

75+ Current Affairs Questions (May 2020)



1. Name the Sri Lankan cricketer who has been suspended from all forms of cricket with immediate effect for alleged possession of heroin?

- A. Dimuth Karunaratne
- B. Shehan Madushanka
- C. Avishka Fernando
- D. Kusal Perera

Ans. B

Sol.

- Sri Lankan fast bowler, Shehan Madushanka has been suspended from all forms of cricket with immediate effect for alleged possession of heroin.
- The decision to suspend will stand until the board conducts a full inquiry of the matter.
- Madushanka took a hat-trick against Bangladesh on his one-day international debut in January 2018.
- He also played two T20 matches against Bangladesh in 2018 but has not played an international since due to injuries.

2. Who will chair the 11-member committee constituted by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to monitor annual grant and affiliation fee of its members for the 2020-2021 cycle?

- A. Sekhar Chandra Biswas
- B. Adille Sumariwala
- C. D R Saini
- D. Vagish Pathak

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Indian Olympic Association on Wednesday constituted an 11-member committee led by Athletics Federation of India president Adille Sumariwala to monitor annual grant and affiliation fee of its members for the 2020-2021 cycle.
- Besides Mr. Sumariwala, the panel includes D R Saini, Vagish Pathak, S M Hashmi, Sekhar Chandra Biswas, Vithal Shrigaonkar, M P Singh, D V Seetharama Rao, Abu Mehta, Madhukant Pathak and B K Roka.
- The committee will review and monitor issues concerning the disbursement of IOA's annual grant to its members in coordination with the finance department.

3. Who has been appointed as the President of the New Development Bank (NDB) as the term of KV Kamath comes to an end?

- A. Anil Kishora
- B. Paulo Guedes
- C. Marcos Troyjo
- D. Anton Siluanov

Ans. C

Sol.

- Marcos Prado Troyjo, former deputy economy minister of Brazil will replace KV Kamath as the president of the New Development Bank's (NDB).
- The board of governors also appointed Anil Kishora, an Indian, as vice president of the NDB. Kishora, a banker, has 38 years of experience at India's largest bank, State Bank of India (SBI).
- Before joining the NDB, he worked as the deputy managing director and chief risk officer of the state-run SBI.
- NDB is a multilateral financial institution set up to mobilise resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other emerging economies.
- KV Kamath was appointed president of NDB on July 7, 2015 at the inaugural meeting of the board of governors on the eve of the Ufa Summit, when the bank formally came into existence as a legal entity.

4. What is the name has been given to the plan to modernize the fisheries sector which is part of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)?

- A. Mitra Sagar
- B. Swath Sagar
- C. Suman Sagar
- D. Sea Environment

Ans. B

Sol.

- As a part of PMMSY, there will be 'Swath Sagar' plan, which is envisaged with modernizing of the fisheries sector including promotion of Bio-toilets, Insurance coverage for fishing vessels, Fisheries Management Plans, E-Trading/Marketing, Fishers and resources survey and creation of National IT-based databases.

• Also, Government will register "Sagar Mitra" and encourage formation of Fish Farmers Producer Organizations (FFPOs) to help achieve the PMMSY goals by enhancing domestic fish consumption with corresponding health benefits.

5. Who will be the first woman Director General of Police in Kerala?

- A. R Sreelekha
- B. SN Rajeswari
- C. Jahnabi Phookan
- D. V. Vidyavathi

Ans. A

Sol.

* R Sreelekha will be the first woman Director General of Police in Kerala. The Kerala government appointed her as Fire and Rescue Services DGP.

* She is a 1987 batch officer, she is also the first woman IPS officer of Kerala.

* Presently an Additional Director General of Police, she currently heads the Prisons and Correctional Services Department.

6. The Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology has now been renamed as Central Institute of Petrochemicals, Engineering and Technology. It works under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- B. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- C. Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Ans. B

Sol.

* Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) was renamed as Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology.

* CIPET is a premier national institution under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India (GOI).

* The changed name has been registered under the Tamil Nadu (TN) Societies Registration Act 1975 (TN Act 27 of 1975).

* The primary objective of CIPET is to contribute the growth towards the plastics industry through a combined program of education and research.

* The Institute is creating closer ties with industries with the intent to create innovative plastic based solutions which are resource efficient & marketable.

7. Famous sportsperson R. Shanmugam passed away recently, he was associated with which sports?

- A. Cricket
- B. Hockey
- C. Football
- D. Badminton

Ans. C

Sol.

• Former Tamil Nadu footballer and coach R. Shanmugam passed away. Shanmugam, who was born in Burma in 1943, represented the Burmese junior and senior national teams in 1966-67.

• Shanmugam played for Mohun Bagan in 1968, Indian Railways in the 1969 Nowgong senior Nationals, Tamil Nadu in the 1970 Jalandhar & '71 Chennai senior Nationals.

• He's played for the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) from 1969-77 in the top-tier of the Chennai Football Association (CFA) league.

• He attended the FIFA Coca Cola coaching course in 1978 & '91, and the Olympic solidarity course in 1996.

• He obtained diplomas in football coaching from the National Institute of Sports in 1975-76 and the Brazilian Football Academy in 1995.

8. Who has authored the book titled "The Ickabog"?

- A. JK Rowling
- B. Eric Carle
- C. Beverly Cleary
- D. Judy Blume

Ans. A

Sol.

• The "Harry Potter" author, JK Rowling will release her latest book, "The Ickabog", online for free, for the children during this lockdown period.

• The Ickabog' is a story about truth and the abuse of power.

• The first two chapters of The Ickabog are available for free.

- Rowling has pledged to donate all royalties when the book is published to "groups who've been particularly impacted by the pandemic."

9. NASA has renamed its next-generation space telescope "Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST)", which is set to launch in 2025 in honour of _____.

- A. Claudia Alexander
- B. Nancy Grace Roman
- C. Sunita Williams
- D. Eleanor F. Helin

Ans. B

Sol.

- NASA has renamed its next-generation space telescope "Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST)", which is set to launch in 2025, in honour of Nancy Grace Roman.

- Nancy Grace Roman is the US space agency's first chief astronomer, who paved the way for space telescopes focused on the broader universe.

- She left behind a tremendous legacy in the scientific community when she died in 2018.

- The newly named Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope help to research long-standing astronomical mysteries, like the force behind the universe's expansion and look for distant planets beyond our system.

10. Which social media platform has launched a group calling application named as "CatchUp"?

- A. Twitter
- B. You Tubes
- C. Facebook
- D. Instagram

Ans. C

Sol.

- Social networking giant Facebook has launched another group calling app, called CatchUp.

- The app has been developed by Facebook's NPE Team (new product experimentation) and is being tested in the United States for a limited time on iOS and Android operating systems.

- The app allows its users to engage in group calling with up to 8 members.

- However, this is not the first platform from Facebook that gives users this facility including WhatsApp, Messenger Rooms, etc.

- The main differentiating factor between CatchUp and several other Facebook-owned group calling platforms is that CatchUp tells its users when other users of the are available to talk.

11. Who has been appointed as a member of the Olympic Channel Commission by the International Olympic Committee?

- A. Janardhan Singh Gehlot
- B. Rajeev Mehta
- C. Anandeshwar Panday
- D. Narinder Dhruv Batra

Ans. D

Sol.

- Indian Olympic Association (IOA) president Narinder Batra has been appointed as a member of the Olympic Channel Commission.

