

75+ December Month Current Affairs Questions PDF

1.The International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated every year on which date?

- A. 4th December
- B. 5th December
- C. 7th December
- D. 8th December

Ans. C

Sol.

- The International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated every year on December 7 to recognize the importance of aviation to the social and economic development of the world.
- The purpose of International Civil Aviation Day is to help generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of States, and of the unique role of ICAO in helping States to cooperate and realize a truly global rapid transit network at the service of all mankind.
- The Council has decided that from now until 2023, the theme will be: "Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development".

2. Who has been appointed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Fit India' Ambassador?

- A. Kuldeep Handoo
- B. Hardik Pandya
- C. Sunil Kshetri
- D. Rohit Sharma

Ans. A

Sol.

- Kuldeep Handoo (2020 Dronacharya Awardee) has been appointed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Fit India' Ambassador.
- Mr Handoo, who is Wushu Coach of Team India is serving as Inspector in Jammu and Kashmir Police Department.
- Fit India Movement is a nation-wide movement in India to encourage people to remain healthy and fit by including physical activities and sports in their daily lives.

3. Bangladesh has signed its first Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with which country?

- A. India
- B. Myanmar
- C. Bhutan
- D. Nepal

Ans. C

Sol.

- Bangladesh has signed its first Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) with Bhutan, which will allow duty-free access to a range of goods between the two countries and hence boost bilateral trade between them.
- Under the PTA, 100 Bangladeshi products will get duty free access to Bhutan, while 34 items from Bhutan will get duty free access into Bangladesh.
- Further items can be added in the list later on the basis of discussion between the two countries.
- This is the first PTA signed by Bangladesh with any country in the world since its independence in 1971.
- The PTA was signed on 6th December 2020, to mark 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and Bhutan. In 1971, Bhutan was the first country in the world to recognise Bangladesh as an independent country.

4. Which bank has launched 'Rupifi Business Credit Card' for MSMEs in partnership with Rupifi and Visa?

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. Axis Bank
- C. HDFC Bank
- D. Yes Bank

Ans. B

Sol.

- Axis Bank Ltd in partnership with Rupifi and Visa launched 'Axis Bank Rupifi Business Credit Card' for MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises).
- This Contactless Co-Branded credit card, powered by Visa is applicable only to the MSMEs businesses that transact on the aggregator platforms partnered with Rupifi PAN (Permanent Account Number) India for their business purchases.
- The card offers credit solutions to such MSMEs. It is only for domestic transactions.

5. Who has authored the book titled "40 Years with Abdul Kalam- Untold Stories", a book on the life of the former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam?

- A. Rachna Bisht Rawat
- B. A Sivathanu Pillai
- C. Kirpal Singh
- D. Amrit Raj

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book titled "40 Years with Abdul Kalam- Untold Stories", a book on the life of the former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- The book was authored by Dr A.Sivathanu Pillai. The book is published by Pentagon Press LLP and the foreword was written by Pranab Mukherjee, former president of India.

6. Which state is planning its first ever migratory bird festival this year?

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- Bihar is planning its first ever migratory bird festival this year. This is a three-day festival to be organised in Bhagalpur District.
- It is to be jointly organised by Bhagalpur forest division, Bombay Natural History Society and the local Mandar Nature Club.
- The region houses a large number of migratory birds between November and March every year. The festival is intended to check cases of poaching in the region.

7. Who won the formula One Sakhir Grand Prix in Bahrain?

- A. Sergio Perez
- B. Esteban
- C. Lance Stroll
- D. Lewis Hamilton

Ans. A

Sol.

• Sergio Perez of Mexico won the formula One Sakhir Grand Prix in Bahrain. Esteban of France finished second and Lance Stroll of Canada finished third.

- Sergio Perez became the first Mexican victor in F1 since Pedro Rodriguez in 1970, ending a series of races dominated by Mercedes for whom Valtteri Bottas finished eighth and George Russell ninth.
- The 30-year-old Mexican recovered from a first-lap crash that dropped him to the back of the field in his 190th race.

8. 7th edition of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Conclave 2020 was held in which city of India?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- 7th edition of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Conclave 2020 kicked off in Hyderabad from December 2-4, 2020.
- It was organized by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR) in collaboration with 3 state governments – Telangana, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka.
- Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Biswabhusan Harichandan participated as the Chief Guest of the Conclave.
- The Year 2024 is set as target for providing access, and use of safe and adequate drinking water to all households.

9. Which two cities in Madhya Pradesh have been included in the list of UNESCO's world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme?

- A. Jabalpur and Indore
- B. Mandav and Bhojpur
- C. Shivpuri and Chanderi
- D. Gwalior and Orchha

Ans. D

Sol.

- The historical fort cities of Gwalior and Orchha in Madhya Pradesh have been included in the list of UNESCO's world heritage cities under its urban landscape city programme.

- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), an agency of the United Nations, aims at promoting world peace and security through international cooperation in education, the sciences, and culture.

- After getting included in the heritage city list, the face of Gwalior and Orchha will totally change and UNESCO along with the state tourism department will make a master plan for the beautification of the two places.

10. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated metro rail project in which city of India recently through video conferencing?

- A. Bareilly
- B. Agra
- C. Jhansi
- D. Prayagraj

Ans. B
Sol.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Agra metro project through video conference.

- The project consists of two corridors connecting the major tourist attractions with railway stations and bus stand.

- This metro project, worth over Rs 8,000 crore, will strengthen the mission related to the establishment of smart facilities in Agra.

- The project is spread across two corridors and will boost 'Ease of Living' for the people of Agra as well as benefit tourists who visit this vibrant city.

11. The Reserve Bank of India has proposed to increase the limit for contactless card transactions to what amount from Rs 2,000 per transaction from January 1, 2021?

- A. Rs. 3000
- B. Rs. 4000
- C. Rs 5000

D. Rs. 6000

Ans. C
Sol.

- To ensure the adoption of digital payments in a safe and secure manner, the RBI governor today announced that the central bank has proposed to increase the limit for contactless card transactions to Rs 5,000 from Rs 2,000 per transaction from January 1, 2021.

- This announcement was part of the RBI's bi-monetary policy announcement held on December 4, 2020.

12. Paytm has partnered with which Small Finance Bank to empower MSMEs with instant digital loans?

- A. Capital Small Finance Bank
- B. ESAF Small Finance Bank
- C. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank
- D. Suryoday Small Finance Bank

Ans. D
Sol.

- Paytm has announced its partnership with Suryoday Small Finance Bank to empower MSMEs with instant digital loans
- The company is offering instant microloans to businesses that are unable to access financial services from traditional banking players.

- The company through this partnership is aiming at disbursing loans to over 1 lakh small businesses in the next 12 to 18 months.

13. Financial solutions provider Razorpay partnered with which global digital payments platform to facilitate international payments for small businesses and freelancers?

- A. PayPal
- B. Google Pay
- C. Amazon Pay
- D. Freecharge

Ans. A
Sol.

- Financial solutions provider Razorpay on Wednesday has partnered with global digital payments platform PayPal to

facilitate international payments for small businesses and freelancers.

- The company's partner businesses can now integrate with PayPal and accept payments from international customers from across 200 markets in a convenient, fast and secure manner.

14. Fintech company Finin has launched itself as a 'neobank', in partnership with which bank?

- A. DCB Bank
- B. SBM Bank
- C. IDFC Bank
- D. Axis Bank

Ans. B

Sol.

- Finin, a fintech company, has launched itself as a 'neobank', in partnership with SBM Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of State Bank of Mauritius in India, focussing on saving rather than lending
- It will provide features such as detailed break-up of user spending and send prompts if they exceed pre-set limits and automatic sweeps of money into liquid funds.
- The bank will target white-collar workers and freelancers and has waiting list of 15,000 people before launch. It aims to open 50,000 accounts in six months.

