **Kochi** from **January 7 to 10 2020**.

93. Which of the following countries will host Conference Of Parties (COP 14) of the United Nations Convention to be held in September, 2019?

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- A. Australia
- B. Indonesia
- C. Malaysia
- D. India
- E. Myanmar

Answer: D

Solution:

- India hosted the Conference Of Parties (COP 14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification from 2nd to 13th September 2019.
- The event was held at the India Mart and Expo, in the Greater Noida area of New Delhi.
- The event saw the participation of over 3000 representatives from over 200 countries which will include Ministers from around 100 countries.
- The Conference Of Parties will focus on desertification and degradation of land.

94. Which Indian city hosted the 14th conference of Parties (COP 14), 2019 to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Ghaziabad
- C. Gurugram
- D. Greater Noida
- E. Faridabad

Answer: D

Solution:

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- The 14th conference of Parties (COP 14) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification was held in Greater Noida.
- The Conference focussed on desertification and degradation of land and will go on till 13th September 2019.
- This Conference provided a framework for countries to restore the land and protect human health.
- The main objective of the convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought or desertification.

95. Recently in August, 2019 Union Human Resource Development Ministry has launched one of world's largest Integrated Online Junction for School Education. What is the name of the junction?

- A. Shubham
- B. Sidhaanat
- C. Shagun
- D. Shreshtha
- E. Samanta

Answer: C

Solution:

- Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has launched one of world's largest Integrated Online Junction for School Education 'Shagun' in New Delhi.
- The app will provide all the details about the education system in the country as well as detailed information about schools with a feedback procedure structured for the parents.
- The portal seeks to connect approximately 92 lakh teachers and 26 crores, students.

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- Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ also announced the setting up of the Integrated National School Education Treasury (INSET) which envisages a fully integrated, instantly accessible and seamless information network for all parameters relating to the students, teachers, and schools in the country.

96. World’s first ‘hospital on wheel’, the Lifeline Express has been inaugurated at _____.

- A. New Delhi Railway Station
- B. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus
- C. Kanpur Central
- D. Howrah Junction
- E. Mughal Sarai Junction

Answer: B

Solution:

- The Lifeline Express (known as ‘Hospital on Wheels’) has been inaugurated at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus by the Central Railway (CR) for its latest project.
- Now, The Lifeline Express train (world first hospital on wheels) will move to Sahibganj in Jharkhand from Mumbai for its next project.
- On 16th July 1991, The Indian Railways in partnership with Impact India Foundation, had launched the Lifeline Express from CSMT to provide free of cost medical care to the poor living in remote corners of the country.
- The seven coaches of the Lifeline Express have advanced operation theatres, a pathology lab, a mammography unit, a gynaecology examination room, a dental unit, a pharmacy, consultation cubicles and X-Ray unit, among others.

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97. Under the Poshan Abhiyaan, the Union government has set a target to reduce the stunting rate in children from 35% to _____.

- A. 30%
- B. 25%
- C. 23%
- D. 20%
- E. 15%

Answer: B

Solution:

- The entire month of September will be celebrated as the 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah'.
- This year the theme is 'Complementary Feeding'.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan is a multi- ministerial convergence mission with the vision to address malnutrition with a targeted approach by 2022.
- Under the Poshan Abhiyaan, the Union government has set a target to reduce the stunting rate in children from 35% to 25%.

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- The programme aims at achieving improvement in the nutritional status of children up to six years of age, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

98. Which of the following company has statement of intent with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) for rolling out 'Build for Digital India' programme?

- A. Facebook
- B. Microsoft
- C. Google
- D. Infosys
- E. Wipro

Answer: C

Solution:

- Tech giant 'Google' has signed a statement of intent with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) for rolling out 'Build for Digital India' programme.
- The programme will offer a platform for engineering students to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions that address key social problems.
- As part of the program, engineering students across the country will be invited to present their ideas and solutions in areas like healthcare, agriculture, education, smart cities and infrastructure, women safety, smart mobility and transportation, environment, accessibility and disability and digital literacy.
- Google will also offer mentorship sessions in product design, strategy and technology to the most promising products and prototypes.

99. 'Howdy Modi' event where more than 50, 000 people gathered concluded in which place?

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- A. Washington
- B. New York
- C. Chicago
- D. Huston
- E. Detroit

Answer: D

Solution:

- Howdy Modi event concluded on a successful note in Texas, Houston on September 22, 2019.
- President Donald Trump attended the 'Howdy Modi' event where more than 50, 000 people gathered at NRG stadium to witness the two leaders of India and USA.

100. Who is the author of the book “A Short History of Indian Railways”?

- A. Philip Roth
- B. Rajendra B Aklekar
- C. Pavan C Lall
- D. Ismail Kadare
- E. Olga Tokarczuk

Answer: B

Solution: A book titled ‘A Short History of Indian Railways’ has been authored by veteran journalist and author Rajendra B Aklekar.

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101. Who has become India's most successful Indian Test skipper?

- A. Sourav Ganguly
- B. Mahendra Singh Dhoni
- C. Ajinkya Rahane
- D. Virat Kohli
- E. Mohammad Azharuddin

Answer: D

Solution: Virat Kohli has surpassed Mahendra Singh Dhoni to become India's most successful Test skipper.

It came after the Indian team recorded its 28th win under Kohli's leadership in the second and final test against the West Indies at Kingston.

M S Dhoni led India to 27 wins from 60 Test matches during his tenure.