- In a letter to International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach, Mr. Batra, who had become an IOC member in June last year, expressed his gratitude after being selected for the role.

- The Olympic Channel Commission advises the IOC Session, the IOC Executive Board and the IOC president and provides guidance throughout the launch and operation of the Olympic Channel.

- The 63-year-old Batra had earlier served as the president of Hockey India (2014-2016) and Asian Hockey Federation (2003-2013). He was also the treasurer of Delhi & District Cricket Association between 2003 to 2013.

12. Which IIT has developed magnesium alloy to replace steel, aluminium in cars?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM), partnered with the University of North Texas and United States Army lab, have developed a magnesium alloy to replace the steel and aluminium in the automobile industry to reduce the carbon footprint and increase fuel efficiency.
- There has been an excellent deal of specialising in lowering the carbon footprint of vehicles by using light-weight material in their bodies.
- Lighter vehicles consume less fuel to run and are therefore play a strategic role in increasing energy-efficiency. Vehicular emissions alone contribute 27 per cent of total CO₂ emissions currently.

13. Adani Power has received approval for setting up of a 1,320 MW thermal power plant in which state?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

- Adani Power got an approval from the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission for setting up of a 1,320 MW thermal power plant in Madhya Pradesh.
- The commission has also approved sale of entire electricity from the plant to the state through Adani Power arm Pench Thermal Energy.
- Pench Thermal Energy has signed a power purchase agreement with MP Power Management Company Ltd (MPPMCL) for procurement of 1,320 MW of electricity on long-term basis.
- The power would be supplied from the new power station of 1,320 MW capacity to be set up with super critical technology on design, build, finance, own and operate (DBFOO) basis by sourcing fuel from the allocated coal linkage under the SHAKTI policy.

14. Who has been selected for the prestigious United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award (2019) along with Brazilian Naval Officer Commander Carla Monteiro de Castro Araujo?

- A. Divya Ajith Kumar
- B. Sophia Qureshi
- C. Suman Gawani
- D. Ganeve Lalji

Ans. C

Sol.

- Indian Army officer and woman peacekeeper Suman Gawani who has served with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) & Brazilian Naval Officer Commander Carla Monteiro de Castro Araujo have been selected for the prestigious United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award (2019).
- Suman Gawani becomes the 1st Indian peacekeeper to win the award.
- The award will be given during an online ceremony presided over by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on May 29, the International Day of UN Peacekeepers.

15. What is the length of the tunnel built by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) on Rishikesh-Dharasu Highway (NH 94) in Uttarakhand under "Char Dham" project to connect holy towns of Gangotri, Kedarnath, Yamunotri and Badrinath?

- A. 320 Km
- B. 340 Km
- C. 420 Km
- D. 440 Km

Ans. D

Sol.

- Union Minister for Road Transport, Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the 440 metre-long tunnel as part of the Chardham Connectivity Project in Chamba.
- The tunnel will significantly reduce the time taken by travellers on the Rishikesh-Dharasu and Gangotri stretch of the Chardham Highway (NH 94).

16. Alfanar group of which country is to sell 300MW wind power projects in India which is likely to be among the largest wind energy deals in India?

- A. UAE
- B. Oman
- C. Iran
- D. Saudi Arabia

Ans. D

Sol.

- Saudi Arabia's Alfanar Group is looking to sell half of its 600 megawatt (MW) wind power projects in India.
- Alfanar has tasked JM Financial to find a buyer
- Riyadh-based Alfanar Group has a clean energy portfolio of 1.4 gigawatts (GW) in West Asia, Africa, Europe and Asia. In India, Alfanar has a wind project portfolio of around 600MW that it won in auctions conducted by state-run Solar Energy Corp. of India (SECI).
- India is running the world's largest clean energy programme, with an aim of having 175 gigawatts (GW) of clean energy capacity by 2022.

17. Name the Indian American inventor who has bagged the prestigious "Inventor of the Year award" in recognition of his pioneering work in advancing the electronic industry and improving artificial intelligence capabilities?

- A. Ajay Bhatt
- B. Rajiv Joshi
- C. Shiva Ayyadurai
- D. Ananda Mohan Chakrabarty

Ans. B

Sol.

- Prolific Indian-American inventor Rajiv Joshi has bagged the prestigious Inventor of the Year award.
- He was awarded in recognition of his pioneering work in advancing the electronic industry and improving artificial intelligence capabilities.
- Dr Joshi, who is a master inventor with more than 250 patented inventions in the US, works at the IBM Thomson Watson Research Center in New York.
- He was presented with the prestigious annual award by the New York Intellectual Property Law Association during a virtual awards ceremony.
- An IIT Mumbai alumnus, Mr. Joshi has an MS degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and a PhD in mechanical/electrical engineering from Columbia University, New York.

18. Which Indian software company has 'Ignio' an AI Digital Workspace solution?

- A. Wipro
- B. Tata Consultancy Services
- C. Infosys
- D. HCL Technologies

Ans. B

Sol.

- Tapping into the rising demand for automation amid the covid-19 pandemic, Digitate, a software venture of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), has announced the launch of ignio AI.Digital Workspace.
- It is an end-user experience management software that helps employees and service desk teams boost productivity.

19. India handover war game centre named as "INDIA" to which country?

- A. Ghana
- B. Algeria
- C. Uganda
- D. Uruguay

Ans. C

Sol.

- India has handover the war game centre named as "INDIA" to Uganda Peoples Defence Forces (UPDF).
- The state of the art military training facility was handover by the Indian Association Uganda (IAU), in association with the Indian Military Advisory and Training Team to the UPDF.
- Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda inaugurated the war game centre "INDIA" that was conceptualised by the Indian Military Team and built by the IAU in Jinja district, at a cost of over 1 billion Ugandan shillings or \$2,65,000.
- The Ugandans of Indian origin made voluntary contributions for the establishment of war game centre.

20. The World Health Organization (WHO) has partnered with which world sport body to work together to promote health through sport and physical activity?

- A. International Cricket Council (ICC)
- B. International Hockey Federation (IFH)
- C. Badminton World Federation
- D. International Olympic Committee (IOC)

Ans. D
Sol.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) have teamed up to fight the battle against Covid-19 and have signed an agreement to work together to promote health through sport and physical activity.
- The collaboration is to work with host countries to ensure Health of athletes, supporters and workers at the games.
- The two institutions will also work to ensure that the games leave a healthy legacy in host countries through enhanced awareness of the value of sport.

21. Country's biggest electricity generator National Thermal Power corporation (NTPC) has signed an MoU with which another public sector unit to set up a joint venture company for renewable energy projects?

- A. NHPC
- B. OIL
- C. ONGC
- D. SAIL

Ans. C
Sol.

- * India's top oil and gas producer ONGC and country's biggest electricity generator NTPC have signed a preliminary agreement to set up a joint venture company for renewable energy projects.
- * The MoU will enable both companies to achieve their respective targets in renewable energy business.
- * As per the MoU, NTPC and ONGC will explore and set up renewable power assets including offshore wind, in India and overseas, and explore opportunities in the fields of sustainability, storage, e-mobility and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) compliant projects
- * Through this collaboration with NTPC, ONGC envisages significant growth in its presence in the renewable power sector.

22. Which state government has launched "Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana" on the occasion of death

anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Chhattisgarh
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Punjab

Ans. B
Sol.

- * Chhattisgarh government has launched "Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana" on the occasion of death anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

- * The farmer centered scheme aims to stimulate the rural economy in the state, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

- * The provision of the scheme was made in the Budget 2020-21. The scheme is expected to benefit over 1.87 million farmers.