15. Which life insurance company in association with Ketto India has initiated #PromisewalaDabba, a nationwide crowdfunding campaign?

- A. HDFC Life Insurance
- B. Max Life Insurance
- C. ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- D. SBI Life Insurance

Ans. A

Sol.

- HDFC Life has launched a nationwide crowdfunding campaign, #PromisewalaDabba, to help Dabbawalas restore their spirit by helping them with a month's supply of ration delivered to their doorstep.
- #PromiseWalaDabba has been initiated by the insurance company for supporting

the community, with an aim to help the Dabbawalas of Mumbai stand on their feet once again with a month's supply of ration, delivered to their homes.

- Ketto, India's foremost crowdfunding platform has also partnered with HDFC Life as part of the campaign in order to serve as a platform to raise money for this cause.

16. Which Regional Rural Bank has launched 'Kirishi OD' scheme designed for farmers?

- A. Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank
- B. Assam Gramin Vikash Bank
- C. Baroda UP Gramin Bank
- D. Gramin Bank of Aryavart

Ans. A

Sol.

- The Dharwad-headquartered regional rural bank, Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB), has launched 'Kirishi OD', an overdraft (OD) facility for farmers.
- The farmers are provided with an OD facility based on the value of the land. The limit is capped to a maximum of ₹1.5 lakh per acre to irrigated lands and ₹1 lakh per acre to dry land.
- The facility can be used for working capital requirements such as maintenance of machinery and equipment, repair and replacement of machinery, agricultural allied activities and even for the repayment of private loans availed for personal use.

17. What is India's rank in the 'Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021'?

- A. 6th
- B. 7th
- C. 8th
- D. 10th

Ans. D

Sol.

- India is ranked at 10th place in the 'Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021', released on 7th December 2020.
- The overall score of India is 63.98. It is for the second time in a row that India emerged among the top 10 countries with

higher climate performance from among 58 economies.

- India was at 9th spot last year in the index.
- Like CCPI 2020, the first three places in 2021 ranking also remains unoccupied, since none of the countries is on the path compatible with the Paris climate targets, to implement strategies to limit global warming below 2 or even 1.5°C.
- Sweden (4th) United Kingdom (5th), Denmark (6th), Morocco (7th), Norway (8th), Chile (9th) were among the top 10 rankers in the index.

18. The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime is observed annually on which date?

- A. 7th December
- B. 8th December
- C. 5th December
- D. 9th December

Ans. D

Sol.

- The International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime is observed annually on December 9.
- The 9th of December is the anniversary of the adoption of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the "Genocide Convention").
- This year marks the 71st anniversary of the Convention.
- The purpose of the day is to raise awareness of the Genocide Convention and its role in combating and preventing the crime of genocide, as defined in the Convention, and to commemorate and honour its victims.

19. What is the theme of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2020 being observed every year 9th December?

- A. United Against Corruption
- B. Prohibit Corruption
- C. 'RECOVER with INTEGRITY.'
- D. Fight against Corruption

Ans. C

Sol.

- International Anti-Corruption Day is observed annually on 9 December to raise public awareness for anti-corruption.
- The day is observed since the passage of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption on 31 October 2003.
- The theme of International Anti-Corruption Day 2020: 'RECOVER with INTEGRITY.'
- The theme focuses on recovery through corruption mitigation and emphasizes that inclusive COVID-19 recovery can only be achieved with integrity.

20. Who has won the 3rd Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2020 for his novel, "The City and The Sea"?

- A. Amitav Ghosh
- B. Raj Kamal Jha
- C. Nirmala Govindarajan
- D. Rana Dasgupta

Ans. B

Sol.

- Journalist-author, Raj Kamal Jha has won the 3rd Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize for his novel, "The City and The Sea".
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the winner of the \$5,000 prize was announced online in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Jha's book, which is based on the December 2012 Nirbhaya rape and murder case, was chosen from ten shortlisted books including Amitav Ghosh's Gun Island, Nirmala Govindarajan's Taboo and Ranjit Hoskote's Jonahwhale.
- The Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize was founded in 2018 by US-based publisher Bundalo as a platform for world peace, literature, art, education and human rights.

21. Which country will host the Asia Cup in June 2021?

- A. Pakistan
- B. Afghanistan

- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bangladesh

Ans. C
Sol.

- Sri Lanka will host the Asia Cup in June 2021 while Pakistan has earned the rights to host the tournament in 2022.
- As per the original schedule, the tournament was supposed to be hosted by Pakistan in 2020, however, it got postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Now the event has been moved forward to June 2021, with Sri Lanka Cricket taking the hosting rights from PCB.
- As compensation, PCB has got the hosting rights for the 2022 edition.

22. Which date has been approved by the United Nations General Assembly to be observed as the International Day of epidemic preparedness?

- A. 10th December
- B. 17th December
- C. 20th December
- D. 27th December

Ans. D
Sol.

- The United Nations General Assembly recently approved the resolution that proclaimed to mark December 27 as the International Day of epidemic preparedness.
- The day is to be marked to facilitate exchange of information, transmission of scientific knowledge and best practices locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- This will help to prevent and respond to the epidemics. The resolution adopted expressed grave concern stating impacts created by epidemics and infectious diseases. The COVID-19 was exemplified during the consensus.
- The day mainly aims to prevent COVID-19 like situations and to equip the world to fight such scenarios.

23. Which state topped in the Urban Governance Index released by the Praja Foundation recently?

- A. Odisha
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Kerala
- D. Chhattisgarh

Ans. A
Sol.

- The Praja Foundation recently released the Urban Governance Index. Odisha topped the list of states and Manipur and Nagaland were at the bottom.
- According to the Urban Governance Index Odisha was followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. Delhi rank 13th in the list. The states were marked between 0 and 100 based on the themes empowered City administration, elected representatives and legislative structure and empowered citizens and physical empowerment.
- Maharashtra scored 55%, Odisha scored 56%. The other top performers were Chhattisgarh with a score of 49.68%, Kerala with a score of 48.77% and Madhya Pradesh with the score of 45.94%.
- Inadequate infrastructure and Service Delivery are the major issues that continue to impede cities to achieve their true economic potential.

24. Kanhalgaon will be the 50th wildlife sanctuary of which state?

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

Ans. C
Sol.

- Kanhalgaon, spread over 270 sq km in Chandrapur district, is the latest to be declared a wildlife sanctuary. It will be the 50th wildlife sanctuary of Maharashtra.
- With the addition of the state's 50th wildlife sanctuary and 10 new conservation reserves (CR), Maharashtra has expanded its protected area network from 62 to 73 zones with over 10,000 sq km of the state now secured.

25. Which Small Finance Bank has introduced 'Money Mitra', a new channel,

to make banking services accessible to its customers in their neighbourhood?

- A. Capital Small Finance Bank
- B. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- C. Janalakshmi Small Finance Bank
- D. Equitas Small Finance Bank

Ans. B

Sol.

- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank(SFB) Ltd introduced 'Money Mitra', a new channel, to make banking services accessible to its customers in their neighbourhood.
- Money Mitra facilitates entrepreneurs of local businesses like kirana / medical stores or Insurance agencies to offer retail banking solutions to Ujjivan SFB customers exclusively.
- Currently, Ujjivan SFB has established over 100 Money Mitra outlets across the country.
- It also intends to scale up further this concept and penetrate markets that currently have no experienced retail banking.