Overall, Graeme Smith (former South Africa skipper) remains the most successful skipper in the world with 53 Test wins, followed by Ricky Ponting (ex-Australia captain) who recorded 48 Test wins in his captaincy tenure.

102. The four-time Emmy Award-winning actress Valerie Harper passed away. she belonged to which country?

- A. Brazil
- B. France
- C. New Zealand
- D. USA
- E. Australia

Answer: D

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Solution: American actress Valerie Harper, the star of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and spin-off series "Rhoda", has passed away after a long battle with cancer.

She began her career as a dancer on Broadway, making her debut in the musical "Take Me Along" in 1959.

103. Which of the following states has ended the 38-year-old system of paying income tax of the salaries of the Chief Minister and ministers from the government treasury?

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

Answer: D

Solution:

- Yogi Adityanath Government of Uttar Pradesh has ended the 38-year-old system of paying income tax of the salaries of the Chief Minister and ministers from the government treasury.
- Now Chief Minister and Ministers will have to pay their own income tax burdening the exchequer for the last 40 years.
- A decision in the exercise of extravagance
- Till now, the ministers of the state government were exempted from paying income tax on the salary received as a minister under the UP Ministerial (Salary, Allowance and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1981.
- The UP government was paying income tax since October 3, 1981. The VP Singh government of Congress implemented the system.

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- When this system was implemented in 1981, at that time the government had made arrangements to pay income tax from the state exchequer citing the poverty and financial condition of the MLAs.
- In those days, MLAs were considered examples of simplicity. Since then, there has been a big change in the spirit of legislators and ministers.

104. In September, 2019 India's first-ever helicopter summit was held in which city?

- A. Bengaluru
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Dehradun
- D. Jaipur
- E. Chandigarh

Answer: C

Solution:

- Country's first ever helicopter summit at Sahastradhara helidrome in Dehradun, capital of Uttarakhand.
- The first-of-its-kind conclave, a **Helicopter Summit- 2019** was organised jointly by *Civil Aviation Ministry, Uttarakhand government and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI)*.
- The summit was based on **theme** of *expanding connectivity through helicopters*.

105. Hurricane Dorian has caused large-scale destruction in The Bahamas and India has announced an immediate humanitarian assistance of \$1 million to help people in The Bahamas affected by the storm. What is the capital of The Bahamas?

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- A. Havana
- B. Nassau
- C. Kingston
- D. Paramaribo
- E. Bridgetown

Answer: B

Solution:

- Havana is capital of Cuba
- Nassau is capital of Bahamas
- Kingston is capital of Jamaica
- Paramaribo is Surinam
- Bridgetown is capital of Barbados

106. In September 2019, 12 eminent persons are conferred with the 'Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Award 2019'. This award is given in which field?

- A. Journalism
- B. Social Service
- C. Science and Technology
- D. Literature
- E. Art and Culture

Answer: C

Solution:

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- The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award 2019, a prestigious honour given every year by the Council of Science and Industrial Research (CSIR) for outstanding contribution in the field of science, was announced on 26th September.
- The list includes twelve eminent scientists from various research institutions across the country.
- This year only one woman scientist from the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata has been chosen for the 2019 SSB Prize.
- Manik Varma, who won the 2019 SSB Prize for engineering sciences, is a scientist with Microsoft Research India.

107. In September 2019, which country became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and complied with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) guidelines?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Thailand
- D. Indonesia
- E. Vietnam

Answer: C

Solution:

- On September 10, 2019, Thailand became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and complied with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) guidelines.
- The standardized packaging includes a graphic picture of tobacco's effects on the body and the logo-free brand name written in plain font.

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108. An Indian documentary film 'Moti Bagh' has been nominated for the 92nd Academy (Oscars) Awards. The film 'Moti Bagh' is directed by _____.

- A. Vicky Khandpur
- B. Swati Chakraborty
- C. Rayka Zehtabchi
- D. Nirmal Chander Dandriyal
- E. None of these

Answer: D

Solution:

* A documentary film 'Moti Bagh' has been nominated for the Oscars which is based on the life struggle of farmer 'Vidya Dutt Sharma'. He is a resident of Sanguda in Kaljikhil block of Pauri Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.

* Motibagh will be released in Los Angeles, California, USA.

* 'Moti Bagh' is directed by Nirmal Chander Dandriyal. He said that this is the first documentary film from Uttarakhand out of two films selected from India.

* Note:

* The 92nd Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), will honour the best films of 2019 on 9th February 2020 in Los Angeles.

109. Which among the following states has bagged the Best State Award for overall growth in the tourism category in the National Tourism Awards ceremony?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Maharashtra

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E. Karnataka

Answer: C

Solution:

- On 27th September the National Tourism Awards were presented by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Andhra Pradesh bagged the Best State Award for overall growth in the tourism category.
- A total of 76 awards were given under various categories this year.
- Goa and Madhya Pradesh were the joint winners in the Adventure Tourism category.
- Uttarakhand won the award for the Best Film Promotion-Friendly State.
- Telangana won the award for the Best State for the innovative use of IT.

110. South Asia's tallest tower called 'Lotus Tower' has been unveiled in which of the following countries?

- A. Pakistan
- B. Maldives
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Myanmar
- E. India

Answer: C

Solution:

- * Sri Lanka has unveiled South Asia's tallest tower called 'Lotus Tower' in Colombo.

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* The Lotus Tower (17-storey) is spread over an area of 30,600 sq. meters, with a height of 350-meter and overall cost, is above USD 100 million.

* The Lotus Tower will function as a TV tower, a hotel, a shopping mall, and a conference center.

