

Top 200+ Current Affairs Questions for CDS I & AFCAT I 2021

Hi everyone, we are very happy to inform you that we have made two more groups on telegram which are NDA & other Exams, CDS & Defence Exams, wherein you will be able to interact with our faculty members directly and also you will be able to see the classes schedule as well. Below are the links of the two groups. So, join the groups now and know all the real time updates.

NDA & Other Exams: <https://t.me/joinchat/TX7hKUXmUvKsOL5IFHsbRA>

CDS & Defence Exams: <https://t.me/joinchat/TX7hKVbSbpp5PDJuRccltw>

1. Ans. E.

- Nobel Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi has penned down new book titled 'Covid-19: Sabhyata ka Sankat aur Samadhan' (Covid-19: Crisis of Civilisation and Solutions).
- It has been launched by former Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra and Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh.
- The book discusses how Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the common way of life while suggesting solutions to the ongoing crisis triggered by the disease.

2. Ans. B.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be launching SEHAT, a health insurance scheme for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on 26th Dec 2020.
- SEHAT signifies Social Endeavour for Health and Telemedicine.
- The scheme aims to provide free cashless treatment to the residents of J&K by providing them health cover of up to Rs 5 lakhs.
- The beneficiaries will be provided with the health card.
- The Common Service Centres are set up to implement SEHAT scheme and enrol the beneficiaries.
- The scheme will be including Indoor Patient Department cases of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.

3. Ans. C.

- A Japanese company and Kyoto University have joined hands to develop world's first satellites made out of wood by 2023.



- The partnership will begin experimenting with different types of wood in extreme environments on Earth.
- Wooden satellites would burn up without releasing harmful substances into the atmosphere or raining debris on the ground when they plunge back to Earth.
- Sumitomo Forestry announced that as the space junk was turning into one of the most challenging space problems, it was conducting research on tree growth and will utilize wood to build spacecraft and satellites for space.

4. Ans. C.

- Continuing its mission to improve the livelihoods of the tribals (both forest dwellers and artisans) and work towards tribal empowerment, TRIFED has decided to explore a convergence and build a partnership with Akhil Bhartiya Vanvasi Kalyan Kendra.
- In this regard, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was exchanged between the two organisations to work together for setting up of TRIFOOD Parks in 5 districts in Madhya Pradesh.
- The two organisations will work together by undertaking various initiatives all aimed at improving the livelihood of tribal people and implementation of the Van DhanYojana through the mobilization of Self Help Groups (SHGs) / VanDhanVikas Kendra (VDVKs) / VPCs / TRIFOOD Parks.

5. Ans. C.

- The central government notified a zero to 1 km area around the boundary of Mathikettan Shola National Park in Idukki district, Kerala as an Eco-sensitive zone.
- The area of the Eco-sensitive Zone is 17.5 square kilometres.
- The notification was issued by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- This is to conserve the uniqueness of Shola forest in Mathikettan and its importance as an elephant corridor.

6. Ans. B.

- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has capped the amount of trans fatty acids (TFA) in oils and fats to 3% for 2021 and 2% by 2022 from the current permissible limit of 5% through an



amendment to the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations.

- The country's food regulatory body notified the amendment on December 29, more than a year after it issued a draft on the subject for consultation with stakeholders.
- The revised regulation applies to edible refined oils, vanaspati (partially hydrogenated oils), margarine, bakery shortenings, and other mediums of cooking such as vegetable fat spreads and mixed fat spreads.
- Trans fats are associated with increased risk of heart attacks and death from coronary heart disease.
- As per the World Health Organisation (WHO), approximately 5.4 lakh deaths take place each year globally because of intake of industrially produced trans fatty acids. The WHO has also called for global elimination of trans fats by 2023.

7. Ans. A.

- Soma Mondal has taken over as Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).
- She was the Director (Commercial) of SAIL prior to this.
- Before joining SAIL as a Director, Mondal was the Director (Commercial) at fellow Central public sector enterprise, National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).
- In a company statement, Mondal said that the first target is to improve the financial performance of SAIL.

8. Ans. D.

- * Justice Hima Kohli was sworn in as the chief justice of Telangana high court.
- * She is the first woman chief justice of the state. She came here from Delhi high court. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan administered the oath of office to her.
- * Justice Hima Kohli got enrolled as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi. She was appointed as an Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi on 29 May, 2006.

9. Ans. A.



Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo has won the 'Player of the Century' award at the Globe Soccer Awards.

Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola won the Coach of the Century award. Spanish giants Real Madrid won the Club of the Century award during the event.

10. Ans. A.

- The 51st International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will open on 16th January this year, with Indian premiere of the movie 'Another Round' by Thomas Vinterberg.
- The movie starring Cannes Best Actor Award winner Mads Mikkelsen is among a star-studded line up of movies being showcased at IFFI.
- The movie is also Denmark's official entry to Oscars.
- 51st IFFI is being organised from 16th to 24th January in Goa in both online and offline mode together

11. Ans. B.

* Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention is the flagship event of the Ministry of External Affairs and provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Indians.

* In view of the sentiments of our vibrant diaspora community, the 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, is being organized on 9th January 2021, despite the ongoing Covid pandemic.

* The Convention will be held in virtual format, as were the PBD Conferences held recently in the run up to the Convention.

* The theme of 16th PBD Convention 2021 is "Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat".

12. Ans. B.

China has recently asked India to 'objectively' view the on-going month-long military exercises between the Chinese and the Pakistani air forces, amid increasing tensions with India.

Key Points

- The "Shaheen-IX" or the Eagle-IX exercise, is an exercise among the Pakistan Air Force and the People's Liberation Army Air Force.



- Shaheen-IX is the 9th in the series which is conducted each year in both countries on an alternate basis.
- The first-ever such drill was held in Pakistan in the year 2011.
- Other exercises between Pakistan & China: Sea Guardians exercise, which is a bilateral naval exercise.
- India-China exercises: Hand In Hand exercise, which is a bilateral Army exercise.

13. Ans. B.

The GoI has recently introduced the E20 fuel to promote green fuel like ethanol. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways recently published a draft notification inviting comments from the public to adopt E20 fuel. This is being done as GoI aspires to take the ethanol economy to 2 lakh Cr. of rupees in the next five years. At present, the ethanol economy of India is at twenty-two thousand crores of rupees.

E20 means blending of 20% of Ethanol with the gasoline. Presently the permissible level of blending is 10% of Ethanol in India. In the year 2019, despite the permissible level, India reached only 5.6 % of blending.

Benefits of E20:

- It reduces vehicular emission.
- It reduces the oil import bill and thus saves foreign exchange boosting energy security of the country.
- It reduces the emissions of Hydrocarbons & carbon dioxide.

14. Ans. A.

* India's first-ever pollinator park, established in Haldwani in Nainital district in Uttarakhand in an area of four acres, was opened for the public recently.

* More than 40 pollinator species have been recorded in the park including several species of honeybees, birds, butterflies like the common Jezebel (*Delias eucharis*), red pierrot (*Telecadanyseus*), glassy bluebottle (*Graphiumsarpidon*) and lime butterfly (*Papilioidimoleus*) and many other insects.

* The park aims to conserve various pollinator species, create awareness among the general public about importance and conservation of these species and to promote further research on many aspects of pollination,



including the threat to habitat and impact of pollution, use of pesticides/insecticides and relation between various pollinators and plant species.

* The Pollinators include bees, birds, butterflies, moths, wasps, beetles, bats and small mammals.

15. Ans. C.

Gujarat government makes fire NOC mandatory for all the factories.

The Gujarat state government has made it mandatory for all the factories have to take the no-objection certificate from that of the fire department before applying for a new licence or renewing the existing ones. The move comes after the fire incident at a chemical unit near Pirana in Ahmedabad claimed about a dozen lives recently.

A committee established by the state government after the accident at Pirana inspected 1,564 chemical units dealing in the hazardous substances and concluded not to allow any hazardous chemical units or any other factory from obtaining the licence under the Factory Act, 1948, without the 'Fire NOC'.

16. Ans. D.

The Dhokra decorative pieces added to the Tribes India collection. The Dhokra products reflect the simplicity and themes of tribal and folklife.

About Dhokra art:

- The Dhokra is a non-ferrous metal casting style which uses the lost wax technique.
- For hundreds of years, this style of metal casting has been famous all over India.
- The Dhokra products reflect the simplicity and the themes of tribal and folklife.
- They are very famous both in India and abroad.
- The Dhokra artworks are metal figurines mainly made of bronze and copper.
- Although the Dhokra art originated in the West Bengal, over time, the tribe moved to the Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa, and Chhattisgarh, as well as the Kerala & Rajasthan. Therefore, Art now spreads all over India.



17. Ans. A.

Arya Rajendran was recently sworn in as the mayor of the Thiruvananthapuram municipal corporation after securing 54 votes in the 100-member city council. She is currently the youngest-ever mayor in India. She is still pursuing her graduation course in BSc (Mathematics) from the All Saints College in the capital of Kerala.

Before becoming mayor, Arya Rajendra became the mayor of Thiruvananthapuram, her home & municipal ward, Mudavanmugal was famous for being home to the actor Mohanlal, who is held in high esteem by the actors from all corners of the country. Mohanlal was one among those who called up Arya Rajendran to congratulate on her election as the mayor.

18. Ans. D.

The Hawker Culture in Singapore has been inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Humanity at the 15th session of the IGC (Intergovernmental Committee) that was held virtually.

The Hawker Culture in Singapore is a living heritage shared by those who prepare the hawker food and those who dine & mingle over hawker food in the community dining spaces called hawker centres.

It reflects Singapore's multicultural identity as the people & nation and resonates strongly with the Singaporeans across all races and social strata.

The particular List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO is made up of those intangible heritage elements which help demonstrate the diversity of the cultural heritage and raise the awareness about its importance.

The list was established in the year 2008 when the Convention for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage came into effect.

19. Ans. C.

The Legion of Merit, awarded by US President Donald Trump to Narendra Modi recently, is the latest among many international honours bestowed on the prime minister since 2014.

The award was also presented to the former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe and the Australian prime minister Scott Morrison.



President Trump awarded the Legion of Merit to the Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe for his leadership and vision for a free & open Indo-Pacific.

Donald Trump awarded the Legion of Merit to the Australian prime minister Morrison for his leadership in addressing the global challenges and promoting collective security.

Together, India, the US, Australia and Japan constitute the 'Quad' group of countries, which has been seen as a counter to the Chinese dominance in the Indo-Pacific region.

About Legion of Merit Award:

* The Legion of Merit was instituted in the year 1942 by the former US president Franklin D Roosevelt, as noted in the article in The Hindu.

* The Legion of Merit award is the only US military decoration which has a distinct rank, and the first-ever US medal to be awarded to the citizens of the other nations, as mentioned in the article in the Encyclopedia Britannica.

20. Ans. C.

The 5th edition of the yearly Global Technology Summit (GTS) was organized virtually by the MEA (Ministry of External Affairs), Government of India, in collaboration with Carnegie India (CI). The GTS is one among the four flagship annual conferences organised by the MEA. The other three conferences are the Raisina Dialogue, the Geo-economic dialogue, and the Indian Ocean Conference.

The theme of this year's GTS was 'The Geopolitics of Technology'. The speakers from included the External Affairs Minister, Dr S. Jaishankar, & Dr K. VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser to the GoI.

21. Ans. A.

Adar Poonawalla, currently the Chief Executive of the Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII), has been named among the six 'The Straits Times Asians of the Year' for the year 2020, by Singapore's leading daily, The Straits Times, for their work in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

The SII has collaborated with the University of Oxford, and the British-Swedish pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca to develop COVID-19 vaccine, 'Covidshield', and is conducting trials in India.

The other five Asians of the Year includes:



- * Chinese researcher Zhang Yongzhen
- * China's Major-General Chen Wei,
- * Japan's Dr Ryuichi Morishita
- * Singapore's Professor Ooi Eng Eong
- * South Korean businessman Seo Jung-jin

The Straits Times has collectively referred these six winners as 'the virus busters', because they are heroes of a kind, having devoted themselves to the pressing cause of resolving the coronavirus pandemic, each in their capacity.

22. Ans. C.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has recently released a new book titled 'Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific'. The book provides an insight on how more robust regional cooperation strategies, including in trade, health, finance, and disaster risk, can help governments in Asia and the Pacific accelerate economic growth and robust recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It even explores opportunities for economies in the region to work together in order to recover and rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic.

23. Ans. A.

The UK has recorded the world's first-ever foul air death or death legally certified to have been caused by air pollution. A nine-year-old girl who lived close to a busy road in London had passed away due to respiratory complications, and an inquest is underway. According to the WHO, air pollution contributes to 4.2 million deaths annually.

24. Ans. B.

CCPI, 2021 results:

- * No country had made it to the top three ranks.
- * The rankings showed the aggregated results and the overall performance of evaluated countries. The rankings also showed how the countries perform in different index categories.

Top three performers:

- * Sweden is leading the group of high performing countries, as it has in the past two years.



- * Denmark moves up ten ranks, and it becomes the second-best performing country in the 2020 year's CCPI.
- * Morocco falls to one place in the overall ranking, but it still keeps its overall high performance.

Bottom three performers:

- * Chinese Taipei falls to three places and now ranks 59th.
- * Saudi Arabia still ranks very low, but for the first time doesn't occupy the bottom rank of the index.
- * The United States, after falling the three positions in last year's ranking, continues the downwards trend, sinking to the bottom of the ranking.