23. Which state government has set up a 'Start-up Fund' under the its Information Technology and Start-up Policy 2017?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Uttarakhand

Ans. C
Sol.

- * Uttar Pradesh government has set up 'UP Start-up Fund' under the UP Information Technology and Start-up Policy 2017.

- * An MoU has been signed between the Uttar Pradesh government and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and the fund will be managed by SIDBI. Initial contribution of Rs 15 crore has been made to the fund.

- * The fund aims to support the registered start-up ventures present across different verticals in Uttar Pradesh.

24. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has launched a scheme for 100% solarisation of which city of India?

- A. Konark
- B. Ujjain
- C. Varanasi
- D. Mathura

Ans. A
Sol.

- * The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy launched a scheme to solarize the Konark town and Konark sun temple completely.
- * The scheme has been launched to develop the historic Sun Temple in the town of Konark.
- * Also, the scheme will develop the town into Surya Nagri.
- * The development will be to deliver the message of synergy between the sun temple and the modern use of solar energy.
- * The scheme mainly aims at promoting solar energy.

25. In which state the women Rural Livelihood Mission started Didi Vehicle Service for rural women for the safe delivery and other emergency services?

A. Madhya Pradesh
B. Himachal Pradesh
C. Uttar Pradesh
D. Uttarakhand

Ans. A
Sol.

- * In the tribal-dominated Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh (MP), the women Rural Livelihood Mission started Didi Vehicle Service for rural women for the safe delivery and other emergency services. This vehicle service is completely free.
- * The women of Rural Livelihood Mission have started this service for 29 villages of 10 Gram Panchayats of Petlawad development block of Jhabua.
- * The women are bearing the expenses of Didi vehicle service through the interest, they earn on their savings.

26. Which of the following organization has organized the E-Conclave of Defence MSME which was chaired by the Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh?

- A. FICCI
B. ASSOCHAM
C. CII
D. NSDC

Ans. C
Sol.

- * The Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the E-Conclave of Defence

MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises).

- * The E-conclave was organized by CII (Confederation of Indian Industry), SIDM (Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers) and Department of Defence Production.

- * Around 800 Defence MSMEs participated in the conclave that was held through video conferencing.

- * The Conclave identified the fact that the US Defence industry developed within a short span of two years during World War II.

27. Who has been appointed as Chief Economist and Vice President of the World Bank?

- A. Kenneth Rogoff
B. Arvind Subramanyam
C. Carmen Reinhart
D. Michael Kremer

Ans. C
Sol.

- Former Bear Stearns executive Carmen Reinhart has been appointed as new vice president and chief economist of the World Bank.

- Reinhart's experience and insights would prove invaluable during the current unprecedented crisis triggered by the coronavirus pandemic and the economic havoc it is wreaking around the globe. She will start her new job on June 15.

- Reinhart has a Ph.D. from Columbia University and currently teaches international economics at the Harvard Kennedy School. She has also worked at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, International Monetary Fund and the University of Maryland.

28. eCommerce major Flipkart has partnered with which General Insurance Company to offer a digital motor insurance policy to Flipkart's customers?

- A. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company
B. Apollo Munich Health Insurance
C. Bharti Axa General Insurance Company
D. HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company

Ans. A

Sol.

- Flipkart and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company have partnered to offer a digital motor insurance policy to customers of the e-commerce major.
- This partnership between the insurance company and an e-commerce major, will provide seamless, accessible as well as flexible insurance solution to the customers of Flipkart in order to safeguard their vehicles.
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance also offers mobile insurance on Flipkart.
- Flipkart Consumers can subscribe to this motor-insurance policy using their Flipkart app.

29. Which state/UTs Department of Information and Public Relations has started an initiative "SUKOON – COVID-19 Beat the Stress" programme?

- A. Punjab
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Uttarakhand
- D. Jammu & Kashmir

Ans. D

Sol.

- Department of Information and Public Relations, J&K has started an initiative "SUKOON – COVID-19 Beat the Stress" programme.
- This initiative spread awareness about the psychological impact of lockdown and measures to be adopted to overcome them.
- The programme will be telecast on Doordarshan Kashmir Channel every Tuesday at 9.00 PM during which psychiatrists, eminent doctors and scientists will share their knowledge on psychological health.
- The aim of the programme is to ensure that people stay mentally fit and cope with the fears related to COVID-19 with a sound mind.

30. Who has been appointed as the President of Indian Steel Association (ISA)?

- A. Dilip Oommen
- B. TV Narendran
- C. Sudhanshu Saraf

D. Nilesh Narwekar

Ans. A

Sol.

- Indian Steel Association (ISA) has appointed Dilip Oommen as its new President.
- He is presently the CEO of Arcelor Mittal Nippon Steel India. He was unanimously appointed as President for the next two years.
- He will replace Tata Steel CEO TV Narendran, who stepped down as President on May 1.
- Oommen is a veteran of the steel industry with more than 37 years of experience and an alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT-K).

31. The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) provisionally suspended Savita Kumari and Ankit Shisodia for violating anti-doping rules. They are associated with which sports?

- A. Powerlifting
- B. Wrestling
- C. Boxing
- D. Gymnastic

Ans. A

Sol.

- The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) provisionally suspended powerlifters Savita Kumari and Ankit Shisodia for violating anti-doping rules.
- Athletes were given an opportunity to present themselves before the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) and explain their cases on the date and time fixed by the panel for a hearing.
- Both athletes were given a chance to present themselves before the Anti Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) to explain their cases.
- But because of lockdown amid COVID-19 pandemic, no sitting of panel could take place.

32. Who has been appointed as the chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)?

- A. Shaji KV
- B. P.V.S. Suryakumar
- C. Govinda Rajulu Chintala

D. Revathy Iyer

Ans. C

Sol.

- The government has appointed Govinda Rajulu Chintala as chairman of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
- The appointments committee of the union cabinet cleared Chintala's appointment for two years till his superannuation in July 2022.
- He will replace Harsh Kumar Bhanwala.

33. The Indian Railways operationalized the first 12,000 HP electric locomotive built in which locomotive establishmet?

- A. Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan
- B. Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi.
- C. Golden Rock Railway Workshop, Tiruchirapalli
- D. Electric Locomotive Factory, Madhepura

Ans. D

Sol.

- The Indian Railways operationalized the first 12,000 HP electric locomotive. The locomotive was built by the French Alstom Company under the Make in India initiative.
- The locomotive was manufactured at the Madhepura Electric Locomotive in Bihar. It is capable of hauling 6000 tonnes at a top speed of 120 km/hr.
- The locomotive was manufactured as a joint venture between the Indian and French share holding of 74% and 26%.
- With this, India has become the sixth country in the world to produce high horse power locomotive.

34. Which Railway zone has developed a robotic device, "RAIL-BOT" (R-BOT) to assist in the functions of hospital management to provide better health care to the COVID patients?

- A. Central Railway
- B. South Central Railway
- C. Northern Railway
- D. North Eastern Railway

Ans. B

Sol.

- South Central Railway zone has developed a robotic device, "RAIL-BOT" (R-BOT) to assist in the functions of hospital management to provide better health care to the COVID patients.

- R-BOT is getting used to supply medicines, medical accessories and to serve food to the patients, with none need for physical contact.

- Using this device will enable doctors, nurses and other support medical staff to remain faraway from the danger of contracting infections.