Note:

* In 2012, Sri Lanka and China signed the Lotus Tower agreement to build the tower, with China National Electronics Import and Export Corporation being the general contractor.

111. Which of the following state police has launched a new integrated one-touch mobile app 'Tatpar' for citizens?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Rajasthan
- E. Delhi

Answer: E

Solution:

* Delhi police has launched a new integrated one-touch mobile app 'Tatpar' for citizens.

* It launched by Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal to provide safety and a convenient online mode on a 24x7 basis to the citizens of Delhi.

* 'Tatpar' app (developed by the Delhi Police) is a one-stop destination for access to over 50 citizen-centric services.

* With the help of this app, people can navigate to their nearest police station, traffic pit and prepaid taxi booth.

* The app amalgamates all the websites and mobile applications of the Delhi Police.

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112. Which of the following ministries has launched 'Digital Payment Abhiyan' in collaboration with the Data Security Council of India (DSCI) and Google India to increase awareness about digital transactions in India?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Electronics and IT
- D. Ministry of Human Resource Development
- E. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Answer: C

Solution:

* Nasscom's Data Security Council of India (DSCI) has collaborated with Union Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) and Google India to launch a nationwide awareness campaign 'Digital Payment Abhiyan'.

* It was launched by Union Communications and Electronics & IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad at Google-organised event 'Google for India' in New Delhi.

* It aims at increasing awareness about cashless payment, educate end-users on the benefits of making digital payments, online financial security and urge them to adopt security and safety best practices.

* It is a pan-India campaign crafted in seven languages — Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali and Marathi.

* It will engage with users and make them aware of the dos and don'ts for different payment channels including UPI, wallets, cards as well as net banking and mobile banking

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113. Which of the following Indian wrestlers become the world's number one wrestler in the 86kg category in the latest rankings released by the international federation United World Wrestling (UWW)?

- A. Bajrang Punia
- B. Deepak Punia
- C. Yogeshwar Dutt
- D. Sajjan Bhanwal
- E. Pawan Kumar

Answer: B

Solution:

- Wrestler Deepak Poonia became the world's number one wrestler in the 86kg category in the latest rankings released by the international federation United World Wrestling (UWW).
- On the other side, in the latest ranking, Bajrang Punia lost his top spot in the 65kg category.
- Deepak Poonia received a silver medal in his first Senior World Championship.
- This year, Deepak had won a silver Yasar Dogu and bronze medals at Asian Championship and at Sassari tournaments.

114. Which state government will now take the help of drones to provide essential medicines and medical aid to remote areas in case of flood or other emergency situations?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Gujarat
- E. Rajasthan

Answer: A

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Solution:

- * The Maharashtra government will now take the help of drones to provide essential medicines and medical aid to remote areas in case of flood or other emergency situations.
- * For this service, the Government of Maharashtra has done a partnership with the Zipline. Zipline is an automated logistics company based in California.
- * Under the scheme, in the year 2020, Maharashtra Medical Drone Delivery Services (MMDDS) will start delivering essential medicines and other medical items 24 hours a day, seven times through the drone.
- * For this, private drone company Zipline will set up 10 distribution centers.

115. Who has authored the book titled "Being Gandhi" which will mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi?

- A. Arundhati Roy
- B. Vikrant Khanna
- C. Paro Anand
- D. Chetan Bhagat
- E. Ravi Shankar

Answer: C

Solution:

- Book titled "Being Gandhi" written by award-winning author Paro Anand will mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The book explores "not Gandhi the man or his life as a leader, but really the Gandhian way that must remain relevant to us."

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- The story revolves around a boy, Chandrashekhar, who is bored of doing projects on Gandhi. But, a turn of events forces him to "dig deep and not just find his 'inner Gandhi', but become Gandhi. Not for a day or two. But, maybe even, for life".

116. Which of the following film has been selected for as India's official entry for the 92nd Academy Awards in the Best International Feature Film category?

- A. Razi
- B. Super30
- C. Gully Boy
- D. Article15
- E. Moti Bagh

Answer: C

Solution:

- The Film Federation of India (FFI) has chosen 'Gully Boy' as India's official entry to the Oscars. 'Gully Boy' has been selected as India's official entry for the 92nd Academy Awards in the Best International Feature Film category.
- The actors Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt appeared in the lead roles in the film.
- "Gully Boy", produced by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar and directed by Zoya Akhtar.
- The film featured Ranveer as an up-and-coming rapper who sets out to achieve his dream by rhyming about his life on the Mumbai streets.

117. Who among the following has become the first Arab to reach the International Space Station (ISS)?

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- A. Alnajjar
- B. Farouk El-Baz
- C. Hazzaa Al-Mansoori
- D. Magdy Yacoub
- E. Samia Al-Amoudi

Answer: C

Solution:

- Hazzaa Al-Mansoori has created history to become the first Arab to reach the International Space Station (ISS).
- He was a former military pilot who was selected for the UAE's new human spaceflight program in 2018.
- On his first mission to the International Space Station, he is accompanied by Russia's Oleg Skripochka and NASA astronaut Jessica Meir. The Russian spacecraft Soyuz MS-15 carrying the three was launched from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on September 25.

118. UN Climate Change Summit, 2019 was held in which of the following cities?

- A. New York
- B. Tokyo
- C. Pyongyang
- D. Paris
- E. Toronto

Answer: A

Solution:

- On 23rd September the UN Climate Change Summit, 2019 was held in General Assembly Hall at UN Headquarters in New York.