26. Which public sector bank has launched 'Atmanirbhar Women Scheme' to help women to be self-reliant?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

- Sanjiv Chadha, Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Bank of Baroda (BoB) launched 'Atmanirbhar Women Scheme' virtually at BOB's Ramamurthy Nagar branch, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- This launch is part of the bank's Baroda Gold Loan.
- The launch was also made simultaneously in 18 branches coming under 18 zones in India.
- Under this scheme Women can get loans at 0.50% concession, under this scheme.
- In addition to this, the bank also offers agri-gold loan at 0.25% concession and

retail loan at 0.50% concession, under this scheme.

27. What is the theme of the International Human Rights Day?

- A. Youth Standing Up for Human Rights
- B. Everyone Standing Up for Human Rights
- C. Recover Better-Stand Up for Human Rights
- D. Stand up for human rights

Ans. C

Sol.

- Every year Human Rights Day is celebrated on December 10. It is also called the International Human Rights Day.
- The day was chosen to honour the United Nations General Assembly adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- The United Nations Prize in the field of Human Rights is awarded on the Human Rights Day.
- This year, the Human Rights Day was celebrated under the theme "Recover Better-Stand Up for Human Rights".

28. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the licence of Karad Janata Sahakari Bank of which state?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the licence of Karad Janata Sahakari Bank to conduct banking business citing that the bank does not have adequate finance.
- This means that the bank is prohibited from taking any deposit or making any repayment.
- However, the process of paying the depositors of the bank will be set in motion.
- This means, on liquidation, every depositor will receive up to ₹5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit

Guarantee Corporation as per usual terms and conditions.

29. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah has been re-appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah has reappointed Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah as prime minister following parliamentary polls in the Gulf Arab state, which faces its worst economic crisis in decades.
- Sheikh Sabah, who had been foreign minister since 2011 before being elevated to the post of premier in late 2019, faces the urgent task of overcoming legislative gridlock on a debt law that would allow Kuwait to tap international debt markets in order to plug a growing budget deficit.

30. Who grabbed the No. 1 slot in the Forbes' ranking of 100 most powerful women in the world?

- A. Angela Merkel
- B. Christine Lagarde
- C. Kamala Harris
- D. Ursula von der Leyen

Ans. A

Sol.

- German Chancellor Angela Merkel tops the Forbes 2020 list, followed by European Central Bank president Christine Lagarde and US Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris, who has made her debut on the list at No.3.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, US Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, Biocon Founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and HCL Enterprise CEO Roshni Nadar Malhotra have been named among the world's 100 most powerful women by Forbes.
- Sitharaman is ranked 41st on the list, Nadar Malhotra comes in at the 55th spot, Mazumdar-Shaw — described as "India's

richest self-made woman" — is ranked 68th and chairwoman of Landmark Group Renuka Jagtiani is ranked 98th.

31. Who has authored the book titled "Pioneer of Humanity: Maharishi Arvind"?

- A. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank
- B. Ram Nath Kovind
- C. Venkaiah Naidu
- D. Ravishankar Prasad

Ans. A

Sol.

- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank presented the first copy of his inspirational book "Pioneer of Humanity: Maharishi Arvind" to President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The book is in Hindi with the title 'Manavta ke Praneta Maharishi Arvind'.
- Shri Arvind was a person fully devoted to Indian culture, Indian values, Indian nationalism and Indian philosophy.
- Through this book, I have wanted to convey his philosophy and thinking in very simple language to the younger generation of the country and the world.

32. Who has authored the book titled 'Romancing Targets'?

- A. Amrit Raj
- B. Nidhi Vadhera
- C. Sudha Murthy
- D. Anuja Singhal

Ans. B

Sol.

- The book titled 'Romancing Targets' by author Nidhi Vadhera has been released recently.
- In this book, Author Nidhi Vadhera shares with you a systematic approach to understand the sales process which will empower you to embrace sales targets and achieve results without getting burnt in the process.

33. The book titled "Dharma: Decoding the Epics for a Meaningful Life" has been authored by who among the following?

- A. Amrit Raj
- B. Nidhi Vadhera

C. Sudha Murthy
D. Amish Tripathi

Ans. D

Sol.

- Amish Tripathi authored his 2nd nonfiction book titled "Dharma: Decoding the Epics for a Meaningful Life", co-authored by his sister Bhavna Roy.
- The book provides philosophical lessons extracted from the ancient Hindu Epics. The book is published by Westland Publications Pvt Ltd and set to release in December 2020.
- The book is presented in a form of conversation between the characters in modern day India, which offers various practical philosophical lessons from epics like "Maharabarat" and Amis's books "the Shiva Trilogy" and "Ram Chandra Series".
- The book is targeted to reach the intelligent minds who are looking for in-depth philosophies in a reader friendly manner.

34. Which state has launched "Livelihood Generation for Returned Migrant Workers project" to assist migrant workers who lost their job in the pandemic?

- A. Meghalaya
- B. Tripura
- C. Mizoram
- D. Assam

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Chief Minister Mizoram Zoramathnga launched an employment generation project, "Livelihood Generation for Returned Migrant Workers project", in the state to assist migrant workers who lost their job in the pandemic.
- The project will be funded by North East Council.
- Provide skill based training and entrepreneurship to over 2,600 workers through 7 components.
- Implemented in all the 11 districts of Mizoram targeting 550 candidates under this component.

35. The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Koliwar Bridge built over which river in Bihar?

- A. Sone
- B. Ganga
- C. Koshi
- D. Gandak

Ans. A

Sol.

- * Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the three-lane 1.5 km long Koilwar bridge over Sone river in Bihar through Video Conferencing
- * The existing two-lane bridge for both rail and road traffic is 138 years old. A six-lane bridge is being made in its place, of which, a three-lane carriageway has been opened for public.
- * After completion of the other carriageway, the traffic on NH-922 and NH-30 will ease substantially. The bridge is a major road for transport between Bihar and UP.

36. Every year, UNICEF Day is observed on which date by the United Nations?

- A. 9th December
- B. 10th December
- C. 11th December
- D. 12th December

Ans. C

Sol.

- The United Nations celebrates UNICEF Day every year on 11th December, the date on which UNICEF was created in 1946.
- The full form of UNICEF is the *United Nations International Children Emergency Fund*.
- It was started in order to provide assistance, supplies and improve health, education, nutrition of children after World War II.
- The organisation was originally named UNICEF, that is, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

37. What is the theme of the International Mountain Day 2020 celebrating every year on December 11 by United Nations?

- A. Mountain Biodiversity
- B. Mountains Matter
- C. Mountain minorities and indigenous peoples
- D. Managing mountain biodiversity for better lives

Ans. A

Sol.

- International Mountain Day is celebrated every year on 11th December by the United Nations.
- This year the day is being celebrated under the theme "Mountain Biodiversity".
- The UN declared the International Year of Mountains in 2002.
- The first international day was celebrated for the first time the following year, 2003.
- The mountains are of utmost importance and these are home to 15% of the world's population and host about half of the world's biodiversity hotspots.

38. Which telecom company has launched world's first satellite based Narrow Band Internet of Things network in India in partnership with the Skylo?

- A. MTNL
- B. BSNL
- C. JIO
- D. Vodafone Idea

Ans. B

Sol.

- BSNL, in partnership with Skylotech India, announced today a breakthrough in satellite-based NB-IoT (Narrow Band-Internet of Things).
- It has been started with fishermen, farmers, construction, mining and logistics enterprises.
- This is to bring a breakthrough in satellite-based narrowband internet of things technology.
- It will also help in achieving the targets of the Digital India mission

helping farmers, fishermen, meaning, construction and Logistic Enterprises in India.

39. The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of new Parliament building in New Delhi. The project is expected to be completed by

- A. 2022
- B. 2023
- C. 2024
- D. 2026

Ans. A

Sol.