- The R-BOT is operated through a singular mobile application developed as a part of the Innovation, supported by Wi-Fi- facility.

- The R-BOT holds sensor-based features to read the blood heat of patients and transmit an equivalent for display on Mobile phones.

35. The book titled 'Hop On: My Adventures on Boats, Trains and Planes' is authored by _____.

- A. Salman Rushdie
- B. J.K. Rowling
- C. Ruskin Bond
- D. Virginia Woolf

Ans. C

Sol.

- Ruskin Bond's new book titled 'Hop On: My Adventures on Boats, Trains and Planes' was released on his 86th Birthday in an e-book format.

- The book narrates some of his memorable travel adventures on boats, trains and planes from his childhood.

- The book presents its readers with a number of the author's hilarious journeys and travel adventures.

- The illustrations for Ruskin Bond's new book has been done by Samrat Halder.

36. What amount has been announced by China over two years to fight the coronavirus pandemic at WHO assembly?

- A. USD 1 billion
- B. USD 2 billion
- C. USD 3 billion
- D. USD 4 billion

Ans. B

Sol.

- China has announced to provide USD 2 billion over two years to fight the coronavirus pandemic at WHO assembly.
- The USD 2 billion over subsequent two years will support COVID-19 response efforts, particularly in developing countries.
- The decision comes after, when China faced growing global pressure over the lockdowns, the death toll and a huge increase in coronavirus cases that has brought the world to a standstill.
- WHO announced the coronavirus outbreak to be a worldwide health emergency on January 30th 2020.

37. How many cities rated 5 star in Star Rating of Garbage Free Cities, for the assessment year 2019-2020?

- A. 4
- B. 5
- C. 6
- D. 7

Ans. C

Sol.

- Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (Independent/Charge) of Ministry Of Housing and Urban Affairs(MOHUA) announced the results of the Star Rating of Garbage Free Cities, for the assessment year 2019-2020.
- In rating Ambikapur, Rajkot, Surat, Mysuru, Indore and Navi Mumbai were rated 5 Star (6 cities).
- 65 other Cities rated 3 Star and 70 Cities rated 1 Star out of 141 cities
- He also launched the revised protocol for the Star Rating of Garbage Free Cities.

38. Benjamin Netanyahu has sworn in as the prime minister of which country for the 5th time?

- A. Italy
- B. Malta
- C. Spain
- D. Israel

Ans. D

Sol.

- * Benjamin Netanyahu has been sworn as the Israel Prime Minister for the 5th time after signing of power-sharing deal with rival-turned-partner Benny Gantz of Blue and White Party.

* He will now chair the post until 13 November 2021.

* With this, the longest political deadlock in the Isreal's history came to an end.

* During the standoff, the caretaker government held the reins for more than 500 days and no one got a clear majority in three successive elections.

39. Which state has launched its first cyber security-specific accelerator programme 'H.A.C.K' for start-ups recently?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

* Karnataka launched its first cyber security-specific accelerator programme 'H.A.C.K' for start-ups recently.

* This comes even at a time when there are serious discussions around surveillance and lack of safety through government-run online software for COVID-19.

* The programme is implemented by CySeck, which is state's CoE (Centre of Excellence) in Cyber Security meant for creating a cyber-safe environment for industry collaboration. It is housed at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.

40. Who authored the book titled "Wuhan Diary: Dispatches from a Quarantined City"?

- A. Amy Tan
- B. Hua Yu
- C. Fang Fang
- D. Gao Xingjian

Ans. C

Sol.

* The book called "Wuhan Diary: Dispatches from a Quarantined City" authored by Chinese literary writer Fang Fang.

* This book is a compilation of online diary entries and social media posts that document 60 days of lockdown during COVID-19.

* The book was published by HarperNonFiction.

41. Which e-Commerce company has partnered with Vishal Mega Mart to deliver essentials at home?

- A. Amazon
- B. Snapdeal
- C. Flipkart
- D. Brainbees

Ans. C

Sol.

* Homegrown etailer Flipkart has announced a partnership with retail store chain Vishal Mega Mart for the home delivery of essential items through a safe supply chain in 26 cities.

* A Vishal Mega Mart Essentials store has been created on the Flipkart platform.

* Consumers can order essential products from Vishal Mega Mart stores and get them delivered at their doorstep by Flipkart

* Cities in the list include Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi, Gurgaon and Noida

42. Which becomes the first country in Europe to declare an end to its COVID-19 epidemic?

- A. Italy
- B. Switzerland
- C. Denmark
- D. Slovenia

Ans. D

Sol.

* Slovenia has become the first in Europe to get rid of the deadly COVID-19.

* The country officially marked an end to its virus epidemic after the government authorities confirmed less than seven new cases each day for the past two weeks.

* Slovenia, a country with a population of two million, has also opened its borders after declaring the end of the virus. The country shares its borders with Croatia, Austria, Italy and Hungary, and now people have started arriving in Slovenia from other European Union states.

43. Which state/UTs has issued new rules to provide domicile certificates to its residents?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Bihar
- C. Jammu and Kashmir

D. Ladakh

Ans. C

Sol.

* The Jammu and Kashmir Administration issued rules to provide domicile certificates.

* The "J&K Grant of Domicile Certificate (Procedure) rules 2020" has been provided through an amendment of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Decentralisation and Recruitment) Act, 2010.

* The rules have included extraordinary penalty of Rs 50,000 to the competitive authority in case the issuing of domicile certificate is delayed.

44. Which country recently announce to donate ventilators to India?

- A. China
- B. Italy
- C. USA
- D. United Kingdom

Ans. C

Sol.

• The United States recently announced that it will donate ventilators to India.

• The announcement is seen as a reciprocal gesture of India's lift on the export ban of the anti-malarial drug Hydroxychloroquine.

• India recently lifted the export ban over HCQ drugs.

• This benefitted the United States to larger extent.

• Also, US being one of the worst hit nations of COVID-19, the lift of ban was of great help.

• With the lift, around 50 million HCQ tablets were exported to the US.

45. India along with 61 other countries moved a proposal in the World Health Organization to _____.

- A. develop a vaccine for COVID-19
- B. identify the source of COVID-19
- C. bar china into the grouping
- D. deal with economic crisis arises due COVID-19

Ans. B

Sol.

• India joined 61 other countries in the World Health Organization to identify the

source of COVID-19. China and US are not a part of the resolution.

- The countries together moved a proposal at the WHO to identify zoonotic source. Only three permanent members of the United Nations Security Council have backed the resolution namely Russia, France and UK.
- The other countries to support the resolution includes South Korea, Japan, Australia, South Africa, India, New Zealand, etc.
- From the SAARC countries, only India, Bhutan and Bangladesh have signed the resolution. Other members such as Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Maldives and Afghanistan have not signed the resolution.

46. Roberto Azevedo decides to resign a year before his term expires as head of which international organization?

- A. World Health Organization (WHO)
- B. World Trade Organization (WTO)
- C. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- D. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Ans. B

Sol.

- In an unprecedented move, the Head of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Roberto Azevedo has decided to resign, a year before his term expires.
- Mr Azevedo, a former diplomat from Brazil, will step down on August 31st, cutting short a seven-year tenure marked in recent years by intense pressure from US President Donald Trump.
- In a special meeting of WTO delegations, Mr Azevedo said, it is a personal decision - a family decision.
- He said, the decision will serve the best interests of the organization.

