

# 100+ Most Important October Month Current Affairs Questions



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1.Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the United Nations (UN) Day?

- i. The UN Day is observed on October 24 each year and marks the official establishment of the United Nations in 1945.
  - ii. The name 'United Nations' was coined by the United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
  - iii. Presently, the UN has 193 members.
- A. ii only  
B. i and ii only  
C. ii and iii only  
D. i, ii and iii

Answer : D

Solution :

The United Nations (UN) Day is observed on October 24 each year and marks the official establishment of the United Nations in 1945.

The 2021 theme is “Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity”.

### History:

On this day, the UN Charter was ratified by a majority of signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, which led to the official establishment of the UN.

It was first celebrated on October 24, 1948.

About United Nations:

The name 'United Nations' was coined by the United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt and was first used in the Declaration of the United Nations on January 1, 1942, during the Second World War.

The UN had 51 members at the time of its establishment.

Formation: 24 October 1945

Headquarter: New York, USA

Present Membership: 193 member states

The United Nations has six principal organs:

The General Assembly  
The Security Council  
The Economic and Social Council  
The International Court of Justice  
The UN Secretariat  
The Trusteeship Council

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Exercise 'Konkan Shakti -2021'.

- i. Konkan Shakti 2021 was the maiden India - UK Joint Tri-Service exercise.
- ii. The exercise was held off the east coast of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : A

Solution :

The Maiden India - UK Joint Tri-Service exercise 'Konkan Shakti -2021' began on October 21, 2021.

It is scheduled in India from 21 October to 27 Oct 2021.

About 'Konkan Shakti -21':

The maritime component of the exercise, to be conducted off the west coast of India, is scheduled to be held in two phases.

The harbour phase is planned at Mumbai from 21 - 23 Oct 21, while at sea, the exercises will be conducted from 24 - 27 Oct 21.

The land phase of the exercise is being conducted between Indian Army and UK Army at Chaubatia from 21 -27 October 2021 under the aegis of Golden Key Division of Surya Command.

It aims to derive mutual benefits from each other's experiences and also showcase the continuing cooperation between the two countries.

Maritime cooperation is a distinguishable symbol of the commitment of both nations in ensuring a positive climate at sea for enhancing strategic stability and promoting global economic prosperity.

3. Which organisation has launched a Digi-Book 'Innovations for You'?

- A. FICCI
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. ISRO
- D. CSIR
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched a Digi-Book 'Innovations for You'.

The first edition of this book is focused on innovations in Health Care and soon other sectors shall follow.

The book is a compilation of 45 health tech startups, incubated at Atal Incubation Centres spread across the country.

These startups are leveraging frontier technologies such as AI, IoT, ICT and others to provide socially relevant solutions to problems like Anemia, Malaria, dental care, mental health, neonatal and child care and monitoring human vitals, among others.

These startups have worked to create new, disruptive and innovative products, services, and solutions that can pave a path for a sustainable future.

**About Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog:** It is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote innovation and entrepreneurship culture in the country.

4. Where is the headquarters of International Solar Alliance (ISA) located?

- A. Denmark
- B. France
- C. India
- D. Japan
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

The 4<sup>th</sup> general assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) was held between October 18th and October 21st, 2021.

It was presided over by Union Minister R.K. Singh, Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and the President of the ISA Assembly.

Key initiatives of the 4th Assembly of the ISA:

Operationalisation of the OSOWOG (One Sun One World One Grid) initiative

\$1 trillion Solar Investment Roadmap for 2030

Approval of a Blended Financial Risk Mitigation Facility

Management of Solar PV panels & battery usage waste & Solar Hydrogen programme

About International Solar Alliance (ISA):

It is an association of 124 countries initiated by India.

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana, India

Founded: 30 November 2015

Director General: Ajay Mathur

5. Who was awarded the European Union's top human rights prize 'Sakharov Prize 2021' for Freedom of Thought?

- A. Dmitry Muratov
- B. Maria Ressa
- C. Alexei Navalny
- D. Tony Robbins
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

Russian Opposition leader Alexei Navalny was awarded the European Union's top human rights prize 'Sakharov Prize 2021' for Freedom of Thought.

Alexei Navalny has fought tirelessly against the corruption of Vladimir Putin's regime.

He was imprisoned in Russia in 2020.

He is the leader of Russia of the Future party and founder of the Anti-Corruption Foundation.

6. Which country has launched its first homegrown space rocket 'Nuri'?

- A. South Korea
- B. Japan
- C. Israel
- D. Iran
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : A

Solution :

South Korea has launched its first homegrown space rocket 'Nuri' from Naro Space Center in Goheung.

South Korea's first domestically produced space rocket reached its desired altitude but failed to deliver a dummy payload into orbit in its first test launch.

About space rocket 'Nuri'

Nuri is the country's first space launch vehicle built entirely with domestic technology. It is designed to deliver a 1.5-ton payload into orbit 600 to 800 kilometers above Earth.

Note: South Korea had previously launched a space launch vehicle from the Naro spaceport in 2013, which was a two-stage rocket built mainly with Russian technology.

7. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the ABHYAS?

- i. ABHYAS is a High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT).
- ii. It was flight-tested from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- iii. It has been developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru.

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : D

Solution :

'ABHYAS' - the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) was successfully flight-tested by DRDO from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.

'ABHYAS' is designed & developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru.

The vehicle can be used as an aerial target for evaluation of various missile systems. The performance of the target aircraft was monitored through telemetry and various tracking sensors including Radars and Electro Optical Tracking System (EOTS). This indigenous target aircraft, once developed, will meet the requirements of High-speed Expendable Aerial Targets (HEAT) for Indian Armed Forces.

8. Consider the following statements:

- i. Global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) retained Pakistan on its 'Black List' of countries.
- ii. Three new countries -- Turkey, Jordan, and Mali -- have been added to the Grey List.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : B

Solution :

Global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) retained Pakistan on its 'Grey List' of countries.

Three new countries -Turkey, Jordan, and Mali -have also been added to the Grey List. Pakistan is cooperating and only four action items remain to be completed.

The FATF asked Islamabad to investigate and prosecute UN-designated terrorists including Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar.

Pakistan was placed on the Grey List by the FATF in June 2018. Since then, Pakistan continues to be in the list due to its failure to comply with the FATF mandates.

Facts about Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

FATF is an intergovernmental organisation founded on the initiative of the G7 to develop policies to combat money laundering. In 2001, its mandate was expanded to include terrorism financing.

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 1989

Membership: 39

Two lists of FATF:

Grey List: Those countries that are considered safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering. 'Increased monitoring list' is another name for the 'Grey List'.