25. Ans. C.

Nepal & China have jointly announced the revised height of the highest peak of the world, Mount Everest, as 8,848.86 metres.

The Nepal govt. decided to calculate the exact height of the mountain amid the debates that there might have been a change in its height because of various reasons, including the devastating earthquake of 2015.

They recalculated the height of Mount Everest at 8,848.86 metres. The new height is 86 centimetres more than the previous measurement.

According to the measurement done in the year 1954 by Survey of India, the height of Mount Everest is 8,848 metres.

26. Ans. B.

The Public Wi-Fi Access Network Interface is known as PM-WANI. Recently, Union Cabinet chaired by the PM, Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for the proposal of DoT for setting up of the Public Wi-Fi Networks by the Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOAs) to provide public Wi-Fi service via Public Data Offices (PDOs) spread across the length & breadth of the nation in order to accelerate the proliferation of the Broadband Internet services via Public Wi-Fi network in the country.

Some key features of the project:

- * This project will allow setting up of public WiFi hotspots across the country via the public data offices/ public data offices (PDOs).
- * It will not need the PDOs to get the license or pay a fee.



* This will involve multiple players, including PDOs, Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOA), app providers, and a central registry.

Significance of the project:

Public Wi-Fi networks will 'democratize' content distribution and broadband access to millions at affordable rates. This will be the UPI (unified payments interface) of connectivity services.

27. Ans. C.

New Zealand declares climate emergency recently, promises carbon neutral government by the year 2025.

New Zealand now joins 32 other countries including Canada, Japan, France and Britain, that have declared a climate emergency.

Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern said the climate emergency declaration was based on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's findings that to avoid more than 1.5 Degree Celsius rise in global warming; emissions would need to fall by around 45% from 2010 levels by the year 2023 and reach zero by about 2050.

28. Ans. B.

Recently, Researchers from IIT-Bombay proposed the current quality of urban life index related to actual urban life in India. This is the first time ever that gender parity has been taken into account. According to the research, women experience different problems in different cities. Meeting the requirements of women is essential to promote the sustainable urban development. Besides, only 36% of the urban households in Patna can utilize treated tap water.

Rankings of the cities as per the index:

- * Top city: Mumbai
- * The other top cities: Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai.
- * Most women-friendly: Chennai
- * Least women-friendly: Patna
- * Highest crime rate against women: Jaipur
- * Lowest crime rate against women: Chennai



- * Lowest gap in the literacy rate between women and men: Kolkata (5.4%).
- * Widest gap in the literacy rate between women and men: Jaipur (13.2%)
- * Highest overall Literacy rate: Pune (91%)
- * Lowest overall Literacy rate: Hyderabad (83%).
- * Highest unemployment rate for women: Patna

29. Ans. C.

Recently, Breakdance becomes an official Olympic sport, to debut at the 2024 Paris Games.

The International Olympic Committee's pursuit of urban events to lure the younger audience saw street dance battles officially added to the medal events program at the 2024 Paris Games.

Also confirmed for Paris by the IOC executive board were skateboarding, sport climbing and surfing. Those three sports will make their Olympic debuts at the Tokyo Games which were postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic by one year to open on July 23, 2021.

30. Ans. D.

Recently, Climate Ambition Summit 2020 was co-convened by the UN, United Kingdom, & France, in partnership with the Chile and Italy. It heard announcements from 75 leaders, including 45 relating to the new and enhanced Paris Agreement nationally determined contributions (NDCs), 24 net-zero emissions commitments, and 20 new adaptation and resilience plans. Various countries and financial institutions made a new climate finance-related pledges, including The United Kingdom, which pledged to double its climate finance contribution to USD 15.5 billion over the next five years; and the European Investment Bank, which announced a target of 50% of investments going toward the climate and environment sectors by 2025.

Announcements made by the countries included: China's commitment to lowering its carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by over 65% from 2005 levels by the year 2030 and the EU's commitment to reduce GHG emissions by at least 55% from 1990 levels by the year 2030. Numerous countries announced or affirmed their commitment to reaching net-zero carbon dioxide or GHG emissions by mid-century.

31. Ans. C.



* Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the advanced Hypersonic Wind Tunnel (HWT) test facility during his visit to Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO's) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex in Hyderabad.

* The state-of-the-art HWT Test facility is pressure vacuum driven enclosed free jet facility having nozzle exit diameter of 1 meter and will simulate Mach No 5 to 12 (Mach represents the multiplication factor to the speed of sound).

* After USA and Russia, India is the third country to have such a large facility in terms of size and operating capability. It is an indigenous development and an outcome of synergistic partnership with Indian industries.

32. Ans. A.

- India's first hot air balloon wildlife safari in a tiger reserve has been introduced in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh.
- Hot air balloon wildlife safari will be restricted to the buffer area and people can watch tigers, leopards, Indian sloth bear and other wild animals from a height.
- It will be operated by Jaipur-based Sky Waltz.

33. Ans. A.

- India's first Lithium refinery is soon going to be set up in Gujarat.
- It will be set up with the investment of around Rs 1,000 crore from India's largest power trading and renewable energy company Manikaran Power Limited
- The refinery will process Lithium ore to produce battery-grade material.

34. Ans. B.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off India's first ever fully-automated driverless train service on the Magenta Line of the Delhi Metro.
- With the commencement of these new-generation trains, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has entered elite league of 7% of world's Metro networks which can operate services without drivers

35. Ans. C.



- In the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2020, India has been ranked at 8th spot globally in the list of countries most affected by terrorism in 2019. The GTI score of India is 7.353 out of 10.
- India recorded 277 Deaths, 439 Injuries & 558 Incidents due to Terrorism in 2019. Regionally, South Asia was the most impacted region by terrorism in 2019, recording more deaths than any other region.
- Also, globally the deaths caused due to terrorism fell by 15 per cent to 13,286 in 2019 over 2018.

36. Ans. A.

- Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 'Mahendra Nath Pandey' has inaugurated the first batch of Indian Institute of Skills in Mumbai.
- Indian institute of skills is a joint initiative between Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India and Tata Indian Institute of Skills.

37. Ans. E.

- According to the 'Status of Leopard in India 2018' report, released by Union environment minister Prakash Javadekar, the population of leopard in India has increased by 60 per cent.
- More than 60 per cent increase in population has been recorded over the previous estimate which was conducted in 2014.
- The States of MP (3,421), Karnataka (1783) and Maharashtra (1690) have recorded the highest leopard estimates.

38. Ans. C.

- World record-breakers Mondo Duplantis of Sweden has been named the male World Athletes of the Year at the World Athletics Awards 2020, a ceremony held virtually this time due to the post novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Duplantis broke the world record in the pole vault twice, topping 6.17m and 6.18m on back-to-back weekends in February just a few weeks before the global coronavirus pandemic ground the sporting world to a halt. When competition finally resumed, Duplantis capped his season and produced the highest outdoor vault of all time (6.15m) and finished the year undefeated in 16 competitions.



- Duplantis, who celebrated his 21st birthday last month, is the youngest athlete ever named World Athlete of the Year.

39. Ans. E.

- 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.

40. Ans. D.

- * The Sports Ministry has approved the inclusion of four indigenous games to be a part of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021, scheduled to take place in Haryana. The games include Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta, and Mallakhamba.
- * The four selected games represent different parts of the country. Kalaripayattu has its origin from Kerala.
- * Mallakhamba has been well-known across India and Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have been the hotspots of this sport.
- * Gatka originates from the state of Punjab and this traditional fighting style of the Nihang Sikh Warriors is used both as self-defense as well as a sport.
- * Thang-Ta, a Manipur martial art has passed into oblivion in recent decades, but the sport will get national recognition again with the help of the Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
- * Kuttu varisai means empty hand combat in Tamil and was first documented in Sangam literature, also called kai silambam means hand

41. Ans. D.



- The World Computer Literacy Day is observed annually on 2nd December to create awareness and drive digital literacy in underserved communities worldwide.
- The day promotes technological skills, especially in children and women.
- The World Computer Literacy Day controls the advanced gap that exists in the world today.
- The day was originally founded by the Indian computer company NIIT to mark its 20th anniversary in 2001.
- World Computer Literacy Day was first observed and held in the year 2001 on 2nd Dec.

42. Ans. C.

- In India, National Farmer's Day (Kisan Diwas) is observed every year on December 23 to remember the role of Indian farmers in the economy.
- It was first celebrated in 2001.
- The day also marks the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh.

43. Ans. E.

- * The 5th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS) held with theme "Comprehensive analysis and Holistic management of rivers and water bodies with a focus on Arth Ganga".
- * The Summit was organised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga and the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies.
- * This summit is aimed at discussing and disseminating the needs for the modalities of embracing Arth Ganga.
- * The 5th IWIS will forge greater interaction between the investors and the stakeholders in the water sector and promote international cooperation between India and many foreign countries for water and river management

44. Ans. B.

- 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.

45. Ans. C.

The fourteenth edition of the Asian Film Awards was organized by the Asian Film Awards Academy. The Indian Movie Gully Boy has received the award for the Best Original Score at 14th Asian Film Awards. The award went to Karsh Kale & The Salvage Audio Collective. The Gully Boy has been directed by Zoya Akhtar. In the Gully Boy, Ranveer Singh & Alia Bhatt played leading roles.

14th Asian Film Awards Winners List:

Award	Name Winner
Best Actor	Lee Byung-hun for 'The Man Standing Next' (South Korea)
Best Actress	Zhou Dongyu for 'Better Days' (China)
Best Cinematography	Dong Jinsong for 'The Wild Goose Lake'
Best Costume Designer	Pacharin Surawatanapongs for 'Happy Old Year'
Best Director	Wang Xiaoshuai for 'So Long, My Son' (China)
Best Editing	Yang Jin-mo for 'Parasite'
Best Film	Parasite (South Korea)
Best Newcomer	Jackson Yee for 'Better Days'
Best New Director	Hikari for '37 Seconds'
Best Supporting Actor	Ryo Kase for 'To the Ends of the Earth'
Best Supporting Actress	Ko Shu-chin for 'A Sun'
Best Screenplay	Bong Joon-ho, Han Jin-won for 'Parasite'
Best Original Music	Karsh Kale, The Salvage Audio Collective for 'Gully Boy'
Best Production Design	Ha-jun Lee for 'Parasite'
Best Visual Effects	Tomi Kijo, Renovatio Pictures for 'Detention'
Best Sound	Yoshifumi Kureishi for 'Listen to the Universe'

46. Ans. D.

The 2nd World Health Expo was inaugurated recently in Wuhan, the capital city of Central China's Hubei Province. This year's Expo focused on displaying the most cutting-edge science and technology in the global health industry, and help Wuhan build 'city of global health industry'.

During the Expo, more than a hundred high-end forums involving a summit forum, academician forum and the roundtable dialogue on the epidemic prevention and normalized control, and the Global University Leaders Forum, was organized.

47. Ans. A.



Recently, PM of India Narendra Modi has launched the country's first-ever seaplane service between the Statue of Unity near Kevadiya in the Gujarat's Narmada district & Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad. He also travelled in the maiden flight of the twin-engine plane from the pond-3 close to Sardar Sarovar Dam and landed at the Sabarmati riverfront where the water aerodrome has been set up.

About the seaplane service:

- ♣ The 19-seater seaplane will be managed by the private airline SpiceJet.
- ♣ The service will cover the 200 km distance between the Sabarmati & Kevadia, in just 45 minutes by flight, which usually takes 4 hours.
- ♣ The flight will be able to accommodate twelve passengers, and tickets will cost Rs 4,800 per head.`
- ♣ There will be four flights in a day between Ahmedabad & Kevadia on each side, which means four arrivals & four departures.

48. Ans. C.

The present Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik launched the 5th scorpene class submarine 'Vagir' of Project 75 in the Arabian sea waters at Mazagaon Dock through video conferencing recently.

INS Vagir is the 5th of the Indian Navy's six Kalvari-class submarines being built in India.

The submarines, designed by French naval defence & energy company DCNS, are being set up by the Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) in Mumbai as part of Project-75 of the Indian Navy.

The ceremony was undertaken via Video Conferencing between MDL at Mumbai and with the Chief Guest conducting the launch by remote from Goa. The ceremony was even attended by senior naval officers and dignitaries both from the Integrated Headquarters Ministry of Defence (Navy), Headquarters Western Naval Command and officials from the Naval Group, France.

49. Ans. A.

In the final of Dream11 IPL (Indian Premier League), 2020 Mumbai Indians defeated Delhi Capitals to lift their fifth IPL trophy. Chasing 157 runs for the victory, Mumbai were helped by their captain Rohit Sharma, who hit 68 runs off 51 balls.

Below are the award winners:



- o Rohit Sharma adjudged the Game Changer of the Match in the final of IPL 2020.
- o Trent Boult named the Player of the Match in the final of IPL 2020.
- o Kings XI Punjab skipper KL Rahul bags the Orange Cap.
- o Game Changer of the Season won by KL Rahul.
- o Delhi Capitals' Kagiso Rabada wins the Purple Cap.
- o Emerging Player of the season won by Devdutt Padikkal (RCB).
- o Rajasthan Royals speedster Jofra Archer emerges as the Most Valuable Player.

50. Ans. D.

In West Bengal, Kolkata will soon feature the India's first-ever 'Tyre Park', where artworks made from the scrap and defective parts will be on display. The West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) will launch this Tyre Park.