47. The National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra Implements Enterprises Resource Planning (ERP), SAMARTH, an e-Governance platform, developed under which sheme

- A. National Mission of Education in Information and Communication Technology Scheme (NMEICT)

B. Rashtriya Uccharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)

C. Support For Distance Education & Web Based Learning (NPTEL)

D. Indian National Digital Library in Engineering, Science & Technology (INDEST-AICTE) Consortium

Ans. A

Sol.

- NIT Kurukshetra Implements Enterprises Resource Planning (ERP), SAMARTH
- SAMARTH is an e-Governance platform, developed under National Mission of Education in Information and Communication Technology Scheme (NMEICT) of M/o HRD
- SAMARTH to enhance productivity through better information management in the institute by seamless access to information.

48. Which state government has launched 'Matir Smristi' scheme to utilise 50,000 acres of barren land in 6 districts?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- West Bengal Government has launched 'Matir Smristi' scheme to utilise 50,000 acres of barren land in 6 districts.
- This scheme helps to generate income activities in horticulture and pisciculture involving the locals. The 'Matir Smristi' scheme will benefit around 2.5 lakh people in rural Bengal.
- In West Bengal at least 50,000 acres of barren land in Birbhum, Purulia, Bankura, Jhargram, West Burdwan and West Midnapore districts, which cannot produce anything naturally nor can the farmers cultivate on the strip.

49. Who has been conferred with the Vice Admiral G.M. Hiranandani Memorial Rolling Trophy for the year 2020?

- A. Akshay Kumar
- B. Anshu Bhau
- C. A.K. Chawla
- D. Kuldeep Tyagi

Ans. A

Sol.

- Lieutenant Commander Akshay Kumar was awarded the Vice Admiral G.M. Hiranandani Memorial Rolling Trophy for the year 2020.
- He commissioned in Anti-Submarine Warfare School of the Southern Naval Command in Kochi. The award ceremony was held at the Maritime Warfare Centre, Kochi, Kerala.
- This trophy was instituted in 2013 for the officer performing best in tactics during the year-long warfare specialisation course. The trophy was instituted within the memory of the late flag officer GM Hiranandani, who was the commissioned naval officer Commanding-in-Chief Southern Naval Command from 1985 to 1987 and retired as Vice Chief of Naval Staff in 1989.

50. Which country has developed 'iFeel-You' bracelet for social distancing?

- A. China
- B. United Kingdom
- C. India
- D. Italy

Ans. D

Sol.

- The Genoa-based Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) has developed 'iFeel-You' bracelet for social distancing.
- This bracelet will help users respect social distancing rules.
- The bracelet has been developed as the measures for safeguarding against the coronavirus lockdown is being gradually lifted.

51. Which organization has released Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020?

- A. UNEP
- B. UNDP
- C. FAO
- D. UNESCO

Ans. C

Sol.

- According to the Global Forest Resources Assessment(FRA) 2020 released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization(FAO), the forest

loss rate in 2015-2020 has declined to an estimated 10 million hectares(mha), down from 12 mha in 2010-2015.

- The world has lost 178 mha of forest since 1990, an area the size of Libya. The net rate of forest loss has decreased significantly during 1990-2020 due to a reduction in deforestation in some countries, increase in forest area in others through afforestation and the natural expansion of forests.
- The rate of net forest loss declined from 7.8 mha per year in the decade 1990-2000 to 5.2 mha per year in 2000-2010 and 4.7 mha per year in 2010-2020.

52. Recently, which of the following institutions has developed a low-cost device to detect the presence of melamine (adulterate) in milk and dairy products?

- A. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras
- B. Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru
- C. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Tirupati
- D. National Institute of Technology, Raipur

Ans. B

Sol.

- Recently, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru have developed a low-cost device to detect the presence of melamine (adulterate) in milk and dairy products.
- The techniques currently used to detect the presence of melamine are time-taking and typically require expensive and sophisticated equipment and highly trained personnel.
- With the help of a newly developed fluorometer device
- Researchers were able to detect up to 0.1 parts per million (ppm) of melamine in water and milk, which is much lower than the acceptable limit of 1 ppm.
- The detection also took just four minutes.

53. The flagship social security scheme of the Government of India - 'Atal Pension Yojana' (APY) - has completed five years

of implementation. What should be the age limit of the subscriber for the scheme?

- A. 18-40 years
- B. 20-55 years
- C. 25-55 years
- D. 30-65 years

Ans. A

Sol.

- The flagship social security scheme of the Government of India - 'Atal Pension Yojana' (APY) - has completed five years of implementation and garnered over 2.2 crore subscribers.
- The scheme was launched on 9th May, 2015, with the objective of creating a universal social security system for all Indians, especially the poor, the under-privileged and the workers in the unorganised sector.
- The scheme is being administered by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority through National Pension System (NPS).
- Any citizen of India can join the APY scheme. The age of the subscriber should be between 18-40 years.
- The contribution levels would vary and would be low if a subscriber joins early and increases if joins late.

54. What is India's rank in the recently released Global Energy Transition Index (GET Index) 2020 by the World Economic Forum (WEF)?

- A. 54th
- B. 68th
- C. 74th
- D. 78th

Ans. C

Sol.

- * The World Economic Forum released Global Energy Transition Index (GET Index).
- * India has moved up to 74th rank showing improvements in key parameters such as energy security, growth and environmental sustainability.
- * The World Economic Forum has ranked 115 countries based on GET Index in its report "WEF Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2020 report".

* According to the report, 75% of the countries have improved their environmental sustainability.

* Sweden has topped the ranking for the third consecutive year. It was followed by Switzerland and Finland.

55. Which state government has launched "HOPE" (Helping Out People Everywhere) portal to help unemployed youth to get jobs opportunities?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttarakhand

Ans. D

Sol.

* Uttarakhand government has launched Helping Out People Everywhere (HOPE) portal aimed at creating employment avenues for the trained youth as well as offering them skill development opportunities to increase their employability.

* The portal will be used to collect the data on the youths of the state who are staying in as well as the recently returned migrant youths.

* This platform will help unemployed youths for job seeking and skill development.

* The database in the portal will help employers to find suitable candidates for their requirements.

* The employers will get knowledge about the candidates like where they worked.

* When the database is ready it'll be linked with the Mukhya Mantri Swarojgar Yojana.

56. Which Indian sportsperson has been re-inducted into the Disciplinary Panel of National Anti-Doping Agency's (NADA)?

- A. Akhil Kumar
- B. Sushil Kumar
- C. Vijender Singh
- D. Pawan Kumar

Ans. A

Sol.

* Former Commonwealth gold medalist Indian boxer Akhil Kumar was re-inducted into the Disciplinary Panel of National Anti-Doping Agency's (NADA).

* Akhil, who is also serving in [Haryana Police](#) as ACP Gurugram, was formerly in the panel from 2017 to 2019.

* The Arjuna award-winning Olympian is among the most accomplished names in Indian boxing and has also been the government observer for the sport between 2017 and 2019.

* The NADA ADDP also features track-and-field Arjuna awardee Ashwini Nachappa among others.

57. Who among the following has been appointed as the Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)?

- A. AMV Subramanyam
- B. Vijay Kumar S Nair
- C. V. Vidyavathi
- D. R Kalaiselvan

Ans. C

Sol.

* IAS officer V. Vidyavathi is appointed as the new Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India(ASI) effective from 12th May 2020.

* She is a 1991 batch Karnataka cadre officer.