Black List: Those countries known as Non-Cooperative Countries are put in the Black List. These countries support money laundering and terror funding activities.

9. Who will be conferred the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI)?

- A. Michael Bay, Ron Howard
- B. Istevan Szabo, Martin Scorsese
- C. Peter Jackson, James Cameron
- D. David Yates, Tim Burton
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur has announced that Istevan Szabo and Martin Scorsese will be conferred the 'Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award' at 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

The 52nd edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be held from 20th to 28th November, 2021 in Goa.

**Istvan Szabo** is one of the most critically acclaimed Hungarian film directors of the past few decades known for masterpieces like Mephisto (1981) Father (1966).

Martin Scorsese is one of the major figures of the New Hollywood era, widely regarded as one of the greatest and most influential directors in film history.

10. Who has announced plans to launch a new social network 'TRUTH Social'?

- A. Mark Zuckerberg
- B. Barack Obama
- C. Donald Trump
- D. Elon Musk
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

Former US president Donald Trump has announced plans to launch his own social network 'TRUTH Social'.

'TRUTH Social' will be owned by Trump Media & Technology Group (TMTG), and is expected to begin its beta launch for "invited guests" next month.

Note: Twitter, Facebook and other social media platforms banned Trump from their services after hundreds of his supporters rioted at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

11. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 67th National Film Awards?

- i. Kangana Ranaut won the Best Actress award.
- ii. Akshay Kumar won the Best Actor award.
- iii. Manipur won the award for 'Most Film Friendly State'.

- A. i only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only



D. i, ii and iii

Answer : A

Solution :

The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu conferred National Film Awards for the year 2019 in various categories at its 67th edition along with the prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Award.

Rajinikanth has been awarded the 51<sup>st</sup> Dada Saheb Phalke Award.

Note: The 67th National Film Awards were announced on March 22, 2021.

Main awards:

Category	Winner
Best Feature Film	Marakkar Arabikkadilinte Simham (Malayalam) directed by Priyadarshan
Best Actress	Kangana Ranaut (Manikarnika, Panga)
Best Actor	Manoj Bajpayee (Bhonsle) and Dhanush (Asuran)
Best Supporting Actress	Pallavi Joshi (The Tashkent Files)
Best Supporting Actor	Vijaya Sethupathi (Super Deluxe)
Best Director	Sanjay Puri (Bahattar Hoorain)
Best Female Playback Singer	Savani Ravindra (for song Rann Petala)
Best Male Playback Singer	B Praak (for song Teri Mitti)
Best Film Critic	Sohini Chattopadhyaya
Best Children Film	Kastoori (Hindi)
Best Cinematography	Jallickettu (Malayalam)
Best Hindi film	Chhichhore
Best Non-Feature Film	An Engineered Dream
Most Film Friendly State	Sikkim
Best Book on Cinema	'A Gandhian Affair: India's Curious Portrayal of Love in Cinema' by Sanjay Suri

12. Which Union Ministry has launched the new market segment, Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- B. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

R K Singh, Union Minister of Power & New and Renewable Energy launched the new market segment, Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM).

The launch of the Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM) will deepen the green market and will provide competitive price signals, besides offering an opportunity to the market participants to trade in green energy, in the most transparent, flexible, competitive, and efficient manner.

The introduction of GDAM is expected to create a domino effect that will lead to a gradual shift from Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) based contract to market-based models which will build and deepen the markets to the next level, paving the way for India to meet its ambitious target of 450 GW green capacity by 2030.

National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC), POSOCO, as the Nodal Agency, has set up the latest technologies and communication infrastructure for facilitating the Green Day Ahead Market.

13. Which of the following states has won the award for the 'city with the most Sustainable Transport System'?

A. Uttar Pradesh

B. Gujarat

C. Telangana

D. Kerala

E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : D

Solution :

Kerala has won the award for the 'city with the most sustainable transport system'.

The award has been given in recognition of the projects implemented – like Kochi Metro, Water Metro and e-mobility – to enhance the transport facilities in the city of Kochi.

The formation of the Kochi Open Mobility Network, which digitized and integrated various transport facilities, also helped to win the award.

The award would be presented in Delhi by Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri.

The award is given in recognition of the transport facilities in various states and Union Territories of India.

14.The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename the Faizabad Railway Junction as.....

- A. Ayodhya Cantt Station
- B. Shri Ram Station
- C. Ram-Laxman Station
- D. Dashrath Cantt Station

Answer : A

Solution :

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename the Faizabad Railway Junction as Ayodhya Cantt Railway Station.

According to the procedure, the state government sends a proposal to the Ministry of Home Affairs, from where it goes to the Railway Board for final implementation.

Note:

Earlier in 2018, the Yogi Adityanath government had renamed Faizabad as Ayodhya. The UP government had also changed the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj and the Central government had changed Mughalsarai Railway Junction as Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay Junction.

15.Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected for a second term as a President of which country?

- A. Kazakhstan
- B. Uzbekistan
- C. Tajikistan
- D. Kyrgyzstan
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected for a second five-year term by winning 80.1% of the vote.

Shavkat Mirziyoyev is an Uzbek politician who has been serving as the President of Uzbekistan and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan since 2016.

Previously he was the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan from 2003 to 2016.

Facts about Uzbekistan:

Capital: Tashkent

Currency: Uzbekistani Som

16.Which film has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022)?

A. Sardar Udham

B. Shershaah

C. Koozhangal

D. Roohi

E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

Tamil film Koozhangal (Pebbles), directed by filmmaker PS Vinothraj, has been selected as India's official entry for the 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022).

Koozhangal is a realistic family drama produced by Nayanthara and Vignesh Shivan. If selected, the film will compete for the Academy Award for 'Best International Feature Film'.

The 94th Academy Awards are scheduled to take place on March 27, 2022, in Los Angeles.

17.CUNSLT app, launched by the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, is a.....

A. Traffic Rules app

B. Road Safety app

C. Knowledge app

D. Communication app

Answer : C

Solution :

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has launched a knowledge App and platform 'CUNSLT'.

CUNSLT app is the first such global facility by which people who need information, advice, counsel, guidance can contact and call up experts in multiple sectors on-the-go.

Each expert also gets a unique, exclusive page reflecting their contributions by way of articles and video-blogs and this serves as their intellectual legacy and helps to promote interest in them.

18. India's 1st State government -owned Wildlife DNA testing lab was inaugurated in which city?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Nagpur
- C. Surat
- D. Indore

Answer : B

Solution :

Maharashtra Chief Minister **Uddhav Thackeray** inaugurated India's 1st State government-owned **Wildlife DNA testing laboratory** at Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in **Nagpur, Maharashtra**.