- * Prime Minister Narendra Modi performed a ground-breaking ceremony in the heart of Delhi to mark the symbolic launch of the new parliament building as part of an ambitious Central Vista plan.
- * The construction cannot begin for now with the Supreme Court hearing petitions challenging the project on environmental grounds.
- * Last week, the Supreme Court had berated the government, accusing it of "pushing forward aggressively" with the project even before its decision on the petitions. "You can lay the foundation stone, you can carry on paperwork but no construction or demolition, no cutting down any trees,
- * The new parliament building is the centrepiece of the ₹ 20,000-crore Central Vista project to refurbish government buildings and make over a 3-km stretch between the presidential palace Rashtrapati Bhavan to the iconic war memorial India Gate.

40. Paul Sein Twa belongs to which country who has won the 'Goldman Environmental Prize 2020' for Asia?

- A. Thailand
- B. Laos
- C. Vietnam
- D. Myanmar

Ans. D

Sol.

- * The co-founder of KESAN and Salween Peace Park in Myanmar, Paul Sein Twa

has won the Goldman Environmental Prize 2020 for Asia, in recognition of his efforts in promoting the self-determination of the Karen people in managing their natural resources.

* Sein Twa received the prestigious prize along with five other grassroots environmental activists from the Bahamas, Ghana, Ecuador, Mexico and France.

* Dubbed the "Green Nobel Prize," this award is given annually to environmental heroes from each of the world's six inhabited continents.

41. Which general insurer has entered into a strategic partnership with Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd. (MIBL) to increase the insurance penetration in tier 2 & 3 cities of India.

- A. SBI General Insurance Company Limited
- B. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited
- C. Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Limited
- D. Edelweiss General Insurance Company Limited

Ans. A

Sol.

* SBI General Insurance Company Limited entered into a strategic partnership with Mahindra Insurance Brokers Ltd. (MIBL) to increase the insurance penetration in tier 2 & 3 cities (Rural Indian Cities).

* MIBL has collaborated with SBI General Insurance under its 'Sajhedaari program'.

* This association enables the company to offer health insurance cover to people in tier-II and III cities and also generate employment.

* Through this association SBI General Insurance and MIBL will empower people with knowledge about health insurance policies and its access.

* This association marks a notable milestone for SBI General in realizing its vision to become the most trusted general insurer for a transforming India.

42. What is the theme of the Indian Navy Day 2020, celebrated every year on December 4?

- A. Reaching Out to Maritime Neighbours
- B. Indian Navy-Silent, Strong and Swift
- C. Indian Navy Combat Ready, Credible and Cohesive
- D. Indian Navy, Mission-deployed and Combat-ready

Ans. C

Sol.

• Every year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated on December 4. The theme of the this year (2020) is "Indian Navy Combat Ready, Credible and Cohesive".

• The theme sends message that India is keenly watching the moves of the Chinese in the Indian Ocean Region and the Indian Navy is combat ready to encounter the Chinese forces anytime. The message includes Pakistani forces as well.

• Every year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated to commemorate Operation Trident. The operation was launched by the Indian Navy during the India-Pakistan war of 1971 to attack Karachi Harbour.

43. Swasthya Sathi scheme is a health insurance scheme of which state that has now been expanded to cover the state's entire population?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

• Swasthya Sathi scheme is a health insurance scheme of the West Bengal government. It was launched in 2016 and it has now been expanded to cover the state's entire population.

• It provides basic health cover for secondary and tertiary care up to 5 lakh INR per annum per family.

• Both state-run and private hospitals are part of the scheme.

• The card under the scheme is issued to the female guardians of the families.

- Every citizen and every family in the state are to be included in the scheme irrespective of their age group.
- The scheme is to be completely funded by the state government of West Bengal

44. Who has been won the Global Teacher Prize 2020 in recognition of his efforts to promote girls' education?

- A. Shuvajit Payne
- B. Vineeta Garg
- C. Rajiv Mishra
- D. Ranjitsingh Disale

Ans. D

Sol.

- Ranjitsinh Disale won the Global teacher prize, 2020.
- He is a primary school teacher from Solapur of Maharashtra.
- The Global teacher prize is awarded by the Varkey Foundation.
- The 31-year-old Ranjitsingh Disale generously declared that he will split half of the prize money of USD 1 million with his top ten fellow finalists.

45. Who has been named by TIME magazine as the first-ever 'Kid of the Year' 2020 for her works using 'technology to tackle issues ranging from contaminated drinking water to opioid addiction and cyberbullying'?

- A. Gitanjali Rao
- B. Biju Parekkadan
- C. Sridevi Vedula Sarma
- D. Anika Chebrolu

Ans. A

Sol.

- Indian-American teenager Gitanjali Rao has been named as TIME magazine's first-ever Kid of the Year for her works using 'technology to tackle issues ranging from contaminated drinking water to opioid addiction and cyberbullying'.
- The 15-year-old from Colorado, US was selected from 5,000 nominees and was interviewed by Academy award-winning Hollywood actor Angelina Jolie for TIME.
- At the age of 11, Rao won the Discovery Education 3M Scientist Challenge and was

listed by Forbes in "30 Under 30" list for her innovations. Her latest discovery is an app called, Kindly, that detects cyberbullying at an early stage, based on artificial-intelligence technology.

46. To improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply in which state of India the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 430 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF)?

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 430 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) to improve the quality and reliability of electricity supply in Uttar Pradesh in India.
- The Uttar Pradesh Power Distribution Network Rehabilitation Project will improve efficiency and sustainability of power supply in the state.
- The project will finance the conversion of 65,000 km rural low-voltage distribution lines from bare conductors to aerial bundle conductors to benefit an estimated 70 million people in 46,000 rural villages.
- It will also finance construction of a parallel network of 11 kV feeders with a total length of 17,000 km to separate distribution of electricity between residential consumers and agriculture consumers.

47. Which bank has unveiled a premium banking program that offers personalized solutions focused on the particular needs of key consumer segments – from small business owners to salaried professionals and senior citizens?

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. Yes Bank
- C. Axis Bank
- D. HDFC Bank

Ans. B

Sol.

- Yes Bank has re-energised YES Premia, unveiling a premium banking program that offers personalized solutions focused on the particular needs of key consumer segments – from small business owners to salaried professionals and senior citizens.
- Yes Bank will celebrate the launch of this enhanced program during 'Truly Yours' Week, from December 1 – 7, 2020 throughout the bank's network of branches across India, with several customercentric programs and partnered activations through dealer, OEM and bancassurance partners.
- YES Premia with its advanced technology and innovation capabilities as a basis to drive a significant role in the Retail Banking business, demonstrates the bank's determination towards creating a truly differentiated bank.

48. Which bank has entered into an agreement with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to use its asset restructuring module for MSME borrowers?

- A. Union Bank of India
- B. Bank of India
- C. Indian bank
- D. Punjab National Bank

Ans. C

Sol.

- Indian Bank has entered into an agreement with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to use the latter's asset restructuring module for MSME borrowers.
- MSMEs have been finding it difficult to maintain books of accounts, preparation of financial statements and submission of financial projections for producing the same to banks / FIs for availing credit finance / restructuring their loans based on their estimates and revision in working capital cycle.
- MSMEs have to approach third parties for this purpose which involves time and cost.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has come out with Asset

Restructuring Module for MSMEs – Do it Yourself (ARM-MSME DIY) – for supporting these MSMEs.

49. Renowned personality Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali passed away recently, he was former prime minister of which country?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Pakistan
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Malaysia

Ans. B

Sol.