* Vidyavathi will be serving in the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

* Her appointment is confirmed by the order of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

58. Who among the following has been appointed as the new chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)?

- A. Manoj Ahuja
- B. R.P. Singh
- C. Moushumi Sarkar
- D. Rakesh Sharma

Ans. A

Sol.

* Odisha cadre IAS, Manoj Ahuja has been appointed the new chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

* He is currently served as Special Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Department of Personnel and Training.

* He will replace Anita Karwal as the chairman of the CBSE.

59. Telia Rumal of which state recently got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry?

- A. Odisha
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Bihar
- D. Telangana

Ans. D

Sol.

* The Telia Rumal of Telangana received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry.

* For the Telia Rumal of Telangana, application of GI-tag was made by Consortium of Puttapaka Handloom Cluster-IHDS.

* Telia Rumal cloth involves complex handmade work with cotton loom which can be only created by using the traditional handloom process and not by any other mechanical means.

* The telia rumal exhibits a variety of designs and motifs in three particular colours namely red, black and white.

60. Which country is to hold the chair of the World Health Organization in May 2020 after Japan completes its tenure?

- A. Taiwan
- B. Philippines
- C. India
- D. South Korea

Ans. C

Sol.

* India is to hold the chair of the World Health Organization in May 2020 after Japan completes its tenure. India will continue to hold the chair for the next three years.

* This comes during the time when there are world wide criticisms faced by WHO.

* Especially the US, one of India's primary trading partner, accused WHO being China-centric.

* It is to be noted that US has also cut the funds allocated to the WHO.

61. Which industry body has organised the Indo-Bangladesh "Virtual Conference"?

- A. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
- B. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- C. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
- D. Indian Bank Association (IBA)

Ans. C

Sol.

- Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) has organised the Indo-Bangladesh "Virtual Conference".
- Union DoNER Minister of State (I/C) Dr Jitendra Singh addressed the virtual conference.
- The conference featured the participation of Minister of Commerce Bangladesh Tipu Munshi, Chief Minister of Meghalaya Conrad Sangma and Riva Ganguli Das High commissioner to Bangladesh.

62. Which of the following industry bodies has organized the digital conference, RE-START - 'Reboot the Economy through Science, Technology and Research Translations is association with Technology Development Board (TDB)?

- A. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
- B. Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- C. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
- D. Indian Bank Association (IBA)

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Union Minister of Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, and Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan addressed the digital conference, RE-START - 'Reboot the Economy through Science, Technology and Research Translations
- The conference was organized by the Technology Development Board (TDB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- On the theme for the National Technology Day this year, Dr. Harsh

Vardhan pointed out, "We need to mitigate the widespread economic impact and prepare for a stronger recovery using self-reliance as the new mantra.

- Thus, we look towards new opportunities to galvanize growth in the technological and industrial sector."

63. Which country has won the 1st edition of FIDE Chess.com Online Nations Cup?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

- China has won the 1st edition of FIDE Chess.com Online Nations Cup against the USA. In the finals, China faced the USA which ended in a draw with 2-2.
- China was adjudged the winner on the basis of its topping the points table in the round-robin stage.
- In this tournament, India finished at 5th rank.
- The Superfinal concluded six days of online competitive chess at the highest level between six international teams full of top grandmasters. These 6 teams are China, USA, Europe, Russia, India, Rest of the world.

64. Which country will host the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in 2021 which was postponed due COVID 19 pandemic?

- A. Brazil
- B. India
- C. China
- D. Japan

Ans. B

Sol.

- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup confirmed that the tournament will be held from February 17 till March 7, 2021.
- FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup was scheduled to be held in India from November 2 to 21, 2020 across 5 venues and has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- FIFA announced that the tournament will keep original eligibility criteria despite the postponement: players born on or after 1 January 2003 and on or before 31 December 2005 will be eligible to compete.

65. Which Indian airport has won this year's SKYTRAX Award for Best Regional Airport in India and Central Asia?

- A. Veer Savarkar International Airport, Port Blair
- B. Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad
- C. Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
- D. Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru has won this year's SKYTRAX Award for Best Regional Airport in India and Central Asia.

- The airport was voted by customers because of the Best Regional Airport in India & Central Asia for the third time in four years at the 2020 World Airport Awards.

- The Awards have supported the planet Airport Survey questionnaires completed by over 100 nationalities of airport customers during the 6-month survey period.

66. Which state government has launched country's first ever 'FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana' to lodge FIR?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Bihar

Ans. C

Sol.

- Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Dr Narottam Mishra launched country's first ever 'FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana' in Bhopal

- Madhya Pradesh is the first state in the country to implement such an innovative scheme under which now people would not be required to visit police station to lodge an FIR

- 'FIR Aapke Dwar' Yojana has been started as a pilot project in 23 Police Stations including one urban and one rural Police Station at 11 Divisional Headquarters.

- For this Yojana "Dial 100" vehicle would have trained Head Constables to lodge FIR.

67. Which country named street after Rabindranath Tagore on his 159th anniversary?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. Germany
- C. Israel
- D. France

Ans. C

Sol.

- Israel has named a street in Tel Aviv after celebrated Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore as a tribute on his 159th birthday on 08 May.

- Israel named it 'Tagore Street' to commemorate the poet's birth anniversary.

- Tagore, who wrote his poetry, novels, stories and plays in Bengali, In 1913 he won the prestigious Nobel prize in literature and till now, he is the only poet from India to have done so.

68. Which of the following cities has launched "Pranavayu Programme" to create awareness about the respiratory health of the residents?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Bengaluru City Corporation recently launched "Pranavayu Programme" to create awareness about the respiratory health of Bengaloreans.

- The initiative aims to help people in increasing oxygen level of the people by themselves.

- This will help them to keep track about their health before their ailments become fatal.

- There are several deaths reported in the country due to Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI).
- Especially, COVID-19 causes Hypoxia (deficiency of oxygen in tissues). This is like starving the body of oxygen.

69. Under whose chairmanship the Sports Authority of India (SAI) formed a six-member committee to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for phased resumption of training across sporting disciplines?

- A. Rajesh Rajagopalan
- B. SS Roy
- C. Rohit Bharadwaj
- D. SS Sarla

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) formed a six-member committee to prepare a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for phased resumption of training across sporting disciplines at all the centers once the coronavirus-forced national lockdown is lifted.

- The six-member panel will be headed by SAI secretary Rohit Bharadwaj and will have CEO (Chief Executive Officer) Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Rajesh Rajagopalan, Executive Director (Operations) SS Roy, SS Sarla, Col BK Nayak and Assistant Director TOPS Sachin K as its members.

- The SOP includes detailed guidelines to be followed on entry norms, sanitization guidelines, precautions to be taken in common areas and by athletes while travelling to and from the centre.

70. The Defence Ministry has signed a contract with which of the following companies for Phase-II of Modernisation of Air Field Infrastructure of 37 airfields for Indian Air Force, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard?

- A. Tata Power
- B. Larsen & Toubro
- C. GMR Infrastructure Limited
- D. IRB Infrastructure Developers Limited

Ans. A

Sol.

- The Defence Ministry has signed a contract worth around Rs 1,200 crore with Tata Power Strategic Engineering Division for Phase-II of Modernisation of Air Field Infrastructure of 37 airfields for Indian Air Force, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.

- The proposal is approved by Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

- The project will give a boost to over 250 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) which will directly benefit from the execution of various activities of this project.

71. Which institute has developed first indigenous antibody-based ELISA test kit - COVID KAVACH for diagnosis of novel Corona Virus?