At present, there are 2 central government-owned Wildlife DNA testing laboratories at Dehradun & Hyderabad.

Note:

CM Uddhav Thackeray also launched 3 Fast Track DNA testing units in Mumbai and Pune under the Central Government's **Nirbhaya Scheme to test human DNA samples**.

The Labs will be exclusively dealing with cases registered under Protection of Children From Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

19. Indian-origin Anita Anand has been appointed as the new Defence Minister of which country?

- A. Canada
- B. US
- C. UK
- D. France
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : A

Solution :

Indian-origin Canadian politician Anita Anand was appointed as the new Defence Minister of Canada in the latest cabinet reshuffle by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Ms. Anand (54 year old) will replace long-time Defence Minister Indian-origin Harjit Sajjan, whose handling of the military sexual misconduct crisis has been under criticism.

She also led the procurement effort of the vaccine during the COVID-19 pandemic and was the Procurement Minister of the country.

20. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS)?

- i. It was held on 27 October 2021
  - ii. It was hosted by Thailand.
  - iii. The EAS leaders adopted three Statements on Mental Health, Economic recovery through Tourism and Sustainable Recovery.
- A. ii only  
B. i and iii only  
C. ii and iii only  
D. i, ii and iii

Answer : B

Solution :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 16th East Asia Summit (EAS) on October 27, 2021.

The 16th East Asia Summit was hosted by Brunei as EAS and ASEAN Chair.

It saw the participation of leaders from ASEAN countries and other EAS Participating Countries including Australia, China, Japan, South Korea and Russia, USA.

The 16th East Asia Summit discussed important regional and international issues including Indo-Pacific, South China Sea, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), terrorism, and situation in Korean Peninsula and Myanmar.

The EAS leaders adopted three Statements on Mental Health, Economic recovery through Tourism and Sustainable Recovery, which have been co-sponsored by India. Prime Minister Modi emphasized on the establishment of a better balance between economy and ecology and climate sustainable lifestyle.

He reaffirmed "ASEAN centrality" in the Indo-Pacific and highlighted the synergies between ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI).

About East Asia Summit (EAS):

The East Asia Summit is the premier Leaders-led forum in the Indo-Pacific.

Since its inception in 2005, it has played a significant role in the strategic and geopolitical evolution of East Asia.

Apart from the 10 ASEAN Member states, the East Asia Summit includes India, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Australia, New Zealand, United States and Russia.

21. Which Union Ministry has launched the "SAMBHAV" e-National Level Awareness Programme, 2021?

- A. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- B. Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- C. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- D. Ministry of Education
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India has launched "SAMBHAV" e-National Level Awareness Programme, 2021.

About "SAMBHAV" Programme:

The objective of the programme is engagement of the youth in promoting entrepreneurship leading to the economic development of the country.

It will be a one-month long initiative under the Ministry of MSME in which students from different colleges/ITIs from all parts of the country will be encouraged by 130 field offices of the Ministry to take up entrepreneurship.

It will be conducted in more than 1,300 colleges across the country in which 1,50,000 students are expected to participate.

22. Who is the chairman of the committee set up by the Supreme Court to examine the Pegasus surveillance case?

- A. Justice R M Lodha
- B. Justice RV Raveendran
- C. Justice U U Lalit
- D. Justice L N Rao

Answer : B

Solution :

The Supreme Court ordered a probe into the Pegasus surveillance case by a 3-member expert committee.

The expert committee will be headed by Retired Supreme Court judge, Justice RV Raveendran.

Expert committee will investigate whether the Centre or any state government acquired and used Israeli spyware Pegasus for surveillance of Indian citizens, and to also ascertain details of people targeted.

The court has also asked the committee to make recommendations on a legal and policy framework on cyber security to ensure the right to privacy of citizens is protected.

23. Which organisation has launched the Garuda app?

- A. Election Commission of India
- B. Defence Research and Development Organisation
- C. India Meteorological Department
- D. Central Bureau of Investigation
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : A

Solution :

The ECI (Election Commission of India) launched the Garuda app for the digital mapping of all polling stations.

Garuda app will ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.

Booth Level Officers (BLO) will upload photos and location information of the polling stations with data like latitude and longitude of the polling stations from their registered mobile numbers.

The app will reduce the paperwork.

Facts about ECI (Election Commission of India):

Formed: 25 January 1950

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chief Election Commissioner: Sushil Chandra

24. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021?

- i. India ranked 101 out of 116 countries in the GHI 2021.
- ii. The GHI score is calculated on four indicators.
- iii. The report is prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welthungerhilfe.



Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : D

Solution :

India ranked 101 out of 116 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021.

With a score of 27.5, India has a level of hunger that is serious.

India is behind Pakistan (92), Bangladesh (76) and Nepal (76).

In 2020, India was ranked 94th out of 107 countries.

A total of 18 countries, including China, Kuwait and Brazil, shared the top rank with GHI score of less than five.

The GHI report mentioned the level of hunger in India as “alarming” with its GHI score decelerating from 38.8 in 2000 to the range of 28.8 – 27.5 between 2012 and 2021.

**About Global Hunger Index (GHI):**

The GHI report is prepared jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organisation Welthungerhilfe.

The GHI score is calculated on four indicators – undernourishment, child wasting, child stunting and child mortality.

25. Consider the following statements regarding the “Yudh Abhyas 2021”.

- i. It was the 17th Edition of the Joint Military Exercise between India and Nepal.
- ii. It was held in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : D

Solution :

The 17th Edition of Indo-US Joint Military Exercise “Yudh Abhyas 2021” began at Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Alaska (USA).

The exercise is being conducted from 15 to 29 October 2021.

Yudh Abhyas 2021 is the largest running joint military training and defence cooperation endeavor between India and USA.

The exercise aims at enhancing understanding, cooperation and inter-operability between two Armies.

Note: The previous version of this exercise was held at Mahajan Field Firing in Bikaner, Rajasthan in February 2021.

26. India was re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the.....term (2022-24)?

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- B. 6<sup>th</sup>
- C. 3<sup>rd</sup>
- D. 7<sup>th</sup>

Answer : B

Solution :

India was re-elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for the sixth term (2022-24) with an overwhelming majority.

India got 184 votes in the 193-member assembly, while the required majority was 97.

The 76th UN General Assembly (UNGA) held elections for 18 new members of the UN Human Rights Council who will serve for a period of 3 years, starting in January 2022.

India's current term was set to end on December 31 2021.

About United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC):

UNHRC is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world.