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- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on world leaders to bring forth their concrete plans, and ambitious actions to solve the climate crisis.
- The key focus of the summit is to accelerate the actions to implement the Paris agreement.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi represented India's body of work at UN Climate Action Summit.

119. The Fourth edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 was held in_____.

- A. Bhubaneswar
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Chennai
- E. New Delhi

Answer: C

Solution:

- The Fourth edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 was held in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- It was held on 22-23 August, 2019.
- The theme of Edition was 'Mainstreaming the Internet of Things'.
- It was inaugurated by Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India.

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120. According to a report by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), India has the _____ number of internet users.

- A. Highest
- B. Second highest
- C. Third highest
- D. Fourth highest
- E. Fifth highest

Answer: B

Solution:

- According to a report by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), India has the second-highest number of internet users after China.
- As per the report, India has 451 million monthly active internet users at the end of the financial year 2019.
- The report said that of the 451 million monthly active users, 385 million are over 12 years of age and 66 million are in the age bracket of 5 to 11 years, who access the Internet on the devices of family members.

121. According to the IMD World Competitiveness Center's World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2019, what is India's rank?

- A. 50th
- B. 48th
- C. 46th
- D. 44th
- E. 40th

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Answer: D

Solution:

- India has been ranked at **44th positions** in the World Digital competitiveness rankings 2019.
- As compared to the previous year's ranking, India improved its ranking from 48th place in 2018 to 44th rank this year as the country has improved overall in all factors like - knowledge, technology and future-readiness.
- The **US was ranked as the world's most digitally** competitive economy, followed by **Singapore** in the second place.
- The World Digital competitiveness ranking is published by the IMD World Competitiveness Center.
- It measures the capacity and readiness of 63 nations to adopt and explore digital technologies as a key driver for economic transformation in business, government and wider society.

122. India and the United States are set to hold their first tri-services exercise named “Tiger Triumph” at _____ and _____ in November 2019.

- A. Kochi, Kozhikkode
- B. Visakhapatnam, Kakinada
- C. Chennai, Tuticorin
- D. Port Blair, Balasore
- E. Paradip, Haldia

Answer: B

Solution:

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- India and the **United States** are set to hold their first tri-services exercise named “**Tiger Triumph**” at Visakhapatnam and **Kakinada** (Andhra Pradesh) in November 2019.
- **India-US tri-services exercise** will be organised under the aegis of the headquarters of the **Integrated Defence Staff**.
- The plan for this exercise was discussed during the Final Planning Conference (FPC) for India-US Tri-Services Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) concluded at Headquarters Eastern Naval Command.
- The announcement for the ‘Tiger Triumph’ was made by US President Donald Trump during the ‘Howdy Modi!’ event in America.
- The two countries have conducted defence hardware trade around USD 18 billion over the last 10 years and many more defence deals were in the pipeline.

123. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid after Indian classical singer Pandit Jasraj. Where is the headquarter of IAU situated?

- A. Paris, France
- B. Geneva, Switzerland
- C. Vienna, Austria
- D. Greenwich, UK
- E. Hamburg, Germany

Answer: A

Solution:

- The **International Astronomical Union** (IAU) has named a **minor planet (asteroid)** after Indian classical singer **Pandit Jasraj**.
- The **asteroid** (located between Mars and Jupiter) was discovered on **11th November 2006**, by the **Catalina Sky Survey**, whose telescopes are based in **Arizona** in the United States.

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- All names proposed are judged by the **15-member Working Group** for Small Body Nomenclature (CSBN) of the **IAU**, comprising **professional astronomers** with research interests in minor planets and/or comets from around the world.
- The International Astronomical Union is an international association of professional astronomers, at the PhD level and beyond, active in professional research and education in astronomy. Wikipedia
- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Founded: 28 July 1919
- President: Ewine van Dishoeck

124. On October 24, 2019, India and Pakistan have signed a pact to operationalize the Kartarpur corridor. The Kartarpur Gurudwara (Darbar Sahib Kartarpur) is situated on the banks of which river, considered to be the first gurdwara ever built?

- A. Indus
- B. Jhelum
- C. Ravi
- D. Bias
- E. Chenab

Answer: C

Solution:

* On October 24, 2019, India and Pakistan have signed a pact to operationalize the Kartarpur corridor.

* The pact would be signed by the officials of both the countries at Zero point at Dera Baba Nanak.

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* Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the corridor in November 2019.

* The corridor connects 'Dera Baba Nanak' (in Gurdaspur district-India) to the 'Gurdwara Darbar Sahib' (in Kartarpur in Narowal district of Pakistan).

* The Kartarpur Gurudwara (Darbar Sahib Kartarpur) is situated on the banks of river 'Ravi', considered to be the first gurdwara ever built.

125. Which of the following states topped in the School Education Quality Index (SEQI) released by NITI Aayog?

A. New Delhi

B. Karnataka

C. Tamil Nadu

D. Rajasthan

E. Kerala

Answer: E

Solution:

* On 30th September, NITI Aayog has released the School Education Quality Index (SEQI) in New Delhi.

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* According to the report, in the field of education, Kerala has got the first place, while Rajasthan has got second place and Karnataka has got third place.

* At the

* **Kerala was the best performer with a score of 76.6%**, while Uttar Pradesh came in last with a score of 36.4%.

* Tamil Nadu was the top performer in access and equity outcomes, while Karnataka led in learning outcomes.

* Haryana had the best infrastructure and facilities.

* The School Education Quality Index assesses States on the basis of learning outcomes, access, equity and infrastructure and facilities, using survey data, self-reported data from States and third-party verification.