- A. National Institute of Virology, Pune
- B. Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad
- C. Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow
- D. Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology, New Delhi

Ans. A

Sol.

- National Institute of Virology, Pune, has developed first indigenous antibody-based ELISA test kit - COVID KAVACH for diagnosis of novel Corona Virus.

- This test is expected to change the dynamics of COVID-19 testing in the country.

- The kit has displayed high sensitivity and accuracy in the validation tests at different sites.

- It can test around 90 samples in approximately two and half hours.

72. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nation (UN) postal agency released a commemorative postage stamp on the 40th anniversary of the eradication of _____.

- A. Polio
- B. smallpox
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Plague

Ans. B

Sol.

- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (UN) postal agency released a commemorative postage stamp on the 40th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox.
- The commemorative stamp was designed and developed by Sergio Baradat, United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) in collaboration with WHO.
- The stamp will be available for purchase at unstamps.org and it can be used to mail postcards and letters around the world, provided that they are sent from the UN headquarters in New York, Geneva or Vienna respectively.

73. Name the person whose term has been extended as President of FIH until May 2021 by the International Hockey Federation (FIH)?

- A. Michael Green
- B. Abdullah Shah
- C. Marijke Fleuren
- D. Narinder Batra

Ans. D

Sol.

- International Hockey Federation (FIH) has extended the term of Narinder Batra as President of FIH until May 2021.
- Batra and therefore the Executive Board members which were due to end in October 2020 have now been extended.
- The Executive Board (EB) of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) has also decided to postpone the 47th FIH Congress, initially planned on 28 October-1 November 2020 in New Delhi, to May 2021.

74. Biography of Britain's Prince Harry and his wife Meghan Markle "Finding Freedom: Harry and Meghan and the Making of A Modern Royal Family" has been authored by?

- A. Omid Scobie
- B. Carolyn Durand
- C. Marina Hyde
- D. Both A and B

Ans. D

Sol.

- Biography of Britain's Prince Harry and his wife Meghan Markle "Finding

Freedom: Harry and Meghan and the Making of A Modern Royal Family" by royal reporters Omid Scobie and Carolyn Durand scheduled to release on 11th August tops the pre order charts as it went online in Amazon.

- The Book reveals details of the royal couple Harry and Meghan The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, quit as senior members of the royal family earlier this year stepped back as frontline royals to settle in Los Angeles, United States with their one-year son Archie.
- The authors Omid Scobie and Carolyn Durand have witnessed the lives of this royal couple as the members of the selected reporters who covered the British Royal Family and their engagements.

75. Which organization has extended the term of Bollywood actress Dia Mirza as the Goodwill Ambassador of India till 2022?

- A. UNDP
- B. UNEP
- C. UNICEF
- D. UNESCO

Ans. B

Sol.

- The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) extended the term of Bollywood actress and environmentalist Dia Mirza as the Goodwill Ambassador of India till 2022.
- The actress is also the United Nations Sustainability Development Goal Advocate.
- As a Goodwill Ambassador, Mirza will continue work with the UN to further spread the message on key areas including clean air, clean seas, wildlife protection and climate change.

76. Which country has successfully launched a new rocket named "Long March 5B" into space which will pave the way of its Moon landing plans?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

- China has successfully launched a new rocket named "Long March 5B" into space as it steps up Moon landing plans.
- This rocket is launched in Wenchang launch site that is located on the island of Hainan, china.
- The rocket is a massive vehicle and is being compared with deep space Orion capsule of NASA.
- The rocket in the future will help China transport astronauts to space station by 2022.
- The rocket launch will also aid China in its plans of building a huge space station called "Tiangong". Tiangong is the space station programme of China.

77. Which state government has passed an ordinance to suspend labour laws to boost industrial investment and employ the large number of migrant workers that have come back to their native villages in the state?

- A. Bihar
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Rajasthan

Ans. B

Sol.

- Uttar Pradesh State government passed an ordinance 'Uttar Pradesh Temporary Exemption from Certain Labour Laws Ordinance, 2020' to suspend labour laws for the next three years.
- The move is aimed to boost industrial investment and employ the large number of migrant workers that have come back to their native villages in the state.
- The Ordinance has been sent to Governor Anandiben Patel for assent.

78. Which State government has launched 'Mukhyamantri Yuba Yogayog Yojana'?

- A. West Bengal
- B. Tripura
- C. Odisha
- D. Assam

Ans. B

Sol.

- Tripura government has launched a National Scholarship online portal website

(<https://scholarships.gov.in/>) under 'Mukhyamantri Yuba Yogayog Yojana'.

- It is an incentive scheme in which students can apply for this scheme for the Academic Year 2019-20.
- The scheme was announced by the Education Minister of Tirupura Ratan Lal Nath on 4th March 2020 during a meeting of the council of ministers.
- The Scheme aims to provide grants for the purchase of smartphones to the students of final year to empower them digitally & help them leverage the advantages of an interconnected world.
- Through the implementation of the scheme, the student will be able to get employment through internet platforms.

79. Special ASEAN Summit and special ASEAN plus 3 summit held via video conferencing was chaired by which country?

- A. Vietnam
- B. Malaysia
- C. Indonesia
- D. Thailand

Ans. A

Sol.

- Special ASEAN Summit and special ASEAN plus 3 summits held via video conferencing was chaired by guyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of Vietnam.
- The summit was attended by heads of state or government of the 10 ASEAN members– Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
- The objective behind this summit was to discuss measures relating to containing and preventing the spread of COVID-19 and to support people in the countries hit by the disease.

80. Which of the following entity has launched virtual 'Surakshit Dada-Dadi & Nana-Nani Abhiyan' to ensure well being of senior citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic in association with Piramal Foundation?

- A. National Institute of Social Defence (NISD)
- B. Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)

C. National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
D. Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Ans. C

Sol.

* The National Institution for Transforming India(NITI) Aayog in association with Piramal Foundation(the philanthropic arm of the Piramal Group) launched virtually the 'Surakshit Dada-Dadi & Nana-Nani Abhiyan' campaign to ensure well being of senior citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic.

* The aim of the campaign is to create awareness about various aspects of senior citizens' health and lifestyle including preventive measures and requisite behavioural changes in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

* It focus on behaviour change, access to services, early detection & tracking of COVID-19 symptoms

81. Who among the following has been appointed as the Chairman of the Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla?

- A. Mallikarjun Kharge
- B. Rahul Gandhi
- C. Shashi Tharoor
- D. Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

Ans. D

Sol.

* Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Congress Leader of Lok Sabha was reappointed as Chairperson of the Parliament's Public Accounts Committee(PAC) by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

* The PAC is the oldest Parliamentary Committee in which 15 members from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha are elected every year for the 22 member panel of PAC.

* The PAC examines the annual finance accounts of the government and others and accounts the sums granted by the parliament for the expenditure of the Government.

82. Who has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour?

- A. B N Nanda
- B. D P S Negi
- C. Akhilesh Das
- D. Deepankar Roy

Ans. B

Sol.

* D P S Negi has assumed charge as Director General (DG) of Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

* He is a 1985 batch Indian Economic Services (IES) officer

* He replaced B N Nanda

* Prior to this appointment, Negi worked as Advisor of Finance, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) ministry.

83. Which Arabian country decided to change its currency from Rial to Toman by slashing four zeros from the rial?

- A. Iraq
- B. Saudi Arabia
- C. Iran
- D. UAE

Ans. C

Sol.