President: Nazhat Shameem

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Founded: 15 March 2006

27. When is World Food Day observed?

- A. October 16
- B. October 15
- C. October 26
- D. October 17
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : A

Solution :

World Food Day (WFD) is celebrated every year on October 16 to commemorate the date of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in 1945.

The theme for World Food Day this year is “Our actions are our future- Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life,” as per the official website of FAO.

World Food Day was established by FAO's Member Countries at the Organization's 20th General Conference in November 1979.

The day is also observed by organisations like World Food Programme and International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Note:

This time, the UN Secretary-General also convened the very first Food Systems Summit in September 2021 to discuss ways to transform the production and consumption of food.

According to The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, 2020 report by FAO, 189.2 million Indians or 14 percent of the total population in India are undernourished.

28. Which of the following teams has won the IPL (Indian Premier League) 2021 title?

- A. Kolkata Knight Riders
- B. Mumbai Indians
- C. Chennai Super Kings
- D. Rajasthan Royals
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

Chennai Super Kings beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs to win its 4<sup>th</sup> IPL (Indian Premier League) title in Dubai.

The 2021 Indian Premier League (IPL 14) was the fourteenth season of IPL.

Player of the series: Harshal Patel (Royal Challengers Bangalore)

Orange Cap: Ruturaj Gaikwad (Chennai Super Kings) Most runs 635

Purple Cap: Harshal Patel (Royal Challengers Bangalore) Most wickets 32

MS Dhoni led Chennai lift the IPL trophy for the fourth time, having previously won the tournament in 2010, 2011, and 2018.

29. Consider the following statements regarding the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021.

- i. It was released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- ii. It compares acute multidimensional poverty for 109 countries in developing regions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : B

Solution :

The 2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Report was jointly released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021 compares acute multidimensional poverty for 109 countries in developing regions.

**Key Findings of the Reports (Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021: Unmasking disparities by ethnicity, caste and gender):**

109 countries are home to 5.9 billion people, three-quarters of the world's population. Of these people, 1.3 billion (21.7%) are identified by the 2021 global MPI as multidimensionally poor.

About 644 million are children under age 18.

Nearly 85 percent live in Sub-Saharan Africa (556 million) or South Asia (532 million).

Roughly, 84 percent (1.1 billion) live in rural areas, and 16 percent (about 209 million) live in urban areas.

More than 67 percent live in middle-income countries.

In India, 5 out of 6 multidimensionally poor people were from lower tribes or castes.

30. Which state has launched the 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' Scheme?

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

Answer : D

Solution :

Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi launched 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' Scheme to give ownership rights to people living in houses within the "Lal Lakir" of villages and cities.

"Lal Lakir" refers to land that is part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only.

'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' Scheme will give much needed assistance to all the people, especially those from needy and underprivileged strata.

Earlier this scheme was launched only for the residents of villages but now it is being extended to the eligible residents of the cities within the "Lal Lakir".

All the eligible residents after proper identification or verification will be given the property cards (sanads) to give ownership rights to them in a time-bound manner.

31. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Earthshot Prize?

- i. It is given by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ii. Each year 3 finalists will be selected for their contributions towards the 3 UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- iii. Vidyut Mohan (Co-founder of Takachar) has won the inaugural edition of the Earthshot Prize.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- A. iii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : A

Solution :

Vidyut Mohan (Co-founder of Takachar), a Delhi entrepreneur's agricultural waste recycling concept, won the inaugural edition of the Earthshot Prize.

Indian company Takachar won the prize in the "Clean our Air" category for the creation of a portable machine that turns agricultural waste into fertiliser so that farmers do not burn the waste and cause air pollution.

Five winners were announced, each receiving a million pounds (\$1.4 million).

About Earthshot Prize:

It is a prize awarded annually from 2021 to 2030.

It is given by the Royal Foundation, headquartered in London, England.

It was launched in 2020 by Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and David Attenborough.

Each year five finalists will be selected for their contributions towards the five UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – restoration and protection of nature, air cleanliness, ocean revival, waste-free living and climate action.

32. Consider the following statements regarding the Lucy Mission:

- i. NASA launched it.
- ii. It is the first space mission to study Jupiter's Trojans Asteroids.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : C

Solution :

NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) launched Lucy spacecraft, the first space mission (Lucy Mission) to study Jupiter's Trojans Asteroids.

Lucy's mission is a 12-year expedition to study a record number of asteroids.

It will be the first to explore the Trojans, thousands of rocky objects orbiting the sun in two swarms – one ahead of the path of the giant gas planet Jupiter and one behind it.

33. Which organisation has launched the Geospatial Energy Map of India?

- A. POWERGRID
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. TATA Power
- D. NTPC

Answer : B

Solution :

NITI Aayog launched a comprehensive GIS Geospatial Energy Map of India.

NITI Aayog in collaboration with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has developed a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) Energy Map of India with the support of Energy Ministries of Government of India.

The GIS map provides a holistic picture of all energy resources of the country which enables visualisation of energy installations such as conventional power plants, oil and

gas wells, petroleum refineries, coal fields and coal blocks, district-wise data on renewable energy power plants and renewable energy resource potential, etc through 27 thematic layers.

It leverages the latest advancements in web-GIS technology and open-source software to make it interactive and user friendly.

The Geospatial Energy Map of India will be useful in planning and making investment decisions.

It will also aid in disaster management using available energy assets.

34. Recently, the Central government has renamed Mount Harriet in Andaman as.....

- A. Mount Manipur
- B. Mount Tripura
- C. Mount Mizoram
- D. Mount Sikkim
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : A

Solution :

The Central government has decided to rename Mount Harriet, an island peak in Andaman and Nicobar islands as a tribute to the freedom fighters of Manipur. It will now be known as Mount Manipur.

Manipur played a significant role in resisting the British in the Northeast during the 1857 revolution and in 1891.

Mount Harriet, the third-highest island peak in Andaman and Nicobar islands, where Manipur's Maharaja Kulchandra Singh and 22 other freedom fighters were imprisoned during the Anglo-Manipuri war (1891).

35. In October 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated which International Airport in Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Kanpur International Airport
- B. Gorakhpur International Airport
- C. Kushinagar International Airport
- D. Kaushambi International Airport
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Kushinagar International Airport in Uttar Pradesh.

He participated in an event marking Abhidhamma Day at the Mahaparinirvana Temple in Kushinagar.

He laid the foundation stone of Rajkiya Medical College, Kushinagar.

The Kushinagar International Airport, built at a cost of Rs 260 crore, has the state's longest runway with a length of 3.2 km and a width of 45 metres.

With this, Uttar Pradesh now has 3 international airports.