The Tyre Park, which will set up at the Esplanade area, would have a small cafe where the people can sit, relax and enjoy the craftsmanship made from tyres. No scrap material can be labelled as the waste, it can be reused & converted into an art form. The scrap tyres, lying as waste in various bus depots, have been converted and reworked to colourful shapes by the in-house team of the WBTC.

51. Ans. B.

* The Int. bird festival will be organized in Gorakhpur in the month of February.

* It will attract the international tourists at Ramgarhtal Lake for the bird watching, forest minister of Uttar Pradesh according to the Dara Singh Chauhan (currently he is serving as the Cabinet Minister in Yogi Adityanath ministry).

* During the programme of the Rotary Club in Gorakhpur, the minister said that the Gorakhpur is developing quickly in the sphere of eco-tourism and the year 2021 Gorakhpur will have a zoo.

* The Bird festival will undoubtedly give a boost to ecotourism in the area."

52. Ans. A.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launched the 'Har Ghar Nal Yojana' (Tap Water to Every Household) for the residents of Uttar Pradesh's Sonbhadra & Mirzapur district. The Government of India was committed to solving the water scarcity problem, and thus the scheme of worth ₹5,555 crores was launched in the State.

- * The main target of the scheme is to provide tap water for every household.
- * The water of lakes & river will be purified and supplied to the families in Sonbhadra.
- * All the households are eligible to claim the benefits of the scheme.
- * The scheme will benefit 21,87,980 villagers in Mirzapur. In the Sonbhadra, 19,53,458 families will be aided by the scheme. Rs 3212.18 crore & Rs 2343.20 crore will be spent under the scheme. The overall cost of the scheme is Rs 5555.38 crore.

Why were these two regions chosen?

This region is full of natural resources. Despite the area having many rivers like Ganga, the Ghaghara, the Yamuna and the Sarayu, water scarcity prevails in the region. Thus, "Har Ghar Nal Yojana" has been launched. Also, the river water and the underground water in the area is getting polluted rapidly. Therefore, it is vital to provide clean drinking water to the region.

53. Ans. C.

Sadat Rahman, he is from Bangladesh has been awarded the prestigious 2020 International Children's Peace Prize. He was even awarded the prize for his involvement in establishing his social organization and mobile app 'Cyber Teens' in order to stop cyberbullying. The award was given to 17-year-old Sadat by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai, during the ceremony in the Netherlands. He was also selected out of 142 applicants from 42 countries.

About the International Children's Peace Prize:

The International Children's Peace Prize is given yearly since 2005 by the International children's rights organization KidsRights based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The prestigious Prize is yearly awarded to a child who has made a special effort to promote the children's rights and better the situation of vulnerable children.

54. Ans. A.



The tenth edition of the prestigious National science film festival kicked off on 24th November 2020 in the virtual mode. The four-day long film festival which has been jointly organized by the Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous agency under the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India and the Tripura State Council of Science & Technology, Govt. of Tripura recently. The science film festival makes a unique platform in order to showcase the science films made by professionals, amateur and student filmmakers under several themes, to promote science films in India.

A total of 372 films in several languages were received for the participation, of which 115 films have been shortlisted by the 10-member jury to be screened during the festival. These films are in Hindi, English, Malayalam, Urdu, Kashmiri, Bengali, Marathi, Punjabi and Tamil languages.

55. Ans. D.

The PM of India, Shri Narendra Modi, participated in the 15th G20 Summit convened by the Saudi Arabia recently. The Summit, which saw the participation of the respective Heads of State or the Government of 19 member countries plus EU, other invited countries and international organizations, was conducted in the virtual format because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Summit under Saudi Presidency centred on the theme "Realizing Opportunities of 21st Century for All" which has assumed greater significance in the wake of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Summit's agenda is spread out over two days with the two sessions focused on overcoming the pandemic, economic recovery and restoring the jobs, and building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future.

56. Ans. C.

Recently, the Energy Efficiency Services Limited signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Department of New & Renewable Energy, Goa. As per the agreement, the first convergence project of India to generate the Green Energy for agriculture & rural areas is to be set up in Goa.

The project is to focus on the energy solutions that are evolved based on the concepts which combine climate change, renewable energy and Artificial Intelligence. The main goal of the project is to connect sectors like LED lights, solar energy and the energy storage in order to provide solutions that will enable decarbonisation.



Goa had also set a target of generating 150 MW of green energy in the next three years. Also, it has plans to establish 100 MW of solar power plants. The project will help Goa to achieve its targets.

Convergence projects: These are those projects where physical, social, institutional and economic infrastructure are integrated. Also, it involves several schemes to achieve their goals. For instance, the India's Smart City mission is the convergence project. It involves the Ministry of Urban Development, ministry of power, ministry of new & renewable energy, etc. It achieves its target in broad areas such as the development of road infrastructure, tap water connections, housing for all, internet, etc.

57. Ans. C.

Recently Dutee Chand and KT Irfan were among the eight athletes included in the TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) core group.

Eight track & field athletes, including both Dutee Chand & KT Irfan, have been included in the core group of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme. In contrast, seven others have been included in the TOPS developmental group, Sports Authority of India (SAI).

The decision was taken at the fiftieth MOC meeting held recently to include athletes in the TOPS core group, which was based on their performance progression and their qualification or the high probability of the qualification for the Tokyo Olympics scheduled next year.

About Target Olympic Podium Scheme:

* It is a flagship programme of the Sports ministry which is an attempt to provide the assistance to top athletes of the country.

* According to the SAI website, the scheme looks to 'add a premium to the preparations of all these athletes so that they can win Olympic medals in the year's 2020 & 2024 Olympics'.

58. Ans. C.

On the Children's Day occasion, a first-of-its-kind in the world, library on the tram for the children was launched in Kolkata, West Bengal. A tram is the rail vehicle which runs on the tramway tracks along public streets.

The tram would run on the Shyambazar-Esplanade and the Esplanade-Gariahat routes, spanning across the north & south Kolkata, every day from morning to evening. It has been jointly developed by the West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) and Apeejay Anand Children's Library, and it consists of around 1,000 books.



59. Ans. D.

The Malayalam film titled 'Jallikattu' has been selected as the official Indian entry in the category of Best International Feature Film at the upcoming 93rd Academy Awards, 2021.

The 2019 action drama has been directed by the Lijo Jose Pellissery with a screenplay by R. Jayakumar and S. Hareesh. It is based on the short story named Maoist by Hareesh. The film stars SabumonAbdusamad, Antony Varghese, Chemban Vinod Jose and Santhy Balachandran.

The story revolves around the buffalo that flees from a slaughterhouse in a remote hill town of Kerala, and how the complete townsfolk end up in its hunt. As the unfortunate animal runs riot in the city, the plot brings alive the nasty side of humanity.

60. Ans. B.

* Bangladesh and United States held a joint Naval Exercise CARAT. CARAT is Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training. The exercise was held at Chittagong.

* Historically, the exercise involves people-to-people interactions, variety of professional exchanges, community relations project, Subject Matter Expert exchanges and social events. Due to COVID-19, the exercise was held virtually.

61. Ans. E.

* The United States has officially withdrawn from the Paris climate accord on 04 November 2020.

* With this, the US has now become the only country to formally pull out of the deal since it was adopted in 2015.

* The landmark Paris climate agreement was signed in 2015 to protect the planet from the worsening impacts of the climate crisis.

* As per the rules of the agreement, a country cannot officially leave before one full year of notifying the UN of its intent to withdraw.

* The United States notified the United Nations of its withdrawal on November 4, 2019.

62. Ans. A.

• The Asian Film Awards Academy (AFAA) announced the winners of the 14th Asian Film Awards (AFA14) held at Busan, South Korea.



- Karsh Kale and the Salvage Audio Collective won the Best Original Music Award 2020 for the film Gully Boy directed by Zoya Akhtar.
- Yang Ik-Joon, South Korean Actor and Director presented the Award.
- The film Gully Boy starring Ranveer Singh as the budding rappers who achieve his dream with his music about his life on the streets of Mumbai.
- The Salvage Audio Collective is a group of 6 musicians and music producers from Mumbai.

63. Ans. B.

* Union Jal Shakti Minister, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has launched India's first solar-based Integrated Multi-Village Water Supply Project (IMVWSP) in Arunachal Pradesh.

* The solar-based lift water supply project is 'first of its kind' in the country, and has been commissioned at a cost of Rs 28.50 crore.

* However, such projects will be carried out in other parts of the country too.

* The project would provide drinking water to 17,480 people in 39 villages of Lower Dibang Valley district in Arunachal Pradesh.

64. Ans. C.

* Recently, WhatsApp has introduced payments services in India following approval by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

* The NPCI approval also follows another recent direction imposing a cap of 30% of the total volume of transactions processed in Unified Payments Interface (UPI), applicable to all third-party app providers, effective from 1st January 2021.

* WhatsApp would now compete with existing players such as Paytm, Google Pay, Amazon Pay and PhonePe.

65. Ans. A.

• The Mumbai based research non-profit India Migration Now has recently released "Interstate Migrant Policy Index" (IMPEX). The index measures integration of interstate migrants.

• The average IMPEX score of India is 37 out of 100. According to the index, the states of Kerala, Goa, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have



been most successful in integrating migrant workers. On the other hand, Delhi has the least Interstate Migrant Policy Index.

- The index helps India to evolve policy for 455 million internal migrants. According to Census 2011, there are 455 million internal migrants in the country.

66. Ans. C.

* National Academy of Medical Sciences(NAMS) (India) announced that Dr Satish Mishra the Principal Scientist of the Division of Molecular Parasitology and Immunology at Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – Central Drug Research Institute (CSIR-CDRI), Lucknow has won the “Dr. Tulsi Das Chugh Award 2020” for his research work on the life cycle of Malaria Parasite which involves two hosts and 3 invasive stages.

* The research was focused on “Secreted Protein with Altered Thrombospondin Repeat (SPATR) which is Essential for Asexual Blood Stages but not Required for Hepatocyte Invasion by the Malaria Parasite Plasmodium Berghei”.

* The study was focused on the dispensability of SPATR in Plasmodium berghei sporozoite and its importance for the establishment of blood stage infection.

67. Ans. D.

- Odisha bagged the eminent ‘Best Marine State’ award which was announced by the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

- The award will be bestowed on 21st November, which is World Fisheries Day by the department. Along with recognition, 10 lakh amount will be given.

- The awards are a great boost to fisheries sector, especially during the COVID-19 times. In 2019, India exported Rs 47,000 crores of fisheries.

- India is the second largest producer of fish in the world.

- Therefore, fisheries has a high contribution to the Indian Economy. It is thus, important to focus on fisheries to boost declining economic growth due to COVID-19 pandemic.

68. Ans. C.



- In a game-changing plan, the financial capital of India, Mumbai (Maharashtra) has become the first city in the country with a gender-specific city's urban plan which has provisions for designated spaces for the needs of women.
- The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has added a chapter titled 'Gender, Special Groups and Social Equity' under the Revised Draft Development Plan (RDDP) 2034.
- The plan proposed "departure from gender blindness to gender mainstreaming".
- This revision has been after women from various sectors collaborated to challenge the lack of a gender perspective in urban planning approved by the state government in 2018.

69. Ans. A.

- Indian Navy received the 9th Poseidon 8I maritime surveillance aircraft from the United States (US) at the INS Hansa, Goa Naval Airbase.
- The P-8I Aircraft received on November 18, 2020 is the first of the Four Additional planes ordered by India after completion of the Initial order for eight aircrafts.
- In 2016, India signed a deal of USD 1.1 Billion with the US for Four Additional P-8I Aircrafts.
- The P-8I is a variant of the P-8A Poseidon used by the US Navy. It is developed and produced by Boeing Defense, Space & Security (US-based).
- P-8A Poseidon aircraft was developed by Boeing as a replacement for the US Navy's aging P-3 fleet. Indian Navy had become the first international customer for the P-8 aircraft with the conclusion of the nearly US \$ 2.1 billion contract on January 1, 2009, for eight aircraft.

70. Ans. B.

- The 13th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2020 was held virtually on the theme "Emerging Trends in Urban Mobility" from New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated by Minister of State-MoS (Independent Charge-IC) Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- This was the first virtual UMI conference amid COVID 19 and was also held for a day as against the usual format of three days without any exhibition.



- The 14th Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference and Expo 2021 will be held on October 29-31, 2021 in Kochi, Kerala.

71. Ans. C.

- The Indian and Singapore Navy are to hold maritime exercise SIMBEX-20 in the Andaman Sea between November 23, 2020 and November 25, 2020.
- The exercise is being conducted between the countries since 1994. The exercise aims to enhance mutual inter-operability between the countries.
- The Indian Navy ships to participate in the exercise are destroyer Rana along with Chetak helicopter, corvettes Kamorta and Karmuk. Also, submarine Sindhuraj and P81 reconnaissance aircrafts are to participate in the exercise.

72. Ans. A.

- In a first for the Himalayan Kingdom, and a rare honour in the sub-continent, Bhutan's Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck has been awarded the United Nations Population Award in the individual category for 2020 for her work on sexual health and ending gender violence.
- The awardee in the organisational category is HelpAge India that works on elder care. Only two Indians have been awarded in the past four decades since the award was established in 1981: former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1983 and industrialist-philanthropist J.R.D.Tata in 1992.