126. Which of the following company has won the prestigious United Nations Global Climate Action Award in the 'Climate Neutral Now' category?

- A. Google India
- B. Infosys
- C. Facebook
- D. WIPRO

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E. TCS

Answer: B

Solution:

- * Digital services and consulting major Infosys has won the prestigious United Nations Global Climate Action Award in the 'Climate Neutral Now' category.
- * Infosys is the only corporate from India to earn the recognition for its efforts to combat climate change.
- * The award will be presented to Infosys at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Santiago, Chile (December 2019).
- * Infosys began its action to combat climate change in 2008 with an assessment of its carbon footprint.
- * The UN Global Climate Action Awards are organized by the Momentum for Change initiative of the UN Climate Change Secretariat.
- * The award-winning projects are recognized for their innovative solutions that address climate change and help drive progress on many other sustainable development goals, such as poverty alleviation, gender equality and economic opportunity.

127. International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named a minor planet between Mars and Jupiter in the solar system after the name of which Indian musician?

- A. Birju Maharaj
- B. Lata Mangeshkar
- C. Pandit Jasraj
- D. Zakir Hussain
- E. Hariprasad Chaurasia

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Answer: C

Solution:

- A minor planet between Mars and Jupiter in the solar system will be named after **Pandit Jasraj**, the idolized classical singer. He is the first Indian musician to receive this honour.
- The announcement was made by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) on 23rd September.
- The asteroid (minor planet) was discovered on November 11, 2006, by the Catalina Sky Survey, whose telescopes are based in Arizona in the United States.
- Earlier, Mozart Beethoven and Tenor Luciano Pavarotti had received this honour.
- A minor planet is an astronomical object in direct orbit around the Sun that is neither a planet nor exclusively classified as a comet.
- As of September, there are 5,41,131 numbered minor planets of a total of 7,97,078 observed bodies, with the rest being unnumbered minor planets.

128.As per the annual Crime in India Report 2017 published on October 21, 2019, in which state maximum number of incidents of circulation of false/fake news were reported?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. West Bengal

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- D. Jharkhand
- E. Rajasthan

Answer: B

Solution:

* On October 21, 2019, the annual Crime in India Report 2017 was released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) after a delay of 2 years (last in 2016). 3,59,849 cases of crime against women were reported in India.

* Uttar Pradesh topped the list of states with the greatest number of crimes against women with 56,011 cases. It was followed by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal with 30,002 cases.

* Assam registered the highest total rate of crime against women while Lucknow emerged as the most unsafe city for women.

* For the first time, data was collected on the circulation of false/fake news and rumours. Under this, maximum incidents were reported from Madhya Pradesh (138), Uttar Pradesh (32) and Kerala (18).

129. Which of the following cities has been declared as the most polluted city as per the data released by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Ghaziabad
- C. Varanasi
- D. Lucknow
- E. Indore

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Answer: C

Solution:

- In a major health concern for the state, four UP cities were among the five most polluted in the country.

- According to the data released by the Central Pollution Control Board, Varanasi was the most polluted city with air quality index (AQI) touching 276, followed by Lucknow (AQI 269), Muzaffarnagar (AQI 266), Yamunanagar in Haryana (AQI 264) and Moradabad (AQI 256).

130. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and _____ jointly launched Youth Co:Lab which aims at accelerating social entrepreneurship and innovation in young India.

- A. United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)
- B. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- C. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- D. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- E. None of these

Answer: C

Solution: * Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India jointly launched Youth Co:Lab which aims at accelerating social entrepreneurship and innovation in young India.

* To mark the launch, a Letter of Intent (LOI) was signed between AIM, NITI Aayog and UNDP India.

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* Through Youth Co:Lab, young entrepreneurs and innovators will get a chance to connect with governments, mentors, incubators and investors, who will help equip them with entrepreneurial skills.

* AIM and UNDP, as part of UNSDF signed between NITI Aayog and UN India, are collaborating to spread awareness about different issues pertaining to youth, the future of work and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) through Youth Co:Lab.

131. The National Health Authority (NHA) has joined hands with which of the following entity to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of the government's flagship health scheme, Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY)?

- A. Amazon
- B. Google
- C. Infosys
- D. Facebook
- E. Microsoft

Answer: B

Solution:

* The National Health Authority (NHA) has joined hands with Google to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of the government's flagship health scheme, Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

* The two organizations will be working closely to explore various user cases for increasing process efficiencies in day-to-day applications.

* Google will also support NHA in improving PM-JAY's digital presence and showcasing relevant content to the 50 crore entitled beneficiaries.

* In addition, Google will also help provide training and support to NHA personnel to build on digital skills.

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* The collaboration will seek to bolster PM-JAY's objective of reaching the poor and vulnerable, reducing their high out-of-pocket health expenditure, and improving access to quality healthcare.

132. India's Surender Singh created three world records in a sports event in October 2019. He is associated with which sport?

- A. Javelin Throw
- B. Discuss Throw
- C. Powerlifting
- D. Shot Put
- E. Wrestling

Answer: C

Solution:

* India's **Surender Singh** created three world records at the ongoing **World Powerlifting Championship** in Berlin, Germany.

* Surender bagged the gold medal in **110 kg category**, Classic Raw and the Best Lifter Award in **Classic Raw** and Single Ply.

* Three-time **World Champion** Mukesh Singh went on to add another feather to his cap by winning yet another gold only to be known as **4-time World** Champion.

133. Who is the author of the book titled "Dewas Ki Sanskritik Parampara" released during the "Digital Bharat – Digital Sanskriti" event by the Union Minister of State (MoS) for Culture & Tourism, Mr. Prahalad Singh?