Apart from the Kushinagar International Airport, the two operational international airports are -- Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport at Lucknow and Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport at Varanasi.

Kushinagar is the centre of the Buddhist Circuit.

This region is witness to the entire journey from the enlightenment of Lord Buddha to Mahaparinirvana.

36.Which organisation has released its annual World Energy Outlook (WEO) Report?

- A. United Nations Environment Programme
- B. International Atomic Energy Agency
- C. International Energy Agency
- D. United Nations Development Programme
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : C

Solution :

The International Energy Agency (IEA) released its annual World Energy Outlook (WEO) Report 2021.

Investment in renewable energy will need to triple by the end of this decade if the world's climate pledges are to be met.

**Key Findings of the Report:**

Renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, hydropower and bioenergy, need to form a far bigger share in the rebound in energy investment after the coronavirus pandemic.

The IEA noted that demand for renewables continues to grow.

However, this clean energy progress is still far too slow to put global emissions into sustained decline towards net zero by 2050, which the IEA believes will help limit the increase in global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius.



More than 40% of the required emissions reductions would come from measures that pay for themselves, such as improving efficiency, limiting gas leakage, or installing wind or solar in places where they are now the most competitive electricity generation technologies.

37. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Global Food Security Index 2021?

- i. India is ranked at 71st position in the Index.
  - ii. The Index measures the underlying drivers of food security in 113 countries.
  - iii. It is released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- A. ii only  
B. i and ii only  
C. ii and iii only  
D. i, ii and iii

Answer : B

Solution :

India is ranked at 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 of 113 countries.

The GFS Index was designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.

Top Rankers:

Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the US shared the top rank with the overall GFS score in the range of 77.8 and 80 points on the index.

India's Rank:

India held 71st position with an overall score of 57.2 points on the GFS Index 2021 of 113 countries, far better than Pakistan (75th position), Sri Lanka (77th Position), Nepal (79th position) and Bangladesh (84th position).

Pakistan (with 52.6 points) scored better than India (50.2 points) in the category of food affordability. Sri Lanka was even better with 62.9 points in this category on the GFS Index 2021.

However, over the past 10 years, India's incremental gains in overall food security score were lagging behind that of Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

India's score improved only by 2.7 points to 57.2 in 2021 from 54.5 in 2012.

Global food security has decreased for the second year in a row after seven years of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal of achieving Zero Hunger by 2030.

About Global Food Security (GFS) Index:

The GFS Index measures the underlying drivers of food security in 113 countries, based on the factors of affordability, availability, quality and safety, and natural resources and resilience.

It considers 58 unique food security indicators including income and economic inequality.

38. Consider the following statements regarding the Production Gap Report 2021 .

- i. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released the Report.
- ii. The Report measures the production of trees in the world.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : A

Solution :

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released the Production Gap Report 2021.

The report is produced by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Overseas Development Institute (ODI), E3G, and UNEP.

The report, first launched in 2019, measures the gap between governments' planned production of coal, oil, and gas and the global production levels consistent with meeting the Paris Agreement temperature limits.

Two years later, the report released found the production gap largely unchanged. Despite increased climate ambition and net-zero commitments, governments still plan to produce more than double the amount of energy from fossil fuels in 2030, than the amount that would limit global warming to the Paris Agreement level of 1.5°C.

Over the next two decades, governments are projecting an increase in global oil and gas production, and only a modest decrease in coal production.

Taken together, these plans mean that fossil fuel production will increase overall, to at least 2040.

The production gap to achieve the climate goal is the widest for coal: Production plans and projections by governments would lead to around 240 percent more coal, 57 percent more oil, and 71 percent more gas in 2030 than global levels.

39. Bhaskarabda (Luni-Solar Calendar) will be used by which state government in its official calendar?

- A. Odisha
- B. Assam
- C. Karnataka
- D. Kerala
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

The Assam Government has announced that Bhaskarabda (Luni-Solar Calendar) will be used in the official calendar by the state.

Presently, the Assam government officially uses the Saka calendar and the Gregorian calendar.

Bhaskarabda, an era counted from the date of the ascension of a 7th-century local ruler, will be added to the Saka and Gregorian in the official calendar of the Assam government.

The Bhaskarabda calendar differs from the Gregorian calendar by 593 years.

Bhaskarabda began when Kumar Bhaskaravarman was crowned ruler of the Kamrupa kingdom. He was a contemporary and political ally of northern Indian ruler Harshavardhana.

Type of Calendars:

Solar, Lunar and Luni-Solar

Classification of Calendars in India:

Vikram Samvat (Hindu lunar calendar)

Saka Samvat (Hindu Solar calendar)

Hijri calendar (Islamic lunar calendar)

Gregorian calendar (Scientific solar calendar)

40. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of World Steel Association (WSA)?

- A. Lakshmi Mittal
- B. Sajjan Jindal
- C. Sanjay Singhal
- D. Gautam Adani
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : B

Solution :

The World Steel Association has elected Sajjan Jindal (JSW Steel Chairman and Managing Director) as its Chairman for the 2021-22 period.

Jindal is the first representative from India to serve as Chairman of the World Steel Association.

About World Steel Association (WSA):

WSA acts as the focal point for the steel industry, providing global leadership on all major strategic issues impacting the industry.

Its members represent approximately 85 percent of the world's steel production.

It was established in 1967 and is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

41. Which countries will establish an international forum for economic cooperation during a quadrilateral (Quad) meeting in October 2021?

- A. India, Israel, USA & UK
- B. India, Israel, Japan & UAE
- C. India, Israel, USA & Australia
- D. India, Israel, USA & UAE
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer : D

Solution :

Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Israel Foreign Minister Yair Lapid during a quadrilateral (Quad) meeting with UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and US secretary of State Anthony Blinken on October 19, 2021 agreed to establish a **joint economic cooperation forum**.

The Ministers also discussed how to support global public health in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and expand people to people ties in technology and science.

The four ministers also held a discussion on possibilities for joint infrastructure projects in the fields of technology, transportation, maritime security, trade and economics and additional joint projects.

During the talks, Secretary Blinken reiterated the Biden Administration's support for the Abraham Accords and normalization agreements and discussed future opportunities for collaboration in the region and globally.

About Abraham Accords:

The Abraham Accords was signed by Israel, UAE and the US in August 2020 to normalise ties between Israel and the UAE.

42. Consider the following statements regarding the new Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh.

i. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) declared the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a new Tiger Reserve.

ii. This will be the fourth Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : C

Solution :

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) approved the Chhattisgarh government's proposal to declare the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve.

The new Reserve is located in the northern part of the state, bordering Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.

This will be the fourth Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh, after the Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, and Indravati Reserves.