- Former Pakistan prime minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali passed away at a hospital in Rawalpindi at the age of 76.
- Jamali, the country's first and only elected prime minister from Balochistan, had served during the military regime of Gen Pervez Musharraf. However, Gen Musharraf sought his resignation in 2004 and he was replaced by Shaukat Aziz.
- He won the 2013 general elections as an independent, but later joined the PML-N and used to sit on the treasury benches in the previous assembly.

50. Who has authored the book titled "Indian Icon: A Cult Called Royal Enfield"?

- A. Amrit Raj
- B. Sudha Murthy
- C. Amish Tripathi
- D. Anuja Singhal

Ans. A

Sol.

- The book titled "Indian Icon: A Cult Called Royal Enfield" authored by journalist Amrit Raj has been released recently.
- This book maps the trail-blazing story of the brand, the company and most of all, the individuals who have made Royal Enfield what it is now – a premium homegrown consumer brand for the global markets.

51. Who has won the FICCI sports person of the year award 2020 in male category?

- A. Rohit Sharma
- B. Bajrang Punia

- C. Amit Panghal
D. Virat Kohli

Ans. B

Sol.

* Federation of Indian Commerce and Industry (FICCI) virtually presented India Sports Awards-2020, to sports personalities for their outstanding contributions in the field of sports.

* Wrestler Bajrang Punia and Shooter Elavenil Valarivan received the highest honour "Sportsperson of the Year of Men & Female" Award respectively.

* Bajrang Punia, represents India in Freestyle Wrestling in 65 kg category.

* He has won multiple awards representing India, with 3 medals in World Wrestling Championship (1 Silver, 2 Bronze).

52. Elavenil Valarivan associated with which sports who has won the FICCI sportsperson of the year award 2020 in female category?

- A. Badminton
B. Table Tennis
C. Cricket
D. Shooting

Ans. D

Sol.

* Federation of Indian Commerce and Industry (FICCI) virtually presented India Sports Awards-2020, to sports personalities for their outstanding contributions in the field of sports.

* Wrestler Bajrang Punia and Shooter Elavenil Valarivan received the highest honour "Sportsperson of the Year of Men & Female" Award respectively.

* Elavenil Valarivan Represents India in the sport of Shooting, She won gold medal in 2018 ISSF Junior World Cup, She won Silver medal at World University Games in 2019. She won Gold medal at World Cup Suhl in 2019 & she will represent India in Tokyo Olympics 2021.

53. Who will head the committee constituted by the central government to celebrate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary?

- A. Rajnath Singh
B. Amit Shah
C. Nitin Gadkari
D. Ravishankar Prasad

Ans. B

Sol.

• The central government has appointed a committee headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah to celebrate Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary.

The committee will include experts, historians, authors, and family members of Netaji, as well as eminent personalities associated with his Azad Hind Fauj and Indian National Army.

• The committee will lend guidance to the commemorative activities in Delhi, Kolkata and other places associated with Netaji and the Azad Hind Fauj in India as well as overseas.

54. Which institution has decided to establish the "Dr F C Kohli Centre of Excellence for Advanced Research in Mathematical and Computing Sciences?"

- A. Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
B. Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M)
C. Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI)
D. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata

Ans. C

Sol.

• The Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI) is set to establish the "Dr F C Kohli Centre of Excellence for Advanced Research in Mathematical and Computing Sciences" in honour of Faqir Chand Kohli, known popularly as the father of the Information Technology industry in India.

• With a committed donation of Rs 10 crore towards the establishment of the centre, the institute will raise funds from corporates, community groups, colleagues and wellwishers to further augment the corpus.

• FC Kohli, known as the architect of the Indian IT industry, passed away on November 26 at the age of 96.

55. Renowned personality Motilal Vora passed away recently, he was a veteran _____.

- A. Business tycoon
- B. Journalist
- C. Musician
- D. Politician

Ans. D

Sol.

- Motilal Vora was a politician and veteran leader of congress.
- He passed away recently passed away after a prolonged illness.
- A former chief minister of Madhya Pradesh, Motilal Vora was also a Rajya Sabha member from Chhattisgarh till April this year.
- He was also the AICC general secretary (administration) before the recent party reshuffle by Congress president Sonia Gandhi.

56. Which public sector bank has launched a unique variant of a contactless debit card under the name 'RuPay Select', in association with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?

- A. Punjab National Bank
- B. Bank of Baroda
- C. Central Bank of India
- D. Union Bank of India

Ans. C

Sol.

- Central Bank of India in association with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched a unique variant of contactless Debit Card – 'RuPay Select'
- This innovative offering by the bank in the form of RuPay Debit Select Card, will focus on customers' lifestyle, fitness, rejuvenation, nutrition and personal care
- Users of Central Bank RuPay Select Debit Card can avail complementary membership and concessional access to golf courses, gyms, spas and restaurants.
- -Additionally they would be entitled for discounted health check-ups with this National Common Mobility Debit Card (NPMC) which also has the unique feature of facilitating offline transactions in both transit as well as retail purchases.

57. Who has won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2020?

- A. Lewis Hamilton
- B. Harry Kane
- C. Joe Root
- D. Eoin Morgan

Ans. A

Sol.

- Seven-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton capped another successful year by claiming the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year prize.
- The 35-year-old driver, who last month equalled Michael Schumacher's record of seven F1 titles, overcame Jordan Henderson and Hollie Doyle to win the British broadcaster's prestigious prize in a public vote.
- England midfielder Henderson led Liverpool to its first Premier League title in 30 years.

58. In India the National Mathematics Day is observed every year on which date?

- A. 20th December
- B. 21st December
- C. 22nd December
- D. 23rd December

Ans. C

Sol.

- National Mathematics Day is celebrated every year on December 22, honouring the birth anniversary of mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- The main objective behind celebrating the day is to raise awareness among people about the importance of mathematics for the development of humanity.
- National Mathematics Day was first observed in 2012 when former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh declared this day as National Mathematics Day on February 26, 2012.

59. Which state government has launched a special campaign 'Varasat' (natural succession) to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas?

- A. Madhya Pradesh

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a special campaign 'Varasat' (natural succession) to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas.
- This is a first of its kind campaign in the state which aims to put an end the land-related issues in the rural areas and eradicate the exploitation of the villagers over succession rights by land mafias, who generally target disputed properties.
- The two-month-long special drive will continue till 15th February 2020.

60. Which country has been accepted as 23rd member state of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)?

- A. Belgium
- B. France
- C. Ireland
- D. Iceland

Ans. B

Sol.

- France was accepted as 23rd member state of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).
- In the 20th IORA Council of Ministers virtual meeting, held in the UAE, France's application was approved through consensus. Together with France, this inter-governmental ministerial forum, at present has 23 member states.
- It's other nine dialogue partners are: China, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Japan, Turkey, Republic of Korea, UK and the USA.

61. Which online payments solutions provider has collaborated with Google Pay to introduce tokenized payments flow for merchants in India?

- A. PayPal
- B. Razorpay
- C. PayU
- D. PayKun

Ans. C

Sol.

- Online payments solutions provider PayU has collaborated with Google Pay to introduce tokenised payments flow for merchants in India.
- Following this collaboration, Google Pay users will now get an option to pay a PayU merchant with their debit cards, credit cards, or Google Pay UPI.
- With the digital token linked to the phone and card information tokenised, Google Pay users can make repeat payments seamlessly and securely.

62. Which general insurance company has partnered with IntraCity RailYatri, a multi-modal intercity mobility platform, to offer domestic travel insurance?

- A. SBI General Insurance
- B. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- C. Bharti Axa General Insurance
- D. HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Ans. A

Sol.