- A. Jeevan Singh Thakur
- B. Mridula Garg
- C. Krishna Sobti

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D. Neelam Saxena Chandra

E. Indira Dangi

Answer: A

Solution:

- On October 21, 2019, Union Minister of State (MoS) for Culture & Tourism (Independent Charge) Mr. Prahalad Singh inaugurated CCRT e-portal and YouTube Channel with support from Routes 2 Routes, during the event “Digital Bharat – Digital Sanskriti” at the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT).

- During the event he released a book titled “Dewas Ki Sanskritik Parampara” written by Shri Jeevan Singh Thakur, published in the series “Untold Tales of India’s Cities” by CCRT.

134. Which among the following scientists has won the Nobel Prize 2019 in Physics for their contribution to the understanding of the evolution of the universe and earth's place in the cosmos?

A. William G. Kaelin, Gregg L. Semenza, Peter J. Ratcliffe

B. James Peebles, Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz

C. Didier Queloz, Paul Steinhardt and Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe

D. Paul Steinhardt Helen Sawyer Hogg and Joseph Silk

E. Helen Sawyer Hogg, Paul Steinhardt and Joseph Silk

Answer: B

Solution:

* Three scientists, **James Peebles**, **Michel Mayor** and **Didier Queloz** have won the **Nobel Prize 2019** in Physics for their contribution to the **understanding of the evolution of the universe and earth's place in the cosmos**.

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* The announcement of the **Nobel Prize 2019** for Physics was made at the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** in Solna, Sweden.

* **One half of the award** was given to **James Peebles** for **theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology** and the **other half jointly** to **Michel Mayor** and **Didier Queloz** for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a **solar-type star**.

* They will receive nine million **Swedish Krona** (equivalent to 7 crores and 32 lakh rupees) cash award, a **gold medal** and a **diploma**.

* The award is **presented in Stockholm** at an annual ceremony on **10th December** (the anniversary of Nobel's death).

135. Which of the following state's Police have made compulsory to link its "Hawk-Eye" app to every company or individual offering Internet-based cab service?

- A. Uttar Pradesh Police
- B. Bihar Police
- C. Telangana Police
- D. Punjab Police
- E. Madhya Pradesh Police

Answer: C

Solution:

The Telangana Police have made it compulsory to link its "Hawk-Eye" app containing an "emergency button" to every company or individual offering Internet-based cab service.

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When a commuter in distress presses the button, the message will be transmitted to Telangana police's Hawk-Eye app through a back-end operational workflow that will pass on location and other details of the cab to the police.

The emergency button will be integrated in such a way as to alert police patrol system.

136. Which of the following Municipal Corporation has launched India's first garbage cafe?

- A. Municipal Corporation of Patna
- B. Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad
- C. Municipal Corporation of Surat
- D. Municipal Corporation of Ambikapur
- E. None of these

Answer: D

Solution:

The Municipal Corporation of Ambikapur has launched India's first garbage café at Ambikapur city in Chhattisgarh.

Under this scheme, A person fetching a kilo of plastic waste to the garbage cafe will be assured of a full meal.

Those collecting at least 500 grams will benefit from a substantial breakfast.

Earlier, Ambikapur was ranked second cleanest city in India after Indore.

137. Name the author of the book titled 'How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need' to be released on June 2020?

- A. Melinda Gates
- B. Vladimir Putin
- C. Bill Gates

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- D. Warren Buffet
- E. Jeff Bezos

Answer: C

Solution:

* UK-based publishing house **Allen Lane** has announced, American philanthropist **Bill Gates** (founder of Microsoft Corporation) will release a new book titled '**How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need**'.

* The book will be released in **June 2020**.

* The **author's interest** in climate change is a natural outgrowth of the efforts made by the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** to reduce poverty and disease.

138. Name the scheme introduced by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and launched by Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan which aims to engage motivated individuals with food safety ecosystem at ground level?

- A. Food Safety Mitra
- B. Food Safety Sewa
- C. Food Security Yojana
- D. Nutrient Food Scheme
- E. Digital Food Network

Answer: A

Solution:

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- * FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) has introduced a new scheme 'Food Safety Mitra (FSM)' to engage motivated individuals with the food safety ecosystem at ground level.
- * The 'FSM' scheme has been launched by Dr Harsh Vardhan (Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare).
- * Food Safety Mitra (FSM) is an individual professional certified by FSSAI who assists in compliances related to FSS Act, Rules & Regulations.
- * They will be available in three avatars- Digital Mitra, Trainer Mitra and Hygiene Mitra depending upon their respective roles and responsibilities.
- * The scheme will open opportunities for youths in the area of online licensing and registration of food businesses, food safety training and hygiene auditing.

139. Which of the following organization has launched the India Innovation Index (III) 2019 along with the Institute for Competitiveness?

- A. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- C. National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
- D. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
- E. Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Answer: C

Solution:

- On October 17, 2019, The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog along with the Institute for Competitiveness launched the India Innovation Index (III) 2019.

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- The index highlights that Karnataka is the most innovative state in India however, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat are among top ten in the list.
- Delhi and Sikkim have secured top scores among union territories and North-Eastern hill state list respectively. Some other states like Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Maharashtra and Karnataka are among the most efficient states who translated inputs into outputs.

140. Who becomes the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in One Day Cricket?

- A. Yashasvi Jaiswal
- B. Manjot Kalra
- C. Riyan Parag
- D. Prithvi Shaw
- E. Pawan Shah

Answer: A

Solution:

* Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal (17 years- 192 days) has become the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in One Day Cricket.