It will be the 53<sup>rd</sup> of the country's Tiger Reserve.

The proposal was considered by the 11th Technical Committee of the NTCA on September 1, and approval was granted a month later under Section 38V (1) of The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

The Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary was identified as part of the Sarguja Jashpur Elephant Reserve in 2011.

The Guru Ghasidas National Park used to be part of the Sanjay National Park in undivided Madhya Pradesh.

Curu Ghasidas National Park is in Koriya district; Tamor Pingla is in Surajpur district in the northwestern corner of Chhattisgarh.

43. Which organisation has launched the 2021 State of the Education Report for India: 'No Teacher, No Class'?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. World Bank
- C. AICTE
- D. UNESCO

Answer : D

Solution :

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: 'No Teacher, No Class'.

The report aims to serve as a reference for enhancing the implementation of the NEP and towards the realization of the SDG.4 target 4c on teachers.

Findings of the Report:

Around 1.1 lakh schools in India are single-teacher entities.

A total of 19%, or 11.16 lakh teaching positions in schools, lie vacant in the country.

Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh recorded the highest teacher vacancies.

Moreover, over 60 percent of vacancies in India are in rural areas, with Uttar Pradesh topping the list at 80 percent.

Madhya Pradesh has 21,000 single-teacher schools, the highest in the country.

Tripura has the least number of women teachers, followed by Assam and Jharkhand.

Chandigarh leads the chart followed by Goa and Delhi.

Access to the internet in schools is 19% all over India - only 14% in rural areas compared to 42% in urban areas.

44. Which organisation has won the bid for acquiring Air India?

- A. Reliance Industries
- B. Mahindra Group
- C. Tata Sons Group
- D. Aditya Birla Group

Answer : C

Solution :

Tata Sons group ( Talace Pvt Ltd) has won the bid for acquiring Air India by winning a bid of 18000 crore rupees.

J.R.D. TATA founded India's first commercial airline, Tata Airlines in 1932, which became Air India in 1946. In 1953, Air India was nationalised.

J.R.D. TATA was the first licensed pilot in India.

45.Which country's novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature?

- A. Tanzania
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Israel
- D. Kenya

Answer : A

Solution :

Tanzanian Novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugees in the gulf between cultures and continents.

Abdulrazak Gurnah was born in 1948 and grew up on the island of Zanzibar in Tanzania in the Indian Ocean but reached England as a refugee at the end of the 1960's.

Gurnah has published ten novels, including Paradise and Desertion and a number of short stories.

46.Who won the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian
- B. Maria Ressa, Dmitry Muratov
- C. Benjamin List, David MacMillan
- D. Giorgio Parisi, Abdulrazak Gurnah

Answer : B

Solution :

The 2021 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to journalists Maria Ressa of Philippines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia 'for their fight for freedom of expression in their countries'.

Ressa is the co-founder and CEO of *Rappler*, an independent news website based in the Philippines.

Muratov is the editor-in-chief of the Russian newspaper Novaya Gazeta.

47. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the recently released Henley Passport Index 2021?

- i. Germany has been ranked first.
- ii. India has been ranked 90th.
- iii. There is a trend of continuous decline in India's position since 2019.

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : C

Solution :

Henley Passport Index 2021 has revealed the list of the world's most powerful passports and India has been ranked 90th on it.

India's passport got a visa-free score of 58, which means Indian passport holders can visit 58 countries without a prior visa.

India shares the rank with Tajikistan and Burkina Faso.

**1st rank-** Japan, Singapore (visa-free score 192)

**2nd rank-** Germany, South Korea (190)

**3rd rank-** Finland, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain (189)

Iraq and Afghanistan are the countries with the worst passports with visa-free score 28 and 26 respectively.

Note: India was ranked 85th in the January 2021's index', 84th in 2020 and 82nd in 2019.

48. Consider the following statements regarding the 'The State of the World's Children 2021' report.

- i. The World Health Organisation (WHO) released the report.
- ii. It has found that around 14 percent of 15 to 24-year-olds in India reported often feeling depressed.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii



Answer : B

Solution :

Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare released UNICEF's global flagship publication – “The State of the World's Children 2021; On My Mind: promoting, protecting and caring for children's mental health”.

The report details the significant impact of COVID-19 pandemic on children's mental health.

Key Findings of the Report:

The report has found that around 14 percent of 15 to 24-year-olds in India, or 1 in 7, reported often feeling depressed.

An estimated 13 percent of adolescents aged 10-19 is estimated to live with a diagnosed mental disorder.

Even before the pandemic, psychosocial distress and poor mental health afflicted far too many children.

Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death among 15- to 19-year-olds. Every year, almost 46,000 children between the ages of 10 and 19 end their own lives.

49. Which state's white onion has been awarded a GI tag?

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

Answer : C

Solution :

The famed white onion of Alibag in Maharashtra's Raigad district was given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, for its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties.

Wada Kolam, also known as Zini or Jhini rice, is a traditional variety grown in Wada in Palghar district of Maharashtra, with the grain being off white in colour.

Recently, Kerala's Kuttiaattoor mango and Edayur chilli got GI tag.

Chinnor rice produced in Balaghat district, Madhya Pradesh got GI tag.

50. When is Indian Air Force Day observed?

- A. October 8
- B. October 2
- C. October 6

D. October 9

Answer : A

Solution :

Indian Air Force Day is celebrated on October 8, every year in the country.

History:

The Indian Air Force (IAF) was established in the country on October 8, 1932, by the British Empire.

The first operational squadron came into being in April 1933.

The Air Force in India was officially raised in 1932 as the supporting force of the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom.

Note:

IAF is ranked the fourth largest operational air force in the world. Only the US, China and Russia are ahead of India.

Facts about Indian Air Force:

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founded: 8 October 1932

Motto: Nabhaḥ Spr̥ṣam Dīptam (Touch the Sky with Glory)

Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS): General Bipin Rawat

Chief of the Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari

51.Name the winners of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

- A. David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian
- B. Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann
- C. Benjamin List and David MacMillan
- D. Giorgio Parisi, David McDonald

Answer : C

Solution :

German-born Benjamin List and Scotland-born David MacMillan have been awarded jointly the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry "for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis."

Their chemical toolkit has been used for discovering new drugs and making molecules that can capture light in solar cells.

52.Consider the following statements regarding the Exercise "Ajeya Warrior" 2021

- i. It is a joint Military Training Exercise between India and Australia.
- ii. It was held at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : B

Solution :

The 6th Edition of India - UK Joint Company Level Military Training Exercise "Ajeya Warrior" 2021 has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.