73. Ans. C.

- India's First Moss Garden was inaugurated at Khurpatal, Nainital District of Uttarakhand by renowned Water Conservation Activist of India, Rajendra Singh (also known as Water Man of India).
- The Garden has been set up for the purpose of conservation of different species of moss.
- It will also serve the purpose of generating awareness among people regarding the importance of Moss in the environment.
- It has also been developed as a recreation centre for tourists.

74. Ans. C.

- The Defence Research Development Organization recently flagged off the first Varunastra, the heavy weight torpedo.



- The torpedo was designed and developed by the BDL, Vishakhapatnam Unit of Indian Navy.
- It is a ship launched electrically propelled heavyweight anti-submarine torpedo that is capable of targeting quiet submarines. It can be deployed in both shallow and deep-water environment. Varunastra is the first heavy weight torpedo of India.
- It was first inducted into Indian Navy in 2016. The weight of the torpedo is 1500 kilograms. Operational range is 40 kilometres.

75. Ans. A.

- A cow shelter in Assam's Dibrugarh inaugurated Northeast's first-ever cow hospital, on the occasion of Gopashtami.
- The hospital, Surbhi Aarogyashala, is set up by Shree Gopal Gaushala at a cost of Rs 17 lakh. The hospital will provide services in 30 km radius. There are 368 cows in the shelter.

76. Ans. C.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a book on the life and ideals of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism and first of its 10 gurus.
- Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi was also present during the book release.
- The book has been penned by Kirpal Singh Ji, who is based in Chandigarh.

77. Ans. C.

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is all set to become the first Arab Gulf country, and probably the last, to generate electricity from coal, as; the Acwa Power of Saudi Arabia is developing a \$3.4 billion Hassyan coal plant in Dubai.
- In this regard, the company has already inked a long time agreement with Japan's Jera Co under which the latter will supply coal.
- The capacity of the plant will be 600 megawatts (MW) initially which will be increased to 2,400 MW by 2023.

78. Ans. D.

- China has powered up its first domestically developed nuclear reactor, the Hualong One.



- It is a significant step in Beijing's attempts to become less dependent on Western allies for energy security and critical technology.
- The reactor, which was connected to the national grid, can generate 10 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity each year and cut carbon emissions by 8.16 million tons.
- Nuclear plants supplied less than five percent of China's annual electricity needs in 2019, according to the National Energy Administration, but this share is expected to grow as Beijing attempts to become carbon neutral by 2060.

79. Ans. A.

- Country's first one of the first medical device parks will be established in Kerala.
- Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan laid down the foundation stone for Medical Devices Park.
- MedSpark, the medical devices park envisaged as a joint initiative of SCTIMST and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (KSIDC).
- The services available in the park can be utilized by the medical device industries located within the MedSpark as well from other parts of India.

80. Ans. C.

- India has ranked 89th among 181 countries on the WRI 2020 and is fourth-most-at-risk in South Asia, after Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Sri Lanka, Bhutan and the Maldives have fared better than India in their abilities to cope with extreme disasters. India also lags behind these three neighbours in terms of lack of adaptive capacities or the preparedness to deal with extreme events.
- A comparison with the WRI 2019, shows that all south Asian countries have slipped on their ability to adapt to the reality of climate emergency.

81. Ans. E.

- Uttar Pradesh's first vulture conservation and breeding centre is set to be established at Bhari Baisi village of Gorakhpur.



- This vulture breeding and conservation centre will be the first in India which will be dedicated to king vulture and also the first vulture conservation and breeding centre in Uttar Pradesh.
- The centre will be established on the lines of Haryana's Pinjore vulture conservation and breeding centre.

82. Ans. C.

2020 में फिजियोलॉजी या मेडिसिन के नोबेल पुरस्कार को हार्वे जे. अल्टर, माइकल ह्यूटन और चार्ल्स एम. राइस को "हेपेटाइटिस सी वायरस की खोज के लिए" दिया गया, "स्टॉकहोम, स्वीडन में कारोлинस्का इंस्टीट्यूट में नोबेल असेंबली की घोषणा की गई। तीनों के काम ने रक्त-जनित हेपेटाइटिस के एक प्रमुख स्रोत की व्याख्या करने में मदद की, जिसे हेपेटाइटिस ए और बी वायरस द्वारा समझाया नहीं जा सकता है।

83. Ans. C.

- The 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry is awarded to Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna "for the development of a method for genome editing".
- The Nobel Prize in Chemistry is awarded by The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden.

84. Ans. B.

- The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2020 is awarded to the American poet Louise Glück "for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal".
- The Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded by The Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.
- The American poet Louise Glück was born in 1943 in New York and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- Apart from her writing, she is a professor of English at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. She made her debut in 1968 with *Firstborn* and was soon acclaimed as one of the most prominent poets in American contemporary literature.
- She has received several prestigious awards, among them the Pulitzer Prize (1993) and the National Book Award (2014).

85. Ans. B.



- The Nobel Prize for Economics, 2020 was awarded to Paul R Milgrom and Robert B Wilson.
- They were awarded for improvements to Auction Theory and also for inventing new auction formats.
- The prize is also called Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- The theory formulated by Milgrom allowed calculating common and private values that vary from bidder to bidder.
- The prize has been awarded 51 times to 84 Laureates between 1969 and 2019. By rule, nobel prize cannot be shared by more than three laureates.
- The Nobel Economic Prize was established in 1968 by a donation from the central bank of Sweden Sveriges Riksbank to the Nobel Foundation.
- It is not one of the prizes that were established by Alfred Nobel in 1895. But still It is administered and referred to Nobel Prize.

86. Ans. A.

- * The **Puducherry airport** has become the first airport of the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** which is entirely solar-powered.
- * The **500KWp** ground-mounted solar power plant was commissioned on 2nd October 2020.
- * The approx cost of the plant is Rs 2.8 crore.
- * With becoming absolutely power-neutral, the Puducherry airport will be able to meet its entire power requirement through the solar power plant.

87. Ans. D.

- * The red cherry pepper chilli of Sikkim which is locally known as the "Dalle Khursani" has earned the geographical indication (GI) tag from the Union department of Industry promotion and internal trade.
- * Notably, it is considered as one of the hottest chillies in the world. Dalle Khursani fetches as much as Rs 480 per kg in the local market today.
- * Dalle Khursani has been included in the GI Registry of the Government of India on the basis of an application filed by the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (Neramac) on behalf of Sikkim.



* It is to be mentioned that the largest manufacturer of Dalle Khursani products is the state government-owned Sikkim Supreme.

88. Ans. C.

- Russia successfully tested a new hypersonic anti-ship cruise missile Tsirkon.
- The Tsirkon missile was fired from the Admiral Gorshkov frigate in the White Sea in the Russian Arctic and successfully hit its target.
- Russia boasts of developing a number of "invincible" weapons that surpass existing systems and include Sarmat intercontinental missiles and Burevestnik cruise missiles.
- The first Avangard hypersonic missiles were put into service in December last year.

89. Ans. B.

- Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani launched the first ever Brand and Logo for Indian Cotton on Second World Cotton Day through video conferencing.
- Now India's premium cotton would be known as 'Kasturi Cotton' in the world cotton trade. The Kasturi Cotton brand will represent Whiteness, Brightness, Softness, Purity, Luster, Uniqueness and Indianness.
- India is the second largest cotton producer and the largest consumer of cotton in the world. It produces about six million tonnes of cotton every year which is about 23 per cent of the world cotton. She said, India produces about 51 per cent of the total organic cotton production of the world.

90. Ans. B.

- Polish teenager Iga Swiatek won her country's first-ever Grand Slam singles title.
- She defeated American fourth seed Sofia Kenin 6-4, 6-1 to become the youngest women's French Open champion since 1992.
- The 19-year-old Swiatek, at 54 the lowest-ranked woman to capture the Roland Garros title in the modern era, is the ninth first-time Major champion in the past 14 Grand Slams.
- Swiatek is the youngest women's French Open winner since Monica Seles 28 years ago.



- Swiatek was only the second Polish woman to reach a Grand Slam final in the Open era after Agnieszka Radwanska at Wimbledon in 2012.

91. Ans. A.

- The Delhi government has exempted road tax on its battery-operated vehicles under its new Electric Vehicle Policy.
- The Transport department, in its notification issued stated that the Lieutenant Governor of the National Capital Territory of Delhi exempted the tax levied upon all battery electric vehicles with immediate effect.

92. Ans. B.

- The Financial Action Task Force announced that Pakistan will continue to remain under "grey list" of the organisation.
- The asia-pacific group of FATF submitted a report titled "Follow up report on mutual evaluation of Pakistan".
- The report is first of its kind. The decision of putting Pakistan under grey list was taken based on this report.
- The report said that the progress of Pakistan on recommendations on the effectiveness of combating Financing terror system and anti-money laundering made by the Financial Action Task Force largely remained unchanged as compared to that of 2019.
- When a country is put under grey list it becomes difficult to obtain financial aid from International organisations such as Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank.

93. Ans. D.

- Indian Army and Maharashtra Police organised an anti-terror exercise "Suraksha Kavach" at Lullanagar, Pune, Maharashtra.
- The aim of the exercise was to harmonize the drills and procedures of both Army and Police for activating anti-terrorist Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) to counter any terrorist actions in Pune.
- The exercise involved the participation of Quick Reaction Teams, Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of Army as well as Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and Quick Reaction Team of Maharashtra Police.

94. Ans. A.



* India and France were re-elected as the President and Co-President of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), for a term of two years at the virtual meeting of the Third Assembly, informed the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

* Four new Vice-Presidents were also chosen to represent the four regions of ISA. The representatives of Fiji & Nauru for Asia Pacific Region; Mauritius & Niger for Africa Region; UK & Netherlands for Europe and others Region, and Cuba and Guyana for Latin America and Caribbean Region assumed the vice presidency.

95. Ans. D.

* The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, won a landslide victory in the country's general election, to be elected as the PM for the second consecutive three-year term.

* In the battle against Covid, Ardern was alone among her western peers in pursuing an explicit elimination strategy and imposed one of the strictest nationwide lockdowns in the world.

* Ardern's centre-left Labour Party won 49.2% of the total 83.7% votes counted in the 120-member parliament.

* The 40-year-old is serving as the 40th Prime Minister of the country since 26 October 2017.

96. Ans. D.

- The Government of India announced that the Australian Navy will join the Malabar exercise that is to be conducted in November 2020.

- This means that all the four Quad countries are to participate in the exercise.

- The countries to participate in the exercise are Japan, India and US.

- In the process of seeking international cooperation in maritime security domain, India had sought Australia to participate in the exercise. The exercise is to be held in "non-contact at sea" format.

- The Malabar Exercise was initially held between the Indian and US Navy. The exercise begun in 1992. Japan joined the exercise and became a permanent member in 2015. In 2018, India rejected the participation of Australia in the exercise. This was done to avoid posturing the exercise as a military group against China.

97. Ans. C.



- India successfully test fired the Stand-Off Anti-Tank Missile called SANT.
- It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization for the Indian Air Force. The missile was test fired at the Chandipur test range.
- The missile has both lock-on before launch and lock-on after launch capabilities.
- SANT missile is a variant of Nag missile. The other variants of Nag missile are Helina (or Dhruvastra) and MP-ATGM. SANT is an upgraded version of HELINA. It was successfully tested in Pokhran in November 2018. This upgraded version of the Nag Missile has a nose-mounted active radar homing seeker with an extended range of 15 to 20 km.
- HELINA is usually referred to as upgraded SANT.

98. Ans. C.

- NASA has awarded Nokia of the US \$14.1 million to deploy a 4G cellular network on the moon.
- The grant is part of \$370 million worth of contracts signed under NASA's "Tipping Point" selections, meant to advance research and development for space exploration.
- The system could support lunar surface communications at greater distances, increased speeds and provide more reliability than current standards.

99. Ans. C.

- India and Israel share a strategic partnership in water management. In order to boost it further, Israel will have a first separate 'Water Attache' in India from January 2021 which will share the former's best practices and technologies for advancements in India's water management and agriculture sectors.
- Notably, water is one of the biggest challenges in India post-COVID.
- Apart from this, Israel will also nominate an honorary Consul in the North-East with the aim to increase its presence and collaboration in that region.
- These announcements were made by Israeli Ambassador to India Ron Malka.

100. Ans. A.



- The Indian Naval Ship Kavaratti is to be commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- The INS Kavaratti is one of the four indigenously built anti-submarine Warfare stealth corvettes under project 28. The project 28 is also called Kamorta class Corvettes.
- The project 28 was approved in 2003. The construction of INS Kamorta under the project began in 2005. Under the plan of the project four corvettes were commissioned into the Indian Navy. Accordingly, INS Kamorta was commissioned in 2014, INS Kadmatt in 2016, INS Kiltan in 2017.
- Now INS Kavaratti is being commissioned in 2020.
- All these four Indian Navy ships have been named after the islands and Lakshadweep archipelago.

101. Ans. C.

- The Indian Council of Medical Research recently approved the covid-19 test called COVIRAP.
- It is a Diagnostic machine that was developed by the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. This kit gives close test results as produced by RT-PCR.
- COVIRAP is user friendly and is of low cost. It determines the results in less than an hour. It does not require air conditioned laboratory and thus can be set up even in the middle of a field.
- The testing kit consists of three mixtures that confirm the presence of the virus.
- In this testing method, after the sample is inserted into the kit, it is mixed with master mixers and heated to a certain temperature. This phase of testing is quite common to that of the other tests.