- SBI General Insurance has partnered with IntraCity RailYatri, a multi-modal intercity mobility platform, to offer domestic travel insurance.
- The insurance would be offered to bus travelers opting to commute through IntraCity RailYatri, it would be a complimentary travel cover worth Rs 5 lakh which will come along with the travel ticket.
- Under the travel insurance, SBI General Insurance would provide a wide variety of coverage including accidental death, permanent total disability, and medical evacuation.

63. Who has authored the book titled 'Oh Mizoram' which was released by the vice president M Venkaiah Naidu?

- A. Prem Prakash
- B. P S Sreedharan Pillai
- C. Amrit Raj
- D. Kirpal Singh

Ans. B

Sol.

- The book has been authored by Mizoram governor P S Sreedharan Pillai

- It is his 125th book
- 'OH, Mizoram' is his first poetry collection in English.
- It was published by the Indus Scrolls Press.

64.The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) will set up its Regional Academic Center for Space (RAC-S) at which IIT?

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

Ans. D

Sol.

- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) will set up its Regional Academic Center for Space (RAC-S) at IIT-BHU.
- In this regard a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between IIT-BHU and ISRO to pave the way for advanced research in the future technology of the Indian space program.
- IIT-BHU will act as a catalyst for capacity building, awareness creation and R & D activities of ISRO. The activities of RAC-S shall be directed to maximize the utilization of research potential, infrastructure, expertise available at ISRO and IIT-BHU.

65.The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has launched a multilingual call centre for aquafarmers in which state, in a first of its kind initiative?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- In a first of its kind initiative, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), headquartered in Kochi, has launched a multilingual call centre for aquafarmers at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh, which will address their technical issues and impart knowledge

about efficient farming methods round the clock.

- The call centre primarily caters to aqua farmers of Andhra Pradesh, the state that contributes more than 60 per cent of the country's marine products export basket.
- The call centre can also handle calls in English and Hindi.

66.The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has projected what per cent of contraction in the India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth?

- A. 6.8%
- B. 7.3%
- C. 7.9%
- D. 8.2%

Ans. B

Sol.

- The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has revised upward its gross domestic product (GDP) projection for FY21 to 7.3% contraction from the 12.6% dip estimated in September with the expectation that the economy will register marginal growth in the December quarter.
- In its mid-year review of the Indian economy, the NCAER said that the long-term effects of the pandemic will last for years.

67.As per the revised guidelines of Union Cabinet for Direct to Home (DTH) broadcasting services what per cent of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) will be allowed in DTH?

- A. 49%
- B. 51%
- C. 67%
- D. 100%

Ans. D

Sol.

- The Union Cabinet has approved 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in direct-to-home (DTH) service.
- It also approved the extension of the license period from 10 years to 20 and a reduced licence fee.

- The licence fee had been reduced in keeping with the rates in the telecom sector
- Currently, India has 18 crore television sets, out of which 6 crore operate on DTH.
- The I&B Ministry claimed that the revised guidelines would help in fair degree of stability and bring in new investments. Since the DTH sector was a highly employment intensive sector, these changes would increase employment opportunities.

68. What is the theme of National Consumer Rights Day being celebrated every year on 24th December?

- A. Trusted Smart Products
- B. Our money, our rights
- C. The Sustainable Consumer
- D. Consumer Justice Now

Ans. C

Sol.

- In India, we observe National Consumer Rights Day on December 24, every year.
- This day provides an opportunity for individuals to highlight the importance of the consumer movement and the need to make every consumer more aware of their rights and responsibilities.
- On December 24, 1986, Consumer Protection Act 1986 received the approval of the President of India and hence, came into force. Consumer Protection Act 1986 aims to provide few rights to the consumers in order to save them from the damages caused to them due to different unfair trade practices.
- This year's theme is 'Sustainable Consumer,' it will focus on the global crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

69. Renowned environmental activist personality Sugathakumari passed away recently, she was also a poet of which language?

- A. Kannada
- B. Tamil
- C. Malayalam
- D. Telugu

Ans. C

Sol.

- Acclaimed Malayalam poet and environmental activist Sugathakumari passed away following Covid-19 complications at the Medical College Hospital in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Sugathakumari was an influential voice in the field of Malayalam literature with her works garnering all the major accolades on offer in the country. She was a recipient of the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award, Kendra Sahitya Akademi award, Odakkuzhal award, Ezhuthachan award among others.

70. Which defence manufacturing group has received 'green channel status' from Defence Ministry?

- A. L & T Defence
- B. Bharat Dynamics Ltd
- C. Ordnance Factory Board
- D. Tata Advanced Systems.

Ans. A

Sol.

- Defence manufacturing group of Larsen and Toubro, L&T Defence received 'green channel status' from Defence Ministry.
- It has received the status from the Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA) under the Ministry of Defence for its major naval weapon delivery systems.
- L&T became the first private sector defence company to be granted this (green channel) status for delivery of major naval systems.
- Green Channel Policy was introduced in March 2017 by the Defence Ministry, as part of the 'Make in India' initiative.

71. India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which country for cooperation in the fields of Health and Medicine, sharing expertise in building climate resilient infrastructure & support to 'Green Healthcare'?

- A. France
- B. Germany
- C. Israel
- D. Japan

Ans. C

Sol.

- India & Israel signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the fields of Health and Medicine, sharing expertise in building climate resilient infrastructure & support to 'Green Healthcare'.
- The MoU was signed by Israel's Minister of Foreign Affairs Gabi Ashkenazi & Sanjeev Kumar Singla, India's ambassador to Israel.
- On November 4, 2020, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved the signing of MoU between India & Israel.
- The Agreement will replace the existing MoU signed between both countries in September, 2003.

72. Which bank secured the top spot in UPI Transaction among the UPI Remitter Banks with 607.92 million transactions?

A. State Bank of India
B. ICICI Bank
C. HDFC Bank
D. Bank of India

Ans. A
Sol.

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has released Unified Payments Interface (UPI) Top 30 Banks Performance (for Remitter Banks and Beneficiary Bank).
- State Bank of India (SBI), Axis Bank Ltd, HDFC Bank Ltd. and Paytm Payments Bank Ltd. (PPBL) have led the pack in November among the top remitter banks, initiating close to half or 1.1 billion of the total Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions processed in November, according to latest data released by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- The State Bank of India (SBI) secured the top spot in UPI Transaction among the UPI Remitter Banks with 607.92 million transactions.
- The banks have initiated close to half or 1.1 billion of the total UPI transactions processed in November
- HDFC is the third largest UPI-player amongst banks in terms of remittances,

clocking close to 179.4 million transactions.

73. The Indian Hockey men team ranked at what position in the latest rankings released by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) at the end of 2020?

- A. 2nd
B. 3rd
C. 4th
D. 5th

Ans. C
Sol.

- According to the latest rankings released by the International Hockey Federation (FIH), Indian Men's Hockey Team will finish 2020 in the 4th Position, while the Women's Hockey Team will finish at the 9th Position.
- Belgium Men's Team will finish 2020 at the top position, while Netherlands women's team finished 1st.
- In January, 2020, FIH released a new method for calculation of World Ranking.
- The new method is based on a match-based rankings model, moving away from Tournament-based rankings followed by FIH.
- The points will depend on exchange of points between 2 teams competing in each match played, result of the match, relative ranking of the team & importance of the match.
- Captain of the Indian Men's Hockey Team is Manpreet Singh, Captain of the Indian Women's Hockey Team is Rani Rampal.

74. Who has authored the book titled "The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha"?

- A. Salman Khurshid
B. Jairam Ramesh
C. Kapil Sibal
D. Shashi Tharoor

Ans. B
Sol.

- Former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh authored his new book titled "The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha".