It is being conducted from 07 to 20 October 2021.

Key Points

The exercise is part of an initiative to develop inter-operability and sharing expertise with friendly foreign nations.

During this exercise, an Infantry Company from the Indian Army and an equivalent strength from UK Army would be sharing their experiences gained during the conduct of various military operations in their respective countries and during overseas engagements.

Other Joint Exercises between India and United Kingdom (UK):

Air Force: Indradhanush

Navy: Konkan

53. Which organisation has released the '2021 State of Climate Services' report?

- A. UNEP
- B. WMO
- C. WTO
- D. IPCC

Answer : B

Solution :

More than 5 billion people globally are expected to face a shortage of water by 2050, a United Nations (UN) agency (World Meteorological Organization-WMO) report '2021 State of Climate Services' has warned.

According to figures cited in the report, 3.6 billion people had inadequate access to water at least one month per year in 2018. By 2050, this is expected to rise to more than 5 billion.

In the past 20 years, terrestrial water storage - the summation of all water on the land surface and in the subsurface, including soil moisture, snow and ice - has dropped at a rate of one centimetre per year.

The situation is worsening by the fact that only 0.5 percent of water on Earth is useable and available freshwater.

Since 2000, flood-related disasters have risen by 134 percent compared with the two previous decades.

Most of the flood-related deaths and economic losses were recorded in Asia.

54. Who won the 2021 Economic Nobel Prize?

- A. David Julius, Ardem Patapoutian, Benjamin List
- B. Maria Ressa, Dmitry Muratov
- C. David Card, Joshua D Angrist, Guido W. Imbens
- D. Giorgio Parisi, Abdulrazak Gurnah

Answer : C

Solution :

The 2021 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences (2021 Economic Nobel Prize) in Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded with one half to David Card and the other half jointly to Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens.

David Card (University of California at Berkeley) has been awarded the 2021 prize in economic sciences "for his empirical contributions to labour economics."

Joshua D. Angrist (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Guido W. Imbens (Stanford University) have been awarded the 2021 prize in economic sciences "for their methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships."

55. Who became the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships?

- A. Anshu Malik
- B. Geeta Phogat
- C. Sakshi Malik
- D. Vinesh Phogat

Answer : A

Solution :

Wrestler Anshu Malik became the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the 2021 World Wrestling Championships in Oslo, Norway.  
She went down fighting against Helen Maroulis in the women's 57kg final.

56.Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Indian Space Association (ISpA)?

- i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched ISpA in June 2021.
- ii. ISpA is the Premier Industry Association of Space and Satellite companies.
- iii. Its founding members include only government agencies.

- A. ii only
- B. i and iii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : A

Solution :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Indian Space Association (ISpA) in October 2021.

About Indian Space Association (ISpA):

ISpA is the Premier Industry Association of Space and Satellite companies, which aspires to be the collective voice of the Indian Space industry.

It will undertake policy advocacy and engage with all stakeholders in the Indian Space domain, including the Government and its agencies.

It is represented by leading home grown and global corporations with advanced capabilities in space and satellite technologies.

Its founding members include Larson & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Bharti Airtel, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar Industries and Ananth Technology Limited. Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited, BEL, Centum Electronics, Maxar India.

Lt Gen Anil Bhatt (Retd) has been appointed the director-general of the ISpA.

Note: Recently, Bharti Group-backed OneWeb has entered an arrangement with the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), to launch its satellite in India from 2022.

57.Which state government has developed India's first smartphone-based eVoting solution?

- A. Telangana
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Gujarat
- D. Karnataka

Answer : A

Solution :

Telangana government has developed the country's first smartphone-based eVoting solution.

The solution has been successfully developed and tested and its dry run in the form of a dummy election is being conducted in Khammam district and the dummy voting on October 20, 2021.

The initiative has been driven by the Telangana State Election Commission (TSEC) with the implementation support of the Emerging Technologies Wing of the IT Department of the State and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC).

58. Abdul Qadeer Khan, who passed away recently, was an atomic scientist, of which country?

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

Answer : B

Solution :

Abdul Qadeer Khan, 85, known as the father of Pakistan's nuclear bomb passed away. AQ Khan had been living a secluded life since 2004 after he admitted to a role of massive global nuclear proliferation scam by Pakistan.

In a televised address, he had accepted responsibility for illegal proliferation of N-technology to Iran, North Korea and Libya.

59. Who won FIH Men's Hockey Player of the Year Award 2021?

- A. PR Sreejesh
- B. Graham Reid
- C. Vivek Sagar Prasad

D. Harmanpreet Singh

Answer : D

Solution :

Indian hockey players swept the 2020-21 edition of the FIH (**International Hockey Federation**) **Hockey Stars Awards**.

It's the first time that a country (India) has won in all eight categories.

Winners list:

**Player of the Year:** Gurjit Kaur (women) and Harmanpreet Singh (men)

**Goalkeeper of the Year:** Savita Punia (women) and PR Sreejesh (men)

**Coach of the Year:** Sjoerd Marijne (women) and Graham Reid (men)

**Rising Star of the Year:** Sharmila Devi (women) and Vivek Sagar Prasad (men)

60.Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Exercise Malabar 2021?

- i. The First Phase of the exercise was conducted in the Philippines Sea.
- ii. The Second Phase of the exercise was conducted in the Bay of Bengal.
- iii. It is a bilateral Maritime Exercise between India and Sri Lanka.

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : B

Solution :

The Indian Navy (IN) participated in the Second Phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise Malabar 2021 along with the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and the United States Navy (USN).

The exercise is being conducted in the Bay of Bengal from 12 - 15 Oct 2021.

First Phase of the Malabar exercise was conducted in the Philippines Sea from 26 - 29 Aug 2021.

The Indian Navy's participation includes INS Ranvijay, INS Satpura, P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft and a Submarine.

The Second Phase of the exercise would build upon the synergy, coordination and inter-operability developed during the First Phase of the exercise and would focus on advanced surface and anti-submarine warfare exercises, seamanship evolutions and weapon firings.

About Malabar Exercise:

The Malabar series of exercises began as an annual bilateral naval exercise between India and the US in 1992.

In 2015, Japan Maritime Self Defence Force joined Malabar as a permanent member. The 2020 edition witnessed the participation of the Royal Australian Navy.

61. Which country will host naval exercise 'Milan' in February 2022?

- A. USA
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. India
- D. Australia

Answer : C

Solution :

India is set to host its largest Naval Exercise 'Milan' in February 2022 for which 46 countries have been invited.

The exercise will see the participation of all Quad countries (United States, India, Japan and Australia) with the U.S. being invited for the first time.