* Playing in his debut Vijay Hazare season, Yashasvi Jaiswal (left-handed batsman) scored 203 runs (in 154 balls-12 sixes and 17 fours) against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka.

* Yashasvi Jaiswal became the seventh Indian batsman to score a double century in List A cricket and fourth to achieve it in the domestic circuit.

* Riding on Jaiswal's quickfire double hundred, Mumbai posted 358 for 3 in 50 overs and bowled out the opposition for 319.

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141. Name the cricketer who has been sacked as Pakistan captain from the Test and T20I formats?

- A. Babar Azam
- B. Azhar Ali
- C. Sarfaraz Ahmed
- D. Soaib Malik
- E. Mohammad Hafeez

Answer: C

Solution:

- Wicket-keeper batsman Sarfaraz Ahmed (32 years) has been sacked as Pakistan's Test and T20 captain with Azhar Ali and Babar Azam elevated to leadership roles for the upcoming tour of Australia.
- According to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), batsman Azhar Ali would lead the Test side in the two Tests in Australia.
- While Babar Azam (25-years) would be the captain in the three T20 matches.
- Sarfaraz has been captain in all three formats of the game for the last two years and led Pakistan to the 2017 ICC Champions Trophy title.

142. The book titled "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life" is authored by _____.

- A. Baichung Bhutia
- B. Rahul Deavid
- C. VVS Laxman
- D. Viswanathan Anand

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E. Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Answer: D

Solution:

- Indian Chess player Viswanathan Anand has authored a book titled “Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life”.
- The book is based on the experience he had in the game of Chess.
- In the book, he revisits his greatest games and worst losses, his unique experiences of playing against the best minds.
- The methods he employs to prepare for wins, cope with disappointments and, simply, stay in the game.

143. Which of the following Latin American countries has been elected to the 47-member UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for three-year terms starting in January 2020 along with Brazil?

- A. Venezuela
- B. Argentina
- C. Chili
- D. Uruguay
- E. Paraguay

Answer: A

Solution:

- The 193-member United Nations elected 14 members to the 47-member UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for three-year terms starting in January 2020.

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- Venezuela is one among the newly elected 14 members. Other countries are Armenia, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea and Sudan.

144. Former India captain Sourav Ganguly took over as the BCCI's _____ president for the next nine months.

- A. 37th
- B. 38th
- C. 39th
- D. 40th
- E. 41st

Answer: C

Solution:

- Former India captain Sourav Ganguly (47-years) took over as the BCCI's (Board of control for Cricket in India) 39th president for the next nine months.
- Mahim Verma of Uttarakhand became the new vice-president.
- Jay Shah (son of Union Home Minister Amit Shah) has been selected as Secretary and Arun Dhumal (younger brother of MoS Finance Anurag Thakur) as Treasurer.
- Currently, CK Khanna is the acting president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- Saurabh Ganguly (President, Cricket Association of Bengal) was the chairman of the BCCI technical committee and has been a media personality for many years.

145. As per the Annual Crime in India Report 2017 released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) which of the cities is emerged as the most unsafe city for women?

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- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Lucknow
- D. Patna
- E. Bengaluru

Answer: C

Solution:

- On October 21, 2019, the annual Crime in India Report 2017 was released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) after a delay of 2 years (last in 2016). 3,59,849 cases of crime against women were reported in India.

- Uttar Pradesh topped the list of states with the greatest number of crimes against women with 56,011 cases. It was followed by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal with 30,002 cases.

- Assam registered the highest total rate of crime against women while Lucknow emerged as the most unsafe city for women.

146. Who has authored the book titled “The Tech Whisperer” which features chapters on Artificial Intelligence?

- A. Venu Rajamony
- B. N. R. Narayana Murthy
- C. Nandan Nilekani
- D. Jaspreet Bindra
- E. N. S. Raghavan

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Answer: D

Solution:

- A new book titled “**The Tech Whisperer**” which features chapters on Artificial Intelligence is released. This book is written by digital transformation expert **Jaspreet Bindra**. The book has been published by Penguin India.
- The book will describe and simplify “emerging technologies like AI, blockchain, Internet of things, virtual reality,” and talk about how companies can employ these to drive their digital transformation.

147. According to the IMD Smart City Index which of the following cities has been adjudged as the smartest city in the world?

- A. Singapore
- B. Hong Kong
- C. New York
- D. London
- E. Beijing

Answer: A

Solution:

- According to the IMD Smart City Index, Singapore is the smartest city in the world.
- The first edition of the IMD Smart City Index 2019 ranks 102 cities worldwide.
- Zurich ranked second and Oslo is the third smartest city in the world.
- The other smartest cities in the list are Geneva (4th), Copenhagen (5th), Auckland (6th), Taipei City (7th), Helsinki (8th), Bilbao (9th) and Dusseldorf (10th).
- Singapore is only one of two Asian cities to be in the Top 10 of 102 cities. Taipei is the other at No. 7.

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- The index assesses a city's efforts and success in embracing smart technologies to improve the lives of their citizens, thus being able to rate each city on a certain level of 'smartness'.

148. India's Surender Singh created three world records in a sports event in October 2019. He is associated with which sport?

- A. Javelin Throw
- B. Discus Throw
- C. Powerlifting
- D. Shot Put
- E. Wrestling

Answer: C

Solution:

* India's **Surender Singh** created three world records at the ongoing **World Powerlifting Championship** in Berlin, Germany.