- The book will showcase the story of the poem "The Lights of Asia" which shaped the people's view of Buddha and his teachings.
- The book will be published by Viking imprint of Penguin India.
- The book uncovers and narrates the story of "The Light of Asia: The Great Renunciation" written and published by Sir Edwin Arnold in 1879.

75. Who has been honoured with 'Legion of Merit' Award by US President Donald Trump?

- A. Boris Johnson
- B. Narendra Modi
- C. Sheikh Hasina
- D. Emmanuel Macron

Ans. B

Sol.

- US President Donald Trump presented prestigious 'Legion of Merit' award to Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi for his leadership in elevating strategic partnership of US-India and emergence of India as a global power.
- Legion of Merit award was also presented to Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and the former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

76. Bank of Baroda has signed MoU with which of the following forces for 'Baroda Military Salary Package'?

- A. Indian Army
- B. Indian Navy
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Central Armed Police Force

Ans. A

Sol.

- Indian Army and Bank of Baroda have entered into MoU for Baroda Military Salary Package.
- It will provide banking services by Bank of Baroda to serving and retired Army personnel.
- It offers very attractive benefits including free Personal Accidental Insurance cover, Permanent Total Disability cover, unlimited free ATM transactions at all bank ATMs, etc.

77. Which of the following nation hosted 20th edition of the IORA Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting?

- A. UAE
- B. Australia
- C. India
- D. Indonesia

Ans. A

Sol.

- United Arab Emirates (UAE) hosted 20th edition of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting via video conferencing
- Theme 2020: Promoting a Shared Destiny and Path to Prosperity in the Indian Ocean
- During the meet, France was inducted as 23rd member state of IORA.

78. Which of the following bank launches online portal 'Infinite India' for foreign firms expanding in India?

- A. HDFC Bank
- B. ICICI Bank
- C. Axis Bank
- D. SBI

Ans. B

Sol.

- ICICI Bank has rolled out online portal 'Infinite India' to support foreign companies to establish or expand business in India
- It will offer banking solutions as well as value-added services such as incorporation of a business entity, corporate filings, licences and registrations, HR services, compliances and taxation among others.

79. Which one of the following campaign has been launched by Uttar Pradesh Government to curb property & land-related disputes?

- A. Varasat Campaign
- B. Dastak Campaign
- C. Mission Shakti Campaign
- D. Save Land campaign

Ans. A

Sol.

- Uttar Pradesh govt has rolled out special campaign named as 'Varasat' (natural succession) to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas.
- This is a first of its kind campaign in UP that will end the land-related issues in the rural areas and eradicate the exploitation of the villagers over succession rights by land mafias, who generally target disputed properties.
- It is a 2-month-long special drive campaign.

80. Recently, Thang-Ta sport has been approved by Sports Ministry to be part of Khelo India Youth Games 2021. Thang-Ta belongs to which of the following state?

- A. Assam
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Nagaland
- D. Manipur

Ans. D
Sol.

- Thang-Ta is Manipur's marital art. It has passed into oblivion in the recent decades, but the sport will get national recognition again with the help of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
- Sports Ministry has approved the insertion of 4 Indigenous Games to be part of Khelo India Youth Games 2021, scheduled to take place in Haryana.
- 4 games include
 - o Kalaripayattu
 - o Mallakhamba
 - o Gatka
 - o Thang-Ta

81. UN Women has collaborated with which of the following state to establish India's first Gender Data Hub?

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

Ans. A
Sol.

- Kerala government and UN Women have collaborated to establish India's first Gender Data Hub.

- Gender Hub will be build on the goals established through International Conference on Gender Equality held in November 2015, to collect, analyse and use more nuanced data and inform policy formulation in a manner that centre-stages women's rights.

82. What is the theme for India International Science Festival 2020?

- A. Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare
- B. Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation
- C. International Collaboration for People Centric Science
- D. Science for New India

Ans. A
Sol.

- 6th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) commenced from 22 Dec. 2020 and will run till 25th December 2020
- Theme for IISF 2020: Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare
- IISF was first introduced in 2015

83. Who has been reappointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) for a period of 3 years?

- A. Prakash Apte
- B. Uday Kotak
- C. Dipak Gupta
- D. C Jayaram

Ans. B
Sol.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the reappointment of Uday Kotak as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) for a period of 3 years effective from 1st January 2021.
- RBI also granted approval for reappointing Prakash Apte as Part-time Chairman and Dipak Gupta as joint MD for 3 years period with effect from January 1, 2021.
- The board and the shareholders of the bank had approved these

reappointments, subject to RBI's approval at their respective meetings.

84. Renowned personality UA Khader passed away recently he was a famous writer of which language?

- A. Malayalam
- B. Tamil
- C. Urdu
- D. Sanskrit

Ans. A

Sol.

- Celebrated Malayalam writer U A Khader passed away recently.
- He published more than 70 novels, short stories and travelogues that are considered among the finest works in Malayalam.
- Khader was known for a progressive and secular outlook to his life and his literature.
- His most acclaimed work of fiction, Thrikkottoor Peruma (Thrikkottoor Lore), won him the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award in 1984.

85. The Reserve Bank of India has announced to set up an Automated Banknote Processing Centre (ABPC) in which city of India?

- A. New Delhi
- B. Ahmedabad
- C. Jaipur
- D. Hyderabad

Ans. C

Sol.

- RBI has made announcement to set up an Automated Banknote Processing Centre (ABPC) in Jaipur for receipt, storage and dispatch of currency notes.
- ABPC will automate the handling of banknotes for receipt, storage, retrieval, processing and destruction.
- It will also handle storage of fresh banknotes received from printing presses, processing of banknotes received from currency chests (CCs) and bank branches and destruction of soiled banknotes in an automated manner.

86. Which state will host the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023?

- A. Haryana
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Odisha

Ans. D

Sol.

- International Hockey Federation (FIH) had announced Odisha to be the host for 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup for a second consecutive time.
- The 2023 tournament will be held at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar and Biju Patnaik Hockey Stadium in Rourkela.
- FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2018 was also hosted by Odisha.
- FIH 2023 tournament will be 15th edition of the Men's FIH Hockey World Cup.
- FIH Hockey World Cup is held after every four years.

87. To commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 2022, the Union Culture Ministry was planning to set up a museum in _____.

- A. Kolkata
- B. Mumbai
- C. Guwahati
- D. New Delhi

Ans. A

Sol.

- As a part of the commemoration of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's 125th birth anniversary in 2022, the Union Culture Ministry was planning a museum in Kolkata, an exhibition at the Victoria Memorial and cultural performances in West Bengal.
- A museum on Bose was "proposed to be set up in Kolkata as a part of commemorations and that the current museum at Red Fort, New Delhi is also proposed to be expanded
- The GoI is also planning to reprint some of the books written by Netaji.
- The Netaji museum in New Delhi is also to be expanded.

88. What is India's rank in the recently released United Nations' Human Development Index 2020?

- A. 131st
- B. 129th
- C. 137th
- D. 144th

Ans. A

Sol.

- India dropped two ranks in the United Nations' Human Development Index this year, standing at 131 out of 189 countries.
- For the first time, the United Nations Development Programme introduced a new metric to reflect the impact caused by each country's per-capita carbon emissions and its material footprint, which measures the amount of fossil fuels, metals and other resources used to make the goods and services it consumes.
- Norway, which tops the HDI, falls 15 places if this metric is used, leaving Ireland at the top of the table.

89. A dedicated control centre for Space Situational Awareness (SSA) activities in the country has been set up in which city?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- A dedicated control centre for Space Situational Awareness (SSA) activities in the country, aimed at monitoring, tracking and protecting India's space assets, has been set up in Bengaluru by ISRO.
- ISRO SSA Control Centre, 'NETRA', is set up within the ISTRAC campus at Peenya.
- The control centre is envisaged to function as a hub of all SSA activities within India.