102. Ans. C.

- The world economic forum recently released the third edition of the future of jobs report 2020.
- According to the report the covid-19 and its impacts will disrupt more than 85 million jobs by 2025.



- The report is based on the future of jobs. The report has been prepared by the forum based on the projections of Senior Business leaders from more than 300 Global firms.

103. Ans. D.

- The Labour and Employment Ministry revised the base year of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) from 2001 to 2016 to reflect the changing consumption pattern, giving more weightage to spending on health, education, recreation and other miscellaneous expenses, while reducing the weight of food and beverages.
- The new series would not have an impact on the dearness allowance (DA) given to government employees for now.
- The linking factor of the new series to the old series was 2.88, something which employer federations had raised in consultations.

104. Ans. C.

- India-assisted Mangdechhu Hydroelectric project in Bhutan has been awarded the Brunel Medal-2020, an award conferred by the UK's top engineering body, Institute of Civil Engineers.
- The 720-MW Mangdechhu run-of-river power project is built on the Mangdechhu River in Trongsa Dzongkhag district of central Bhutan at a cost of Rs 4,500-crore.
- The project was jointly inaugurated by the prime ministers of the two countries in August 2019, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Bhutan.

105. Ans. B.

- NITI Aayog has constituted a 14-member advisory committee to look into introducing reforms in the urban planning education system.
- The panel will be headed by NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar. The members of the committee include Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog and secretaries of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Ministry of Education(MoE) and Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- The committee will examine the current system in terms of multidisciplinary, curriculum and other related issues at the level of graduates and postgraduates against the challenges of rapid urbanization.



- The committee will examine the urban planning education system in India and examine the availability, demand and supply of the qualified urban planners in India.

106. Ans. E.

- Andorra has joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF), to become its 190th member.
- Andorra is a microstate situated between France and Spain. However, it is the largest microstate in Europe.
- IMF's Membership allows the Andorran government to benefit from IMF policy advice, especially as the country tackles the crisis caused by COVID-19 and can now receive an annual review or "health check" of its economy by the IMF, tap technical assistance, and access IMF lending if needed.

107. Ans. E.

- Samsung tops Forbes' list of World's Best Employer 2020, HCL Tops among Indian list
- Samsung Electronics has topped the Forbes list of World's Best Employer 2020, which features 750 multinational and large corporations
- Amazon has bagged second position, followed by IBM, Microsoft and LG
- From India, HCL Technologies is top industry in the list. It is placed at 30th position globally.

108. Ans. C.

- Sudan has become 3rd Arab nation to normalise relations with Israel, after US removed Sudan from its State Sponsor of Terrorism list.
- The new agreement between Sudan and Israel will establish economic and trade links, with an initial focus on agriculture
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain were the other Arab nations to establish formal ties with Israel.
- Capital of Sudan: Khartoum

109. Ans. A.



- A direct port entry facility was launched at the V O Chidambarnar port in Tuticorin by Union minister of state for shipping and minister of state for Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya.
- The modern Direct Port Entry would allow direct movement of containers from mills to the container terminal round the clock, without in-between handling at CFSs.
- The facility is launch in an area of 18,357 sq. meters inside the truck parking terminal that was created under 'Sagarmala' for issuing customs permission of export cargo such as mills stuffed and e-sealed containers. It can hold 18,000 twenty-foot approximately units (TEUs) per month.
- The customs segment is expected to generate the Let Export Order (LEO) under a single roof without any problem. A loyal team of CWC and conventional officials in association with VOC Port will serve Tier-II, Tier-III certified export and import clients.
- IT-enabled infrastructure at ports would make ports world-class, aligning 'Maritime Vision 2030'.

110. Ans. C.

- Government of India has approved the name of Former Foreign Service officer, Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha as the new Chief Information Commissioner.
- He was already the Information Commissioner and was also the most senior.
- The post of CIC chairman had been vacant for several months after Bimal Zulka retired.
- A Marathi journalist, Uday Mahurkar has been selected for the post of Information Commissioner. Uday Mahurkar worked as a deputy editor in India Today Group and is considered close to the Sangh Parivar.
- Uday Mahurkar has also written a book on Prime Minister Modi titled "Merging with a Billion" and "Center Stage: Inside Narendra Modi".

111. Ans. A.

The 'National Unity day' (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) is celebrated every year on 31st October in India.

The objective of this event is to pay tribute to the Iron man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, on his birth anniversary by remembering his extraordinary works for the country.



112. Ans. A.

Union Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar has recently launched 'Ayushman Sahakar'. This scheme is a unique way to assist the cooperatives to play an essential role in the creation of the healthcare infrastructure in the country.

About Ayushman Sahakar:

* Ayushman Sahakar scheme has been developed by the NCDC (National Cooperative Development Corporation).

* The NCDC would extend the term loans to prospective cooperatives to the tune of ten thousand crores in the coming years.

* This scheme will be a step towards strengthening the farmer's welfare activities by the Central Government.

* The NCDC's Ayushman Sahakar scheme aims at bringing transformation in the health services primarily in the rural areas.

* The scheme even provides working capital and margin money to meet the operational requirements of the health facilities. It also provides interest subvention of one per cent to women majority cooperatives.

113. Ans. B.

The UK-based Indian-origin plastic surgeon, Dr Jajini Varghese has been named an 'Outstanding Young Person of the World 2020' by the non-profit NGO for her 'incredible' scientific contributions to diagnosing and treating the breast cancer.

Varghese has been recognised in the 'Medical Innovation' category for making it her personal mission to put an effort to restore the lives of millions of women affected by breast cancer and will be provided with the award at a ceremony at the 2020 JCI (Junior Chamber International) World Congress in Yokohama, Japan.

In the United Kingdom, she is a FRCS (Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Plastic Surgery) and a MRCS (Member of the Royal College of Surgeons). She is even on the Board of Examiners for the MSc in Plastic Surgery at UCL (University College London).

114. Ans. A.

Pradeep Goorha is the author of the book titled 'Mr Prime Minister, We Shrank the Dragon'.



The book, though it is fiction is inspired by the reality revolving around the currently developing story on the India's northern borders along with the perennially neglected the Pakistan's illegal occupation of the PoK, Gilgit-Baltistan, and how these could be resolved at this reasonable time.

The author has attempted to provide that solution. Befriending Iran, at an altogether different level is central to the approach.

About Pradeep Goorha:

* He is an alumnus of the IIT Roorkee and Clemson University, SC, USA. Mr Goorha has lived in many countries, including three countries in Africa, Dubai, the United States of America, Australia, and the island country of Vanuatu.

* He presently resides in India with his dear wife after over 50 years of invaluable experience travelling in over 40 countries. Other Books 'Survival Redux', a historical fiction published in the year 2016 in the USA.

115. Ans. C.

All of the four corvettes, i.e. INS Kamorta, INS Kadmat, INS Kiltan & INS Kavaratti were commissioned in the year's 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2020 respectively. The platform and the major internal systems of this class of the corvettes are indigenously designed & built. The corvettes was assigned name after the islands in the archipelago's of Lakshadweep.

The present Chief of Army Staff, General MM Naravane has recently commissioned the 'INS Kavaratti', the last among the four indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes, into the Indian Navy in Visakhapatnam.

About INS Kavaratti:

♣ The ship has been designed by the Indian Navy's in-house organisation, DND (Directorate of Naval Desig), and built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.

♣ The anti-submarine warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes have been undertaken under the 'Project 28', also called Kamorta-class corvettes of the Navy.

♣ The INS Kavaratti has state-of-the-art weapons and sensor suite capable of 'detecting and prosecuting' submarines and good endurance for the long-range deployments.

116. Ans. D.



Mohammed Siraj became the first-ever player to bowl two maiden overs in a single Indian Premier League (IPL) match during Royal Challengers Bangalore's (RCB) clash against the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) recently in IPL 2020.

The 26-year-old bowler picked up the three crucial early wickets, and he helped the Virat Kohli-led side be in the driving seat in the recently played match in Abu Dhabi right from the start.

117. Ans. C.

The state government of Gujarat has announced to set up the world's biggest zinc smelter project in the Dosawada in Tapi district of Gujarat.

The Gujarat government has signed a pact with the Vedanta Group firm Hindustan Zinc Ltd (HZL) to established a greenfield zinc smelter in the state. The facility will entail the investment of Rs 5000 to 10,000 crore in phases, creating more than 5,000 direct & indirect jobs and will be operational by 2022. The proposed 300 (kilo-tonnes per annum) production capacity project would provide an ample employment opportunities to the local youths in this tribal area.

About the Project:

- * The first phase of the proposed plant will be operational in 36 months.
- * The project will satisfy the domestic as well as global needs through exports.
- * The new facility – the first for the Hindustan Zinc in Gujarat, will be set up with zero discharge technology and will be of the lowest-cost smelters in the world.
- * This is one among the largest MoUs signed by the state under the State's new industrial policy, which gives an extra benefits to the companies investing in backward tribal districts.
- * Hindustan Zinc is one among the world's largest and India's only integrated producer of Zinc-Lead and Silver.

118. Ans. B.

India will soon be transferring one of its kilo-class submarines, INS Sindhuvir to the Myanmar Navy. This will be a critical move, as it will be the first submarine of the Myanmar Navy.



The INS Sindhuvir is equipped with a wide range of weapons and sensors, which will enable it to participate in various fleet, tactical & theatre level exercises.

About Kilo-class submarine:

* A kilo-class submarine is a class of diesel-electric attack submarines designed and built in the Soviet Union for the Soviet Navy. The first kilo-class submarine was brought into service in the Soviet Navy in the year 1980.

* Around 40 such type of submarines were exported to several countries including Russia, India, Algeria, China, Poland, Romania, Iran, Russia and Vietnam.

119. Ans. A.

Singapore became the world's first-ever country to attach facial verification in the National Identification Database. The function is called 'SingPass Face Verification'. This technology is being spread out to the city to state's SingPass digital identity scheme, offering access to no less than the 400 online services, including the tax declarations and public housing applications.

As per the Singapore authorities, the technology helps ensure that the right person is genuinely present in front of their screen, rather than the photograph, a video, a replayed recording or a deepfake.

Benefits of Facial recognition:

* The facial recognition is increasingly being used to access the other online services, such as banking.

* The function is designed to work through home computers, tablets and cell phones, as well as at public kiosks.

* In the future, the facial recognition could find other applications in Singapore, such as making sure students sit their examinations or for the verification purposes in secure areas of the city-state's ports.

120. Ans. C.

A Saudi artist became the country's first-ever woman to enter the Guinness Book of World Records by making the world's 'largest coffee painting'. She used expired coffee to illustrate the renowned leaders from the nation and the neighbouring UAE in a 220 square metre piece.



The artwork created on the canvas of seven connected cloths is called Naseej and was built in the Saudi city of Jeddah. Approximately 4.5 kg of the expired coffee powder mixed with the water was used to create the painting. The edge is done in the traditional Bedouin decoration style known as 'Al-Sadu'.

121. Ans. D.

हाल ही में, फ्रांसीसी अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी सीएनईएस ने घोषणा की कि उसे इसरो के वीनस मिशन, शुक्रायान में भाग लेना है जिसे 2025 में लॉन्च किया जाना है। इसरो के अध्यक्ष ने अपने फ्रांसीसी काउंटर के साथ देशों के बीच सहयोग के क्षेत्रों की समीक्षा करने के लिए बातचीत की।

मुख्य बातें:

- वायरल वीनस इन्फ्रारेड वायुमंडलीय गैसों का संयोजक उपकरण है जो रूसी संघीय अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी रोस्कोस्मोस और लात्मोस वायुमंडल के साथ सह-विकसित किया गया था। अपने मंगल परिक्रमा मिशन, मंगलयान और चंद्रमा मिशन चंद्रयान - 1 और चंद्रयान -2 के बाद, इसरो ने अब शुक्र पर अपनी नजरें गड़ा दी हैं।
- फ्रांस उन तीन देशों में से एक है, जिनके साथ भारत अंतरिक्ष, परमाणु और रक्षा जैसे रणनीतिक क्षेत्रों में सहयोग करता है। दोनों देश अमेरिका और रूस हैं।
- 2018 में, भारत और फ्रांस ने अंतरिक्ष सहयोग के लिए एक संयुक्त विजन जारी किया।

वीनस मिशन का इतिहास:

- अब तक 42 शुक्र मिशनों को, शुक्र ग्रह से पृथ्वी पर भेजा गया है। जापान का अकात्सुकी वर्तमान में शुक्र के चारों ओर उड़ रहा है।
- शुक्र में फ़ॉस्फीन: सितम्बर 2020 में, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय खगोलविदों की एक टीम ने शुक्र के वातावरण में फ़ॉस्फीन गैस की उपस्थिति की खोज की। यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी मिशन, वीनस एक्सप्रेस ने पहले वीनस के ऊपरी वातावरण में वर्ष 2011 में ओजोन के संकेत पाए थे। इन्हें बायोमार्कर माना जाता है, अर्थात् ग्रह पर जीवन रूपों की उपस्थिति की संभावना।

122. Ans. C.

चीन नवंबर 2020 तक दुनिया में पहली बार क्षुद्रग्रह खनन रोबोट लॉन्च करने के लिए तैयार है। मिशन का मुख्य उद्देश्य क्षुद्रग्रह खनन में रोबोट की क्षमताओं का आकलन करना है। रोबोट कुछ मूल्यवान संसाधनों की पहचान करेगा और उनका विवरण निकलेगा।