* Surender bagged the gold medal in **110 kg category**, Classic Raw and the Best Lifter Award in **Classic Raw** and Single Ply.

* Three-time **World Champion** Mukesh Singh went on to add another feather to his cap by winning yet another gold only to be known as **4-time World** Champion.

149. Which among the following scientists has won the Nobel Prize 2019 in Physics for their contribution to the understanding of the evolution of the universe and earth's place in the cosmos?

- A. William G. Kaelin, Gregg L. Semenza, Peter J. Ratcliffe
- B. James Peebles, Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz
- C. Didier Queloz, Paul Steinhardt and Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe
- D. Paul Steinhardt Helen Sawyer Hogg and Joseph Silk

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E. Helen Sawyer Hogg, Paul Steinhardt and Joseph Silk

Answer: B

Solution:

* Three scientists, **James Peebles**, **Michel Mayor** and **Didier Queloz** have won the **Nobel Prize 2019** in Physics for their contribution to the **understanding of the evolution of the universe and earth's place in the cosmos**.

* The announcement of the **Nobel Prize 2019** for Physics was made at the **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** in Solna, Sweden.

* **One half of the award** was given to **James Peebles** for **theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology** and the **other half jointly** to **Michel Mayor** and **Didier Queloz** for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a **solar-type star**.

* They will receive nine million **Swedish Krona** (equivalent to 7 crores and 32 lakh rupees) cash award, a **gold medal** and a **diploma**.

* The award is **presented in Stockholm** at an annual ceremony on **10th December** (the anniversary of Nobel's death).

150. Name the writer who jointly won the Booker Prize 2019 with Canada's Margaret Atwood?

A. Anna Burns

B. Elif Shafak

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- C. Lucy Ellmann
- D. Bernardine Evaristo
- E. Maud Ellmann

Answer: D

Solution:

- The 2019 Booker Prize was awarded jointly to Canada's Margaret Atwood (79-years) for 'The Testaments' and Britain's **Bernardine Evaristo** for 'Girl, Woman, Other'.

- Atwood has become the oldest writer to win the award at the age of 79 years.

- Margaret Atwood is the second woman author (first woman- Hilary Mantel) to win the Booker Award twice (in 2000- for 'The Blind Assassin').

- Bernardine Evaristo (won for Girl, woman, other) which follows the lives of 12 characters living in modern Britain.

- This was the **first time the prize** was shared **since 1992**, despite a rule change banning joint winners.

- The **Man Booker Prize for Fiction** is a literary prize awarded each year for the best original novel, written in the English language, and published in the UK and Ireland between October 2018 and September 2019.

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151. The 2019 Nobel Prize for Economics has been jointly won by Indian American _____, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer for their experimental approach to 'alleviating global poverty'.

- A. Kaushik Basu
- B. Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee
- C. Raj Chetty
- D. Ravi Batra
- E. Arvind Panagariya

Answer: B

Solution:

- The 2019 Nobel Prize for Economics has been jointly won by Indian American Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee (58-year), his wife, Esther Duflo (the French American) and United States Michael Kremer (professor at Harvard University) for their experimental approach to 'alleviating global poverty'.
- Currently, Mr. Abhijit Banerjee (taken American citizenship in 2017) and Esther Duflo (46-years) are professors at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), US.
- The prize amount of 9 million Swedish krona (Rs. 6,54,17,544) will be shared equally between the three Laureates.

152. What is India's rank in the 'Global Hunger Index-2019' released by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)?

- A. 99th
- B. 100th
- C. 101st
- D. 102nd
- E. 103rd

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Answer: D

Solution:

- India ranked 102 (last year- 103rd) position among 117 countries on the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2019 report released by the Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- India is ranked below many neighbouring countries, including China (25th spot), Nepal (73th), Myanmar (69th), Sri Lanka (66th), Bangladesh (88th) and Pakistan (94th).
- It is published annually by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) since 2006.

153. Who is/are the author (s) of the book 'Good Economics for Hard Times – Better Answers to our Biggest Problems'?

- A. Raghuram Rajan
- B. Jagdish Bhagwati
- C. Manmohan Singh
- D. Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo
- E. Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer: D

Solution:

- Nobel 2019 Laureates Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo have penned a book together titled 'Good Economics for Hard Times – Better Answers to our Biggest Problems'.
- The book talks about the pressing issues of our times and tries to find solutions to these questions.
- The book is published by Juggernaut and set to release on November 2019.

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154. Name the Glacier which has been opened for tourism for the first time by the Indian government?

- A. Siachen Glacier
- B. Gangotri Glacier
- C. Milam Glacier
- D. Gomukh Glacier
- E. Pindari Glacier

Answer: A

Solution:

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has announced that the Siachen Glacier (the world's highest battlefield) is now open for tourism.
- The decision comes months after declaring Ladakh as a Union Territory.
- This is the first time that the area has been opened by the army for tourists
- Now, you can travel from the Siachen Base Camp (altitude of 12,000 feet) to Kumar Post.
- The Siachen Glacier is on the eastern Karakoram Range in the Himalayas.

155. What is the title of the advertising campaign launched by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to raise awareness and take steps against hunger and malnutrition in India?

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- A. Feed Our Future
- B. Feed for Future
- C. Food for Hunger
- D. Food for Future
- E. Food and Future

Answer: A

Solution:

- The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has launched a cinema advertisement campaign titled 'Feed Our Future'.
- The purpose of the campaign is to raise awareness and take steps against hunger and malnutrition in India.
- Headquarters of UN World Food Programme (WFP): Rome, Italy.

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