* Iran's parliament has passed a bill allowing the government to slash four zeros from the rial and authorizing its replacement with another basic unit of currency called the toman (redenomination).

* Under the bill, Iran's national currency will be changed from the rial to the Toman, which is equal to 10,000 rials.

* It is the process whereby a country's currency is revalued due to significant inflation and currency devaluation, or when a country adopts a new currency and needs to exchange the old currency for a new one at a fixed rate.

* In simpler words, it is exchanging old currency for new currency, or changing the face value of existing notes in circulation.

* After its approval, the Central Bank of Iran will have two years to implement the change for removing rial from circulation and issuing toman instead.

84. Which state government announced to launch the "Nigah" Scheme to properly sensitize and educate family members of

people coming from other states so that social distancing is effectively maintained?

- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. West Bengal
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Ans. A

Sol.

* Himachal Pradesh State Government is to launch the "Nigah" Scheme to properly sensitize and educate family members of people coming from other states so that social distancing is effectively maintained.

* Under the scheme, a team of ASHA workers, health workers, and Anganwadi workers would visit the family members of persons arriving from other states.

* They will educate them about the importance of social distancing so that they could be saved from any possible infection.

* The state government also ordered to mark the people who have come from other states.

85. Who has been conferred with the Young Career Award 2020 in Nano Science and Technology?

- A. Vivek Agarwal
- B. Sandeep Anand
- C. Himanshu J Bahirat
- D. Saurabh Lodha

Ans. D

Sol.

• Professor Saurabh Lodha from Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay, received the Young Career Award in Nano Science & Technology for the year 2020.

• The award is instituted by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

• The award recognized his contributions in the development of logic transistor technologies beyond silicon and nanoelectronic devices based on two-dimensional Van der Waals materials.

86. Which operation has been launched by the Indian Navy as a part of a national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas?

- A. Operation Cactus
- B. Operation Samudra Setu
- C. Operation Vanilla
- D. Operation Stranded

Ans. B

Sol.

• Indian Navy launched Operation Samudra Setu, meaning Sea Bridge, as a part of a national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas. Indian Naval Ships (INS) Jalashwa and Magar are presently en route to the port of Malé, the Republic of Maldives to commence evacuation operations from 8 May 2020 as part of Phase-1.

• The operation aims to evacuate personnel who repatriate Indian citizens from overseas.

• Under the operation, a total of 1000 persons are planned to be evacuated during the first trip, catering for COVID-related social distancing norms vis-a-vis the carrying capacity and medical facilities available onboard.

• This operation is done by the Ministries of Defence, External Affairs, Home Affairs, Health, and various other agencies of Central/State governments.

87. Which state government has launched the Ayush Kavach app that will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines amid the COVID-19 pandemic?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttar Pradesh

Ans. D

Sol.

• Uttar Pradesh state government unveiled the Ayush Kavach app that will provide health-related tips and information about ayurvedic medicines amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Ayush Kavach mobile app will help people access prescriptions to strengthen their resistance through the ancient mode of Yoga and Ayurveda of India.

• The mobile app Ayush Kavach was developed by the Ayush Department of Uttar Pradesh in view of the COVID-19 health crisis.

88. Which state government has launched "Exit App" for stranded people of other states?

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. West Bengal
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Ans. C

Sol.

- An "Exit App" has been launched by the West Bengal government. This app has been launched for people from other states who are stucked in West Bengal amid the nationwide lockdown and desires to return to their native place.

- "Exit App" will enable these people who are willing to go back to their native states, by applying online on this app. The permission for the exit of these people would be granted in an automatic and extremely easy manner.

- The "Exit App" can be accessed by the stranded people from the West Bengal government's 'Egiye Bangla' website.

- Hence, this initiative of the West Bengal government will help large number of people who are stuck, in their return to their native state.

89. Who has been honoured with a commemorative World War II medal to mark the 75th anniversary of victory over Nazi Germany by Russian President Vladimir Putin?

- A. Kim Jong Un
- B. Moon Jae-in
- C. Nguyen Phu Trọng
- D. Tsai Ing-wen

Ans. A

Sol.

- Russian President Vladimir Putin has honoured North Korean leader Kim Jong Un with a commemorative World War II medal to mark the 75th anniversary of victory over Nazi Germany.

- The medal was awarded to Kim for the role he played in safeguarding the memories of Soviet soldiers who died in the territory of North Korea.

- Russian ambassador in North Korea, Alexander Matsegora presented the award to North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Son-gwon.

90. To prevent coronavirus infection which organization has launched 'e-karyalay' an electronic office application to enable the movement of files and documents without physical touch?

- A. Union Home Ministry
- B. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- C. Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO)
- D. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)

Ans. B

Sol.

- Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) launched 'e-karyalay' an electronic office application to enable the movement of files and documents without physical touch so as to prevent coronavirus infection.

- Designed by its in-house technical team for the usage of the 1.62 lakhs personnel & it resembles each and every function of traditional file movement.

- Has digital signature features to handle various securities related concerns and keep pace with existing standards.

- Hosted on the CISF Cloud with all security arrangements to safeguard the data & a data recovery site is established to maintain around-the-clock services.

- Gives the same visual appearance as the file with the notes on the left and all the correspondence and attachments on the right & Files can be opened, worked, parked and closed.

- App's 'Dak' or letters management section handles all sorts of communication between various levels of functional hierarchy & it enables to transfer the dak (snail mail) directly to the file noting.

91. Which Merchant payment has launched 'Paisa Bolega' voice-based applications that will enable account holders to hear aloud instant confirmation of all payments received through their BharatPe QR, without touching the phone?

- A. Razorpay
- B. BharatPe
- C. PhonePe

D. GooglePay

Ans. B

Sol. • Merchant payment and lending network provider BharatPe on Monday launched two voice-based applications that will help accountholders access transactions and balance without having to touch their phones amid COVID-19 outbreak.

- With Paisa Bolega - voice alerts of transactions - shopkeepers will be able to hear aloud instant confirmation of all payments received through their BharatPe QR, without touching the phone.

- BharatPe Balance will give information about the total money available to the shopkeeper across deposits, loans and daily collections through quick response (QR).

92. Sandeep Kumari has been given a 4 year ban by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) after failing a drug test, she is associated with which sports?

- A. Archery
- B. Badminton
- C. Gymnastic
- D. Discus throw

Ans. D

Sol. • World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has banned Indian discus thrower Sandeep Kumari for 4 years after failing a drug test. National Dope Test Laboratory (NDTL) had failed to detect the banned substance "steroid" which was present in her blood sample.

- This blood sample is collected by NDTL officials during the Inter-State Championships in June 2018, in Guwahati, Assam where Kumari had won the gold with a throw of 58.41 meters in the competition.

- WADA referred Kumari's results management to the AIU (Athletics Integrity Unit) which notified her of the charges & provisionally suspended her in November 2018.

93. Which state government has decided to start the "Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna"?

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

Ans. D

Sol. • The cabinet of Himachal Pradesh decided to start the "Mukhya Mantri Shahari Rojgar Guarantee Yojna".

- In this Yojna, 120 days" assured employment will be provided to people living in urban areas. It is being launched to revive the coronavirus-hit economy of the state.

- Adequate training will be given to the people for their skill upgrade if required.

- The cabinet also decided to provide an assistance of Rs 2,000 to each of the 1 lakh workers registered under the Building and Other Construction Workers Board.

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