मुख्य विचार:

भेजे जाने वाले रोबोट को 'क्षुद्रग्रह उत्खनन रोबोट' नाम दिया गया है। इसे चीन के स्पेस स्टार्ट-अप द्वारा लॉन्च किया जाना है। रोबोट को एक लॉन्ग मार्च सीरीज रॉकेट द्वारा लॉन्च किया जाना है। यदि यह सफल हो जाता है तो मिशन एक ट्रिलियन डॉलर का उद्योग खोलेगा। 'युआनवांग-1' नामक स्टार्ट-अप भी मिशन पर काम कर रहा है।

रोबोट के संदर्भ में:

रोबोट खनन गतिविधियों में शामिल नहीं होगा। हालांकि, यह प्रौद्योगिकियों का परीक्षण करेगा। इसका उद्देश्य क्षुद्रग्रह खनन में रोबोट की क्षमताओं का आकलन करना है और यह पता लगाना है कि यह क्षुद्रग्रह खनन के माध्यम से संसाधनों की कितनी अच्छी तरह से पहचान कर सकता है और जानकारी निकाल सकता है। इसके अलावा, परियोजना अन्य प्रौद्योगिकियों जैसे कि बुद्धिमान अंतरिक्ष यान की पहचान, कक्षीय पेंतरेबाज़ी और नियंत्रण को सत्यापित करेगी।

123. Ans. D.

भारतीय नौसेना के दूसरे संस्करण (आई एन) और बांग्लादेश की नौसेना (बी एन) द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास बॉगोसागर की शुरुआत बंगाल की उत्तरी खाड़ी में हुई। बॉगोसागर समुद्री अभ्यास और संचालन के एक व्यापक स्पेक्ट्रम के संचालन के माध्यम से अंतर-संचालन और संयुक्त परिचालन कौशल विकसित करने पर लक्षित है।

द्विपक्षीय अभ्यास बॉगोसागर के दूसरे संस्करण में, दोनों नौसेनाओं के जहाज सतही युद्ध अभ्यास, नाविकविद्या विकास और हेलीकाप्टर संचालन में भाग लेंगे। यह अभ्यास 4 से 5 अक्टूबर 2020 तक बंगाल की उत्तरी खाड़ी में भारतीय नौसेना और बांग्लादेश नौसेना समन्वित गश्ती (कॉर्पेट) के तीसरे संस्करण के बाद किया जाएगा, जिसमें आईएन और बीएन इकाइयां अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुद्री सीमा रेखा के साथ संयुक्त गश्त करेंगी।

124. Ans. B.

प्रायः 'ज़ॉम्बी फायर' की शुरुआत बर्फ के नीचे होती है। असल में 'ज़ॉम्बी फायर' आग की किसी पिछली घटना का ही हिस्सा होती है जो कि बर्फ के नीचे कार्बन युक्त पीट (Peat) से बनी भूमि पर सक्रिय रहती है जब उस क्षेत्र में मौसम गर्म होता है, तो वह आग पुनः विकराल रूप ले लेती है। पीट, भू-सतह पर एक प्रकार की कार्बनिक परत होती है जिसमें अधिकांशतः पेड़ पौधों आदि से प्राप्त आंशिक रूप से विघटित कार्बनिक पदार्थ होते हैं।

विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, इससे भी अधिक चिंता का विषय यह है कि अब आग की घटनाएँ आर्कटिक



के उन क्षेत्रों में भी फैल रही है, जहाँ पहले आग लगने की संभावना अपेक्षाकृत कम थी, जैसे टुंड्रा पारिस्थितिक तंत्र आदि।

टुंड्रा पारिस्थितिक तंत्र आर्कटिक में और पहाड़ों की चोटी पर पाए जाने वाला वह क्षेत्र होता है, जहाँ वृक्ष नहीं पाए जाते हैं, प्रायः यहाँ की जलवायु ठंडी होती है और यहाँ वर्षा भी बहुत कम होती है।

आँकड़ों के अनुसार, वर्ष 2019 और वर्ष 2020 में आर्कटिक वृत्त (Arctic Circle) के ऊपर की ओर भी आग का विस्तार हुआ था, जबकि इस क्षेत्र को आमतौर पर वनाग्नि के प्रति अनुकूल नहीं माना जाता है।

इन आग में कार्बन सिंक को कार्बन स्रोत में बदलने की क्षमता है, जो बदले में ग्लोबल वार्मिंग को बढ़ाता है।

125. Ans. A.

दिल्ली-

मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे भारत के पहले पशु पुलों / जानवरों के उपरी पारमार्ग को बंद कर देगा, जो वन्य जीव खंड में अबाधित है। रणथंभौर वन्यजीव कॉरिडोर का एक खंड मुकुंदरा और रणथंभौर वन्यजीव अभयारण्यों को जोड़ने वाले प्रस्तावित एक्सप्रेसवे पर आता है।

मुख्य विचार:

- यह एक्सप्रेसवे वर्तमान में निर्माणाधीन है और 1,250 किमी लंबा है।
- इसके पूरा होने पर, एक्सप्रेसवे भारत की राष्ट्रीय राजधानी नई दिल्ली को अपनी वाणिज्यिक राजधानी (मुंबई) से जोड़ेगा।
- वडोदरा मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे को दिल्ली-मुंबई एक्सप्रेसवे में शामिल किया गया है।
- परियोजना की समग्र लागत लगभग 1 लाख करोड़ रुपये होगी।
- एक्सप्रेसवे मध्य प्रदेश (370 किमी), गुजरात (300 किमी), राजस्थान (380 किमी), महाराष्ट्र (120 किमी) और हरियाणा (80 किमी) राज्यों से होकर गुजरता है।
- यह आठ-लेन वाला एक्सप्रेसवे होगा जिसमें प्रत्येक दिशा में 4 लेन होगी।
- इस एक्सप्रेसवे को पहले के 24 घंटों से यात्रा के समय को 12 घंटे कम करने का अनुमान है।



- 8 मार्च 2019 को नितिन गडकरी, अरुण जेटली और सुषमा स्वराज द्वारा आधारशिला रखी गई।
- परियोजना को 51 पैकेजों में वर्ष 2022 तक समाप्त होने की उम्मीद है।
- एक्सप्रेसवे में 2.5 किमी से अधिक की संयुक्त लंबाई के साथ पांच पशु ओवरपास होंगे। जानवरों को हर 500 मीटर के अंतराल में एक मार्ग प्रदान किया जाएगा। यहां तक कि गलियारे में 3 से 4 मीटर के ध्वनि अवरोध के साथ 8 मीटर की एक सीमा दीवार भी होगी।

126. Ans. C.

सिक्किम की लाल चेरी मिर्च, जिसे स्थानीय रूप से "डले खुर्सीनी (Dalle Khursani)" के रूप में जाना जाता है, ने केंद्रीय उद्योग संवर्धन और आंतरिक व्यापार से भौगोलिक संकेत (जीआई) टैग अर्जित किया है। विशेष रूप से, इसे दुनिया की सबसे तीखी मिर्चों में से एक माना जाता है। डेल खुर्सीनी आज स्थानीय बाजार में 480 रुपये प्रति किलो के हिसाब से मिलता है।

डेल खुर्सीनी को सिक्किम की ओर से उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्रीय कृषि विपणन निगम लिमिटेड (नेरमैक) द्वारा दायर एक आवेदन के आधार पर भारत सरकार की जीआई रजिस्ट्री में शामिल किया गया है। यह उल्लेख किया जाना है कि डेल खुरसानी उत्पादों का सबसे बड़ा निर्माता राज्य सरकार के स्वामित्व वाला सिक्किम सुप्रीम है।

127. Ans. D.

पुदुचेरी हवाई अड्डा भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण (एएआई) का पहला हवाई अड्डा बन गया है जो पूरी तरह से सौर ऊर्जा से संचालित है। 500 केडब्ल्यूपी ग्राउंड-माउंटेड सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र को 2 अक्टूबर 2020 को चालू किया गया था। संयंत्र की अनुमानित लागत 2.8 करोड़ रुपये है। पूरी तरह से बिजली-तटस्थ होने के साथ, पुदुचेरी हवाई अड्डा सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र के माध्यम से अपनी पूरी बिजली की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने में सक्षम होगा।

128. Ans. C.

केरल के मुख्यमंत्री पिनाराई विजयन ने राज्य के सार्वजनिक शिक्षा क्षेत्र को पूरी तरह से डिजिटल घोषित कर दिया है क्योंकि केरल भारत का पहला ऐसा राज्य बन गया है जिसके सभी पब्लिक स्कूलों में हाई-टेक क्लासरूम हैं।

केरल इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर एंड टेक्नोलॉजी फॉर एजुकेशन द्वारा केरल इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर इन्वेस्टमेंट फंड बोर्ड (केआईआईएफबी) से वित्तीय सहायता के साथ उच्च तकनीक कक्षा परियोजना को लागू किया ग



या था। कक्षाओं की स्थापना के लिए सांसद और विधायक निधि, स्थानीय स्व-सरकारी संस्थानों के फंड का भी उपयोग किया गया।

उच्च तकनीक कक्षा परियोजना के संदर्भ में:

यह कार्यक्रम 5 जुलाई 2019 को शुरू किया गया था। स्मार्ट क्लास प्रोजेक्ट के लिए 16,027 स्कूलों में 3.74 लाख से अधिक डिजिटल उपकरण वितरित किए गए थे। पहले चरण में सरकारों और सहायता प्राप्त उच्च विद्यालयों और उच्चतर माध्यमिक विद्यालयों में कक्षा 8 से 12 तक के 45000 हार्ड-टेक कक्षाओं को पढ़ाया गया। यह परियोजना 21 जनवरी, 2018 को शुरू की गई थी। कक्षा 1 से 7 के लिए 11,275 प्राथमिक और उच्च प्राथमिक स्कूलों में उच्च तकनीक प्रयोगशालाएं शुरू हुईं।

129. Ans. B.

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

130. Ans. C.

- Google has partnered with Bangladesh Water Development Board to bring the flood warning services to the country.
- Announcing this on its official blog Google said that it currently covers more than 40 million people in Bangladesh and it is working to expand its coverage to the whole of the country.
- More than 65 per cent of people who receive advance flood warnings take action to protect themselves and their assets.
- The company is also partnering with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to build to deliver alerts to people who don't have smart phones to receive the alerts directly.



- The company uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyse historical data to predict flood in the river basins. Google launched its flood forecasting pilot programme in Patna in 2018.

131. Ans. D.

- The International Day of Clean Air for blue skies is observed globally on September 7th, 2020.

- The day aims to raise public awareness at all levels individual, community, corporate and government that clean air is important for health, productivity, the economy and the environment.

- The very first International Day of Clean Air for blue skies will be held on September 7th, 2020.

- The United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution to hold an International Day of Clean Air for blue skies on December 19, 2019, during its 74th session and invited the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate the observance of the International Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations.

- The Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) worked with UNEP and the Republic of Korea to advocate for the day in the lead up to the decision.

132. Ans. D.

- वित्त मंत्री ने राज्यों के व्यापार सुधार कार्य योजना (BRAP) रैंकिंग के 4 वें संस्करण की घोषणा की।

- 2015 में बिजनेस रिफॉर्म एक्शन प्लान के कार्यान्वयन के आधार पर भारत के विभिन्न राज्यों की रैंकिंग 2015 में शुरू हुई थी। बिजनेस रिफॉर्म एक्शन प्लान 2018-19 एक व्यापक योजना थी जिसमें सूचनाओं की पहुंच जैसे 12 व्यावसायिक नियामक क्षेत्रों को कवर करने वाले 180 सुधार बिंदु शामिल थे, एकल खिड़की प्रणाली, श्रम, पर्यावरण, आदि।

- राज्य सुधार कार्य योजना 2019 के तहत शीर्ष दस राज्य हैं

1. आंध्र प्रदेश

2. उत्तर प्रदेश

3. तेलंगाना



4. मध्य प्रदेश
5. झारखंड
6. छत्तीसगढ़
7. हिमाचल प्रदेश
8. राजस्थान
9. पश्चिम बंगाल
10. गुजरात

• सूची में सबसे कम 3 रैंक ओडिशा, सिक्किम और त्रिपुरा के हैं।

133. Ans. D.

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

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

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

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

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

134. Ans. A.

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



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

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

135. Ans. D.

- Iran's army conducted an annual three-day naval exercise near the strategic Strait of Hormuz.
- Units from the navy, air force and ground forces participated in the maneuver in the Gulf of Oman.
- Iranian submarines and drones were used during the exercise.
- The annual maneuver dubbed as Zolfaghar-99 was aimed at improving readiness in confronting foreign threats and any possible invasion.

136. Ans. B.

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

137. Ans. B.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be digitally launching the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
- The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) aims to focus on the focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector in the country.
- The scheme will be implemented at an estimated cost of Rs. 20,050 crores within a period of 5 years from the fiscal year 2020-21 to the fiscal year 2024-25 in all states and union territories.



- The scheme was announced as a part of the centre's AatmaNirbhar Bharat Package.
- The investment of Rs. 20,050 crores under PMMSY is the highest ever in the fisheries sector.