90. Which country will host the Asia Cup Cricket Tournament in 2022?

- A. Sri Lanka

- B. India
- C. Pakistan
- D. Bangladesh

Ans. C

Sol.

- Sri Lanka will host the 2021 Edition of Asia Cup, Cricket tournament and Pakistan will host the 2022 Edition of Asia Cup, Cricket tournament.
- In July 2020, Asia Cup's Governing body, Asia Cricket Council (ACC) announced that the 2020 Edition of Asia Cup was cancelled due to Pandemic.
- The 2020 Edition was originally set to be hosted by Pakistan, as it was cancelled Pakistan were awarded to host the 2022 Edition as Compensation.
- Asia Cup is a men's One Day International (ODI) & Twenty20 International Cricket Tournament.
- It is organized by ACC, which has 5 full members - India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh & Afghanistan.
- India were the Champions of the Last Edition of the Asia Cup (2018) held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

91. What is India's rank in global spam calls in the 4th Edition of Global Insights Report for 2020 released by Truecaller?

- A. 7th
- B. 9th
- C. 12th
- D. 15th

Ans. B

Sol.

- Truecaller has released its Insights Report for 2020, which ranks India 9th on the list of top countries affected by spam calls.
- This was a drop for India in the rankings, which indicates spam calls actually fell this year in the country.
- Truecaller's report also revealed another interesting fact during the three months of lockdown: In India calls to emergency services spiked by 148% at the beginning of the lockdown.
- The fourth edition of the report points out that the Covid-19 pandemic affected

"communications behaviour and spam patterns around the world".

- As per the report, Brazil is the most affected country in the world by spam calls, followed by the US and Hungary.

92. Which becomes the first Arabian country to establish Friendship Association with India?

- A. United Arab Emirate
- B. Oman
- C. Kuwait
- D. Saudi Arabia

Ans. B

Sol.

- Oman, India's oldest strategic partner in West Asia, has announced to establish Oman-India Friendship Association, in what would be the first such initiative in West Asia led by the Foreign Ministry.
- Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Al Busaidi held detailed dialogue with his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar on giving further momentum to strategic ties.
- The aim of the association to provide a platform that promotes friendship, understanding and matters of mutual interest between Oman and India business and social communities in the Sultanate.

93. Which event will make its debut at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris and became a Medal Event?

- A. Cricket
- B. Surfing
- C. Sport Climbing
- D. Breaking

Ans. D

Sol.

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board added "Breaking" – a competitive form of breakdancing & 3 other sports – Skateboarding, Sport Climbing, and Surfing to Medal Events Program in Olympic Games.
- Breaking will make its Olympic debut at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, while 3 other sports will make their Olympic debut at the 2020 Tokyo

Summer Olympics to be held in July, 2021 (delayed due to COVID-19).

- The additional sports were proposed by the Paris 2024 Organising Committee.
- The sports have been included by IOC to set a new standard for inclusive, gender-balanced and youth-centred games.

94. Which entity has signed an MoU with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited for green energy projects?

- A. NTPC Limited
- B. NHPC Limited
- C. Power Grid Corporation of India
- D. SJVN Limited

Ans. D

Sol.

- SJVN Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) for Green Energy Projects through virtual mode.
- As per the MoU, IREDA will provide services to SJVN for development of Green Energy Projects, and help SJVN in devising an action plan to create and acquire Renewable Energy Projects for the next 5 years.
- As part of the MoU, IREDA will undertake Techno-Financial due diligence (identifying suitable technology for particular project sites) for the projects of SJVN.
- The partnership is expected to improve the knowledge and technology transfer between the two agencies and will also provide consultancy & research services.
- SJVN is also in the process of developing a 100 MW Dholera Solar Power Project, Gujarat & 100 MW Raghanseda Solar Power Project in Gujarat.
- SJVN is working towards realizing India's Renewable Energy target of 175 GigaWatts (GW) by 2022.

95. Which becomes the India's first Zoological Park to acquire ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Standards Certification?

- A. National Zoological Park, Delhi

- B. Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Vishakhapatnam
- C. Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
- D. Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park, Pune

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad becomes the first zoo in the country to receive ISO 9001: 2015 quality management certification from the ASCB, UK.
- The ISO certificate helps to ensure maintaining the quality of standards.
- HYM International Certifications Pvt Ltd, accredited by the ASCB, recently reviewed the ISO 9001: 2015 certification.
- The basis of assessment was sanitisation, food processing, animal breeding, medicare, animal care, hygiene maintenance and establishment.
- Notably, the number of tigers and Indian Gaur were also increased at the Nehru Zoological Park.

96. Which country has approved the chemical castration of rapist in its new Anti-Rape legislation?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Pakistan

Ans. D

Sol.

- Pakistan has approved the chemical castration of rapists as part of sweeping new legislation sparked by outcry over the gang rape of a mother on a motorway.
- New laws approved by President Arif Alvi will see rape cases expedited through the courts and create the country's first national sex offenders register.
- Pakistan is a deeply conservative and patriarchal nation where victims of sexual abuse often are too afraid to speak out, or where criminal complaints are frequently not investigated seriously.

97. In India, Minorities Rights Day is observed every year on which date?

- A. 15th December
- B. 16th December
- C. 17th December
- D. 18th December

Ans. D

Sol.

• **Minorities Rights Day is observed on December 18 in India.**

- The aim of the day is to advance and protect the privileges of the individuals to have a place with linguistic, religion, castes and color minority.
- The Minorities Rights Day is celebrated by the National Commission for Minorities (NCM).
- On 18 December 1992, the United Nations adopted the Statement on the individual's Rights belonging to religious or Linguistic National or Ethnic Minorities.
- The Ministry was established on 29 January 2006. It was carved out of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- The Union Government established the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

98. The Telangana government has partnered with which tech major to skill 30,000 students in emerging technologies?

- A. Google
- B. Intel
- C. Amazon
- D. IBM

Ans. D

Sol.

- Tech major IBM and the Telangana government have entered into a collaboration to provide curated online courses for the states students that will enhance their technical and professional skills.
- IBM will work with Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) to offer Open P-TECH, a free digital education platform focused on emerging technologies and professional development skill. Is

- A total of 30,000 students of engineering, degree and polytechnic courses would benefit from the initiative over a period of one year.

99. Which country will host the qualifiers of the 2023 ODI ICC World Cup?

- A. South Africa
- B. Scotland
- C. Zimbabwe
- D. Kenya

Ans. C

Sol.

- Zimbabwe will host the qualifiers of the 2023 ODI World Cup between June 18 and July 9, according to a revised schedule announced by the ICC due to the postponements caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- India, the hosts of the rescheduled 2023 ODI World Cup, along with seven other top Super League teams will qualify directly for the tournament to be held in October-November. The bottom five teams from the Super League will compete in the 2023 World Cup qualifier, joining the best three teams from League 2.

100. Which Bank has partnered with Visa as a payment processor to enhance salaried account holders' payment experience?

- A. HDFC Bank
- B. ICICI Bank
- C. Yes Bank
- D. RBL Bank

Ans. C

Sol.

- YES bank partnered with Visa as a payment processor to enhance salaried and YES FIRST account holders' payment experience.

- The bank has also introduced a new line of vertical Debit cards under the E-series across Mastercard and VISA cards.

- This launch enables customers to avail VISA-branded YES bank debit cards along with Mastercard and RuPay branded debit cards.

- This upgradation is aligned with the vision of the bank to offer its customers a best payment experience in the world.
- It also is the step towards the cashless transformation in India.

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