138. Ans. A.

- Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai has put in place a QR code-enabled contactless check-in mechanism for the passengers, which allows them the use of their mobile phones to remotely operate check-in and self-bag drop kiosks for printing boarding passes and bag tags.
- Passengers at Mumbai airport just need to scan the QR code shown on the kiosks to access a remote keyboard and mouse on their mobile device, without touching the kiosks.

139. Ans. B.

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

140. Ans. B.

बॉलीवुड अभिनेता आयुष्मान खुराना को यूनिसेफ द्वारा 'फॉर एवरीवन चाइल्ड' नाम से बच्चों के अधिकार अभियान के लिए एक सेलिब्रिटी प्रमोटर के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है।

- वह भारत में इस पहल की दिशा में काम करके, बच्चों के खिलाफ हिंसा को समाप्त करने की दिशा में यूनिसेफ का समर्थन करेगा।
- उनकी नियुक्ति के बाद, आयुष्मान खुराना पूर्व फुटबॉल स्टार डेविड बेकहम की तरह शामिल हो गए जो विश्व स्तर पर इस अभियान पर काम कर रहे हैं।
- यूनिसेफ के मुख्यालय: न्यूयॉर्क, यूएस।

141. Ans. D.



- The Thomas and Uber Cup in Denmark was postponed to next year by the Badminton World Federation following a wave of withdrawals by top teams due to the raging COVID-19 pandemic.
- India had announced both the men's and women's squads for the prestigious event which was scheduled to be held in Aarhus, Denmark from October 3 to 11.
- However, after Indonesia and South Korea on Friday joined Thailand, Australia, Chinese Taipei and Algeria in pulling out due to the dreaded disease, the sport's governing body held a virtual emergency council meeting.

142. Ans. D.

- The Fiumicino International Airport (FCO) in Rome, Italy, has become the first airport in the world to be certified with "COVID-19 5-star airport rating" from Skytrax, a U.K.-based airport and airline review firm.
- FCO, also known as the Leonardo Da Vinci International Airport, is the busiest airport in Italy.
- The COVID-19 ratings for hygiene by Skytrax was based on a combination of procedural efficiency checks, visual observation analysis and ATP sampling tests.
- Fiumicino Airport earned the 5-star rating for the hygiene processes and other preventative measures in place to help reduce the spread of Coronavirus.

143. Ans. A.

- The 4th edition of Global Ayurveda Summit was virtually inaugurated by Vice-President Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu on the theme "Emerging Opportunities for Ayurveda during Pandemic".
- It will culminate on October 14, 2020.
- The summit will include 8-day International Conference, 30-day International Exhibition and Focused Business to Business Meetings and participation from more than 25 countries.
- The objective of the summit is to showcase the Ayurveda immunity model to the global level as a solution named 'Health as One' and 'Immunity through Ayurveda'.
- It is being organized by the CII (Confederation of Indian Industry)-Kerala in partnership with Ministry of Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga and



Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy), and with the support of Ayurveda Medical Association of India (AMAI), Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturers Organisation in India (AMMOI) and Ayurveda Hospital Management Association (AHMA).

144. Ans. C.

- India has been ranked at the 116th position in the latest edition of the World Bank's annual Human Capital Index that benchmarks key components of human capital across countries.
- However, India's score increased to 0.49 from 0.44 in 2018, as per the Human Capital Index report released by the World Bank.
- The 2020 Human Capital Index update includes health and education data for 174 countries — covering 98 per cent of the world's population — up to March 2020, providing a pre-pandemic baseline on the health and education of children, with the biggest strides made in low-income countries.

145. Ans. C.

- The first all India Happiness Report covering all states and Union Territories measuring happiness across the country, which contributes to people's happiness, the impact of COVID-19 on happiness, and insights from thought leaders.
- Overall, states from the Northeast Indian region have fared well in the survey, and Mizoram has topped in the happiness rankings among all; the states and union territories in the country.
- Mizoram, Punjab, Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands are the top three in the list of states/union territories.

146. Ans. B.

- Japan's Naomi Osaka defeated Victoria Azarenka of Belarus to clinch the Women's Singles title in the 2020 US Open Tennis tournament.
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- Osaka previously won the title at the 2018 US Open and 2019 Australian Open.
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147. Ans. B.

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- However, India’s score increased to 0.49 from 0.44 in 2018, as per the Human Capital Index report released by the World Bank.
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- Overall, states from the Northeast Indian region have fared well in the survey, and Mizoram has topped in the happiness rankings among all; the states and union territories in the country.



- Mizoram, Punjab, Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands are the top three in the list of states/union territories.

153. Ans. D.

* Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September.

* The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

* This year, it has been clearer than ever that we are not each other's enemies. Rather, our common enemy is a tireless virus that threatens our health, security and very way of life.

* The 2020 theme for the International Day of Peace is "Shaping Peace Together."

* Celebrate the day by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the pandemic.

154. Ans. A.

* The Square Kilometre Array also called the SKA, an international initiative building the world's largest radio telescope is to have control systems designed and built by Tata Consultancy Services, an IT company based in India.

* Several other multiple leading Indian scientific Institutions are also contributing to the project under the leadership of TCS.

* The National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) is the lead Telescope Manager (TM) of



the project, while other institutes like Raman Research Institute (RRI) and the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) in Bengaluru, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in Pune, multiple IITs, among other Indian institutes are scientific partners.

155. Ans. B.

* International Tennis Federation (ITF) has renamed Fed Cup, an annual women tennis team competition, as 'Billie Jean King Cup.'

* Billie Jean King was pioneer of women's tennis who helped United States win the inaugural event of ITF

* Billie Jean King Cup is the world's largest annual women's international team sports competition in terms of the number of nations that compete.

156. Ans. C.

- Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi has been awarded the Ig Nobel Prize 2020 for Medical Education.

- He has been awarded the prestigious award for "using the COVID-19 pandemic to teach the world that politicians can have a more immediate effect on life and death than scientists and doctors can".

- PM Modi is the second Indian Prime Minister to be honoured with the Ig Nobel Prize. Prior to this, Atal Bihari Vajpayee was awarded in 1998.

- He jointly won the Ig Nobel Peace Prize with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan for aggressively peaceful explosions of atomic bombs.

157. Ans. A.

- The Defence Research and Development Organization conducted a successful flight test of ABHYAS- High speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) vehicle at the Balasore test range in Odisha. This can now be used as a target for evaluation of missiles.

- ABHYAS-HEAT is an air vehicle. It uses twin underslung boosters.



- ABHYAS was designed and developed by the Aeronautical Development Establishment of DRDO. The missile is powered by a small gas turbine and has MEMS based Inertial Navigation System. It also has Flight Control Computer for control and guidance.
- During the test, 5 km of flying altitude, 2g turn capability of test vehicle and vehicle speed of 0.5 mach was achieved.
- The cost of the project is Rs 150 million.

158. Ans. B.

- The first ever Cargo Ferry Service between India and the Maldives was jointly launched opening a new chapter in connectivity initiatives in the Indian Ocean Region.
- The Cargo Ferry Vessel MCP Linz operated by the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) will connect Tuticorin and Cochin ports in India with Kulhudhufushi and Male ports in the Maldives.
- The MCP Linz is a combination vessel which can carry 380 TEUs and 3000 MT on bulk cargo, and will have a turnaround time of 10-12 days for its voyages.

159. Ans. A.

- भारत का पहला तटरक्षक अकादमी मंगलुरु में स्थापित किया जाएगा।
- लगभग 158 एकड़ में कर्नाटक औद्योगिक क्षेत्र विकास बोर्ड (KIADB) की जमीन ICG अकादमी स्थापित करने के लिए ली गई है।

160. Ans. A.

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161. Ans. B.

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and NITI Aayog will organize a summit on Artificial Intelligence (AI), RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020' from October 5-9, 2020.



- RAISE 2020 will be a global meeting of minds to exchange ideas and chart a course for using AI for social transformation, inclusion and empowerment in areas like Healthcare, Agriculture, Education and Smart Mobility, among other sectors.

162. Ans. B.

- The Centre has allowed states to spend up to 50 per cent money from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to boost infrastructure such as quarantine facilities, testing laboratories, oxygen generation plants and purchase of ventilators and PPE kits to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The move came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi told chief ministers of the seven worst affected states that his government has increased the states' limit to spend the SDRF to boost infrastructure to fight the pandemic.
- The areas where the states can spend up to 50 per cent of the SDRF include quarantine, sample collection and screening facilities.

163. Ans. C.

- Indian and Japanese navies conducted their three-day-long maritime military exercise in the North Arabian Sea.
- This is the fourth edition of Japan Maritime bilateral exercise (JIMEX).
- This would be the first military exercise after the two countries signed a landmark agreement recently that will allow their militaries to access each other's bases for logistics support.
- The JIMEX is a series of exercises commenced in January 2012 with a special focus on maritime security cooperation. The last edition of JIMEX was conducted in October 2018 off Visakhapatnam coast.

164. Ans. C.

- * The Maharashtra government has banned the sale of unpackaged "loose" cigarettes and beedis, making it the first Indian state to do so.
- * Maharashtra currently contributes to around 8-10% of the cigarette sales volumes.
- * The move is aimed at ensuring that customers see the graphic, public health warnings mandated on cigarette packaging.

165. Ans. B.



- * The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Danish Counterpart Mette Frederiksen held a virtual bilateral summit.
- * During the summit, the leaders established Green Strategic Partnership to fight against Climate Change.
- * The Partnership is mutually beneficial to both the countries to advance political cooperation, create jobs, expand economic relations. It will focus on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- * The partnership is to be built on the existing Joint Commission for Cooperation that was signed between the countries in 2009.

166. Ans. B.

- In a first-of-its-kind attempt to visually empower Mumbai's citizens with the resources they share the city with, a biodiversity map of the city has been created.
- The Map will showcase the wildlife hotspots, mangrove forests, urban green spaces and over 90 species that can be spotted in the city has been illustrated.
- The Map has been created by artist and cartoonist Rohan Chakravarty.
- The map has been created specially, for a campaign called 'Biodiversity by the Bay', initiated by Ministry of Mumbai's Magic, a youth collective for climate action.
- The campaign has a five-point objective, including getting protected status for the Lesser Flamingo and livelihood support for coastal Koli communities.

167. Ans. C.

- Maharashtra Government has issued a notification modifying the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 that will enable tribals and other traditional forest dwelling families to build houses in the neighbourhood forest areas.
- The move aims to prevent the migration of forest-dwelling families outside their native villages and provide them housing areas by extending the village site into forest land in their neighbourhood.
- The notification is the result of the consistent efforts of Vayam — a community-based organisation — working for the empowerment of tribal communities in Palghar and Nashik districts.



168. Ans. C.

- Veteran singer Usha Mangeshkar has been honoured with the "Gansamradni Lata Mangeshkar" award for 2020-21.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs five lakh and a citation.
- It has been constituted for the felicitation of senior vocal artistes and their contribution.
- The award is given by the cultural department of the state government.
- Usha Mangeshkar is the youngest sister of Lata Mangeshkar.

169. Ans. D.

- The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development is embarking on a Sanitation Literacy Campaign (SLC) to promote literacy on 'WASH' (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) in 2,000 villages across the country covering one lakh rural population.
- The objective of the campaign is to focus on inculcating significant behavioural changes towards adapting good hygiene and sanitation practices.
- The campaign will start from October 2 and would continue till January 26, 2021.

170. Ans. C.

- Designed by IIT-Kanpur backed startup aerial seeding technique has been employed by the Haryana government to improve green cover in the Aravalli area of the state.
- The project is being carried on a pilot basis to rejuvenate the low vegetation density of Aravalli and Shivalik hills. Using this method plantation on 100 acres is planned to be attempted during the pilot project.
- It is an innovative technique of plantation wherein seeds covered with a mixture of clay, compost, charcoal and other components in a definite ratio are sprayed on the ground using aerial devices, like planes, helicopters or drones.
- The coating of various components over the seed is done to drop the seed on a preset location rather than getting scattered in the air.



- These seed pellets will then germinate during the monsoon. The various nutrients present within the seed coating will help the seeds in the initial phase of its growth.

171. Ans. C.

- West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee president Somendranath Mitra passed away at a city hospital in Kolkata.
- A veteran Congress leader, Somen Mitra as he was often referred to, took charge of West Bengal Congress in 2018.
- He played a crucial role in forging an electoral understanding of Left parties and Congress in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.
- This was his third stint as Bengal Congress chief.
- Mitra, who was an influential leader of Congress from the north Kolkata rose to prominence in the 1970s.
- He became MLA in 1972 from Sealdah Assembly seat, and went on to represent the constituency seven times.

172. Ans. B.

- Von Karman Award was established in 1982 by the International Academy of Astronautics
- ISRO's chief Dr Kailasavadivoo Sivan has been named for the 2020 Von Karman Award
- The award will be given in March 2021 in Paris
- The award is named after Theodore von Karman who was an aerospace engineer and notably known for his key advances in aerodynamics.
- It is given annually to recognize outstanding lifetime achievements in any branch of science without limit of nationality or gender.

173. Ans. C.

- The International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in 2015.
- It is celebrated each year on July 26 and aims to raise awareness of the importance of mangroves as "a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem".



- It also aims to promote solutions for their sustainable management, conservation and uses.

174. Ans. C.

- Famous novelist Ruskin Bond will release book titled 'A Song of India' on July 20.
- It will mark the 70th year of Ruskin Bond's literary career.
- It has been published by Puffin Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House India.
- It is the fourth book in his memoir series after Looking for the Rainbow (2017), Till the Clouds Roll By (2017) and Coming Round the Mountain (2019)

175. Ans. B.

- China has successfully launched an unmanned mission to Mars titled 'Tianwen-1'
- It has been launched by China's largest carrier rocket 'Long March 5 Y-4' from Wenchang Space Launch Centre on southern island of Hainan.
- It is the first independent mission of China to another
- It is expected to reach Mars in February 2021 to deploy a rover for 90 day
- 'Tainwen-1' or 'Questions to Heaven' will carry several scientific instruments
- Eight spacecraft of America, Europe and India are either orbiting Mars or on its surface with other missions underway or planned along with UAE's mission Hope.

176. Ans. B.

- Anti-tank guided missile 'Dhruvastra' has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- It is indigenously developed and will conduct flight test.
- It was tested from Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.



- It is also named as helicopter-launched Nag Missile (HELINA) is a 3rd generation fire and forget class anti-tank guided missile system mounted on Advanced Light Helicopter
- It has a range of 7 Km and is equipped with four foldable wings and has a length of 1.85m, diameter of 0.20m, wingspan of 0.4m and weight of 43kg.

177. Ans. D.

* Mohun Bagan went global as it became the country's first ever football club to feature on NASDAQ billboards in New York's Times Square.

* The billboard announcing "131 years of unmatched legacy" of the club also reminded fans about the, "time to start believing, again," in an obvious reference to Mohun Bagan's recent amalgamation with the ISL champion ATK.

* July 29 is celebrated every year as Mohun Bagan day to commemorate the team's famous IFA Shield triumph in 1911 when it defeated East Yorkshire Regiment 2-1 to become the first Indian club to end British stranglehold on the tournament.

178. Ans. A.

- Union Minister for Ministry of Science and Technology Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21. VVM is a national level programme for popularizing science among school students of class sixth to Eleventh.

- Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan is an initiative of Vijnana Bharathi (VIBHA) in collaboration with Vigyan Prasar, Government of India and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

- It is India's largest Science talent search examination for New India using Digital Devices.

- The exam is conducted at national level and it can be attended online through laptop, PC or even smartphones.

179. Ans. B.

- बाजार नियामक, भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनिमय बोर्ड (सेबी) भारतीय पूंजी बाजार में उपलब्धियों और मील के पत्थर को उजागर करने के लिए प्रतिभूति बाजार का एक आभासी संग्रहालय स्थापित करने की योजना बना रहा है।

- SEBI ने आभासी संग्रहालय विकसित करने के लिए एजेंसियों से एक्सप्रेसन ऑफ़ इंटरेस्ट



(EoI) आमंत्रित किया है।

- इस संग्रहालय का उद्देश्य भारतीय प्रतिभूति बाजार में विकास, उपलब्धियों और मील के पत्थरों के इतिहास का एक दृश्य ऑनलाइन संगठित संग्रह है, जो बाजार के बुनियादी ढांचे, विनियमन और प्रवर्तन के मामले में दशकों से है।

180. Ans. C.

- The book titled "Siyasat Mein Sadasyata" authored by Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Choudhary.
- The book is a compilation of the author's views, three dozen articles on different important issues and his life journey.
- The book was published by Bihar Assembly Secretariat.
- The Book was released by Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar.
- The book has described various other important activities of assembly like successful completion of 6th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region among others.

181. Ans. C.

- The foundation stone of Indian Institute of Management Sirmaur, or IIM Sirmaur, has been laid down in Dhaulakuan, Himachal Pradesh by the Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.
- IIM Sirmaur was operationalised by IIM Lucknow from August 2015 as the mentor Institution with the commencement of the first batch of post graduate programme for 20 students from its temporary campus at Paonta Sahib, Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh.
- The complete full-fledged permanent campus at Dhaulakuan has been envisaged for a student strength of 1170. The Union Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs 531.75 Crore out of which Rs 392.51 Crore is for construction works.

182. Ans. D.

- * Manoj Sinha has been appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.
- * He will succeed Girish Chandra Murmu, who resigned recently



- * Manoj Sinha has represented the parliamentary constituency of Ghazipur in eastern Uttar Pradesh thrice in the Lok Sabha.
- * He also served as Communication Minister as well as Minister of state for Railways.
- * Jammu and Kashmir was converted into Union Territory after President abolished Article 370 of Indian Constitution and gave assent to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019
- * The act re-constituted state of J and K as two union territories: 'Jammu and Kashmir' and 'Ladakh', with effect from 31 October 2019

183. Ans. D.

- * Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli Daman and Diu (DNHDD) has launched 'E-Gyan Mitra' mobile application for online education, keeping in view the ongoing phase of COVID-19
- * Through the app, the students from primary till the higher secondary can take online classes along with attempting
- * The app will have lectures and quizzes posted by teachers along with a system of monitoring in which teachers can monitor students' progress

184. Ans. D.

- * The 6th edition of BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting was held under the Presidency of Russia through video conferencing
- * The meeting observed the the adoption of BRICS Environment Ministers' Statement by the BRICS nations
- * BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa
- * India was represented by Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar in the meet
- * Environment Minister of all the member nations were present in the meeting

185. Ans. D.

- The famous Journalist and Author, **Yatish Yadav** wrote a new book titled, "**RAW** (Research and Analysis Wing): A **History of India's Covert Operations**", narrates the heroic operations carried out by the Indian external spy agency.



- The book will give a detailed account of real spies and reveals hitherto unknown aspects of their life, trauma and temptation, triumphs and setbacks in executing each of their 'Mission Impossible'
- RAW, whose founder was spymaster Rameshwar Nath Kao, was established in 1968 to satisfy the need for increased intelligence that was identified during the 1962 Sino-Indian Border War and during the Indo-Pakistan War of 1965.

186. Ans. C.

- Former Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu has been appointed as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. He is the 14th CAG of India.
- He will assume office on 8 August 2020. He will replace Rajiv Mehrishi, a 1978 batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, as the CAG.
- Murmu, a 1985 batch IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre, was the first Lt Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
- He was Principal Secretary to Narendra Modi when he was Chief Minister of Gujarat.

187. Ans. C.

- The Uttarakhand State Government is to develop India's first Snow Leopard Conservation centre of India. The centre is to be developed by the Uttarakhand forest department and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- The main aim of the centre is to conserve and restore Himalayan ecosystems. It also aims to conserve elusive snow leopards and other endangered Himalayan species.
- A number of snow leopards have been spotted in the districts of Pithoragarh and Uttarkashi. However, the actual figures are unknown.
- So far, the state government has concluded that there are 86 snow leopards in the state.

188. Ans. B.

- Mukesh Ambani-led oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance Industries has been ranked the second biggest brand after Apple on the FutureBrand Index 2020.



- It is the only Indian Company in the Top 10 and Second Indian organisation on the ranking.
- In the Future Brand Index 2020 Samsung is ranked 3rd followed by Nvidia, Moutai, Nike, Microsoft, ASML, PayPal and Netflix in the top 10.
- Tata is ranked 65 for its technology business.
- The index looks at PwC's Global Top 100 Companies by Market Cap and reorders them according to global perception strength rather than on financial strength. Reliance ranked 91 on PwC's 2020 list.

189. Ans. E.

- Titled "Amazing Ayodhya", the book by Neena Rai promises to offer "authentic information" about the city, which will not only help understand the life and times of ancient Hindus, but also the revered figures of Rama and Sita.
- The book will be published by the publishing house Bloomsbury.
- Amazing Ayodhya' is an attempt in gaining knowledge of Ayodhya, its architecture and other details -- like how big was Ayodhya? How was it shaped like? What were the houses like? Who established Ayodhya? What kind of animals lived there?

190. Ans. D.

- * India will take part in the multilateral military "Russian Kavkaz 2020" strategic command-post exercise to be held in Astrakhan, Russia.
- * The Indian contingent includes 150 Army personnel and a smaller number of personnel from the Navy and Air Force.
- * The invitation for participation to Kavkaz 2020, also referred to as Caucasus-2020, has been extended to at least 18 countries including China, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey apart from other Central Asian Republics part of the SCO.

191. Ans. B.

- * The Defence Minister Rajnath launched the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Saptah' to focus more on the vision of the government to shift to local manufacturing and 'Make in India' It is also in line with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' scheme of the Prime Minister.
- * The main idea behind this is to emphasize the importance of domestic defence production in the country.



* The ministry is pushing for domestic manufacturing of defence items very aggressively.

* This new idea of observing a week is actually going to provide the much-needed impetus to the scheme.

192. Ans. B.

- National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched 'nth Rewards', a business intelligence and analytics enabled omni-channel multi-branded loyalty platform.
- This platform enables users to earn 'nth' (denoting infinite possibilities) points through various bank transactions and redeem them instantly on various products, such as e-vouchers, donations, hotel and flight bookings.
- The platform aims to become a one stop shop for the bank which will enable them to retain and grow their customer base.

193. Ans. B.

- Mount Sinabung on Sumatra Island in Indonesia erupted on August 10, firing ash and volcanic materials as high as 5000 meters into the sky.
- It was the second eruption of the volcano in as many days.
- There was no fatality or casualty reported due to this eruption of the volcano.
- It is one of the 120 active volcanoes in the country and it is also prone to seismic activity on the Pacific Ring of Fire, a ring of volcanoes and moving fault lines surrounding the Pacific Ocean.
- Mount Sinabung had been inactive for centuries together but it first erupted recently in 2010. Since then, it has erupted multiple times till the recent one.

194. Ans. A.

1. International Youth Day (IYD) is observed globally on 12th August every year.

2. This day is celebrated to recognize the efforts put in by the youth for the betterment of society.



3. The Day aims to promote the ways to engage the youth and make them more actively involved in their communities through positive contributions.
4. The theme of International Youth Day 2020, is "Youth Engagement for Global Action".
5. In 1999, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day.
6. This day is first time observed on August 12, 2000, the day marks an awareness day and draws attention to a given set of cultural and legal issues surrounding youth.

195. Ans. B.

1. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by the Bombay Stock Exchange with Akola, Maharashtra-based bullion trade and industry associations namely Akola Sarafa Association and Akola Sarafa Va Suvarnakar Yuva Sangh.
2. The partnership will seek to enhance cooperation between the BSE and physical markets represented by the two trade bodies in various areas like knowledge sharing, education and training, events as well as explore areas of mutual interests.
3. The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) will conduct various activities such as seminars and awareness programmes on price-risk management for bullion traders and jewellers.
4. These programmes will help them in shifting to more organised forms of trading.
5. BSE will also aware them about effective hedging tools like derivatives contracts, especially 'options in goods' and hence enable them to face a volatile market.

196. Ans. B.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the platform for "Transparent Taxation - Honoring the Honest" via video conferencing.
- The virtual launch is being attended by various industrialists including, Ratan Tata, Anand Mahindra and Uday Kotak.
- In a major reform the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has carried out several major tax reforms in direct taxes in recent years.



- Last year, the Corporate Tax rates were reduced from 30 per cent to 22 per cent and for new manufacturing units, the rates were reduced to 15 per cent. Dividend distribution tax was also abolished.
- PM announced that Taxpayer charter comes with responsibilities for taxpayers too. The taxpayer must pay tax because that is how the system works.
- Faceless assessment will be decided randomly by a computer and will be changed from time to time. This will ensure that the income tax administration and the income tax payers cannot communicate to each other, bringing any changes of pressuring to zero.

197. Ans. A.

- The Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has organised the "India@75 Summit – Mission 2022"
- Union Minister for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Nitin Gadkari has addressed the summit via video-conferencing.
- The summit was focused on 'reinventing technology in India'.
- The MSME Ministry and Industries should be made import substitutes, cost-effective, pollution-free and indigenous.

198. Ans. D.

- Nitin Sethi has been declared winners of the Asian College of Journalism's award 2019 for investigative journalism.
- The awards ceremony was conducted online due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Sethi won in the investigative journalism category for his six-part series titled "Paisa Politics" published by The Huffington Post India.
- The award comprises a trophy and citation. The Investigative Journalism Award winner receives Rs 200,000 in prize money.

199. Ans. B.

- The Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) has been launched by the Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh.
- The NIIO, a three-tiered organisation, will enable its end users to interact with academia as well as industry for the promotion of innovation



and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence, with the help of its dedicated structures.

- The twin aspects of innovation and indigenisation would be brought together by the Naval Technology Acceleration Council (N-TAC), which will also offer apex level directives.
- It also includes a working group under the N-TAC, which will be responsible for the implementation of the projects.
- To fulfill the objective of induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame, Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC) has been established.

200. Ans. D.

- On the 2nd death anniversary of the former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that the Gwalior-Chambal Expressway will be named Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chambal Progressway.
- The Gwalior Chambal Expressway is a 6 lane expressway connecting Madhya Pradesh with Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, through the ravines of Chambal region.
- The expressway will go parallel to the Chambal river via Shivpuri, Bind, Morena to Kota (Rajasthan).

201. Ans. C.

- Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) will launch India's first bullion index named "Bulldex", on August 24, 2020.
- Bullions, viz. gold and silver are already being traded as individual commodities on the country's premier commodity exchange.
- With gold and silver as underlying, Bulldex will have a market lot size of 50 and be cash-settled futures contract. MCX had tested bullion index futures trade in mock trading exercises in July.

202. Ans. A.

- Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to be expanded across 173 border and coastal districts.
- As many as 1 lakh cadets from the area will be inducted to the NCC with Girl cadets covering one-third of the count.



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