About Milan:

Milan, which began in 1995, is held biennially and brings together Navies of all the countries in the region.

It has so far been held at Port Blair but is now being shifted to Visakhapatnam which offers more space and infrastructure.

The invitees include all Indian Ocean littoral states and countries from South East Asia among others.

For the 11th edition in 2020, 40 countries were invited but the exercise was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic.

62. Central government recently launched 'Trishul' and 'Garuda'. They are related to what?

- A. Passenger Train
- B. Freight Train
- C. Defence Programme
- D. Nuclear Submarines

Answer : B

Solution :



Indian Railways has successfully operated two long haul freight trains "Trishul" and "Garuda" for the first time over South Central Railway (SCR).

Long haul trains, which are twice or multiple times longer than the normal composition of freight trains, provide a very effective solution to the problem of capacity constraints in critical sections.

Trishul is SCR's first long haul comprising three freight trains, i.e., 177 wagons. This train was started from Kondapalli station of Vijayawada division to Khurda division of East Coast Railway.

SCR followed it up with the running of yet another similar one named **Garuda** from Raichur of Guntakal division to Manuguru of Secunderabad division.

63. Who among the following Telugu filmmakers has been chosen for the Satyajit Ray Award 2021?

- A. B Gopal
- B. Vikram Kumar
- C. Nag Ashwin
- D. S S Rajamouli

Answer : A

Solution :

Well-known Telugu filmmaker B Gopal, alias Bejawada Gopal, has been chosen for the Satyajit Ray Award 2021 for his overall contribution to Indian cinema.

Telugu filmmaker B Gopal has directed 2 Hindi movies and 30 Telugu movies in his long career.

About Satyajit Ray Award:

Ray Award is an award instituted by the Satyajit Ray Film Society Kerala which is a state-based organization.

The Award includes Rs 10,000 cash prize, plaque, and a memento.

The Award has been named after legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray.

64. Who has been conferred with the Aryabhata Award 2021 by Astronautical Society of India (ASI)?

- A. Samant Kumar Goel
- B. Arvind Kumar
- C. G Satheesh Reddy
- D. K Sivan

Answer : C

Solution :

Secretary DDR&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy has been conferred the prestigious Aryabhata Award 2021 by Astronautical Society of India (ASI) for his outstanding life-time contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.

G Satheesh Reddy is a pioneer in the area of R&D of advanced avionics, navigation and missile technologies.

About Astronautical Society of India (ASI):

It was set up in 1990 to foster the development of astronautics in the country.

It is engaged in the dissemination of technical and other information related to astronautics by conducting technical meetings, bringing out technical publications and organising exhibitions.

65. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the DigiSaksham programme?

- i. It is the joint initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Employment and Microsoft India.
- ii. It will enhance the employability of youth by imparting digital skills.
- iii. It is an extension of the Government's ongoing programs to support the youth from rural and semi-urban areas.

Select the answer using the codes given below:

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : D

Solution :

Minister for Labour and Employment, Bhupender Yadav launched DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme to enhance the employability of youth by imparting digital skills.

DigiSaksham programme is the joint initiative of the Ministry of Labour and Employment and Microsoft India.

This joint initiative is an extension of the Government's ongoing programs to support the youth from rural and semi-urban areas.

About DigiSaksham programme:

Free of cost training in digital skills including basic skills as well as advanced computing, will be provided to more than 3 lakh youths in the first year. The Jobseekers can access the training through National Career Service (NCS) Portal. The initiative gives priority to the job-seekers of semi-urban areas belonging to disadvantaged communities, including those who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be basically three types of training viz. Digital Skills – Self paced learning, VILT mode training (Virtual Instructor-led) and ILT mode training (Instructor-led). It will be implemented in the field by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I).

66.Which ministry has launched the SACRED Portal?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D. Ministry of Women and Child Development

Answer : B

Solution :

The portal 'Senior Able Citizens for Re Employment in Dignity (SACRED)' has been developed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

The aim is to devise ways to ensure Senior Citizens live healthy, happy, empowered, dignified and self-reliant life.

An IT portal to be developed to bring the employment seeker senior citizens and employment providers on one platform.

Rs. 10 Cr would be provided for funding for the platform development along with maintenance grant of Rs. 2 Cr per year for 5 years.

Need:

There has been a steady rise in the population of senior citizens in India.

The number of elderly persons increased from 1.98 crore in 1951 to 7.6 crore in 2001 and 10.38 crore in 2011.

As per the **Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States (2011-2036)** submitted to National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare the population of senior citizens in India is projected as details given below: -

2011		2021		2026		2031		2036	
Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%
10.38	8.66	13.76	10.1	16.28	11.4	19.34	13.1	22.74	14.9

Note: More than 50% senior citizens are found active as per the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (LASI), report 2020.

67.Which institution has launched the FASTER system?

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. RBI
- C. SEBI
- D. Supreme Court of India

Answer : D

Solution :

In a big fillip to the fundamental rights of life, dignity and personal liberty, the Supreme Court of India has introduced “Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records” (FASTER) system.

It is proposed that the e-authenticated copies of the record of proceedings/orders, digitally signed by the authorised officer may be transmitted through this system.

68.The Book “My Life in Full: Work, Family and Our Future” is the memoir of who among the following?

- A. Kiran Desai
- B. Indra Nooyi
- C. Meghna Pant
- D. Arundhati Roy

Answer : B

Solution :

Indra Nooyi, the former Chairperson and CEO of PepsiCo, has penned her memoir titled ‘My Life in Full: Work, Family, and our Future’.

In her memoir, Indra Nooyi describes events that shaped her life from childhood to her becoming PepsiCo CEO, a position from which she retired in 2018.

Indra Nooyi was honoured with Padam Bhushan in 2007.

of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

69. Which Union Ministry has launched the People's Plan Campaign 2021- Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas?

- A. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- B. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D. Ministry of Jal Shakti

Answer : A

Solution :

Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Giriraj Singh launched **People's Plan Campaign 2021- Sabki Yojana Sabka Vikas** and Vibrant Gram Sabha Dashboard.

He also released a booklet on People Plan Campaign-2021 for preparation of plans for FY 2022-23 and the 10th issue of Gramoday Sankalp Magazine.

People's Plan Campaign is being rolled-out in all the States from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021.

There are 31.65 lakh elected Panchayat representatives across the country in which 14.53 lakh are women.

2.56 lakh Panchayats uploaded their Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDPs) on GPDP portal in 2020.

A Vibrant Gram Sabha Dashboard will help in increasing maximum participation through the meeting of Gram Sabha/Gram Panchayat.

The Panchayat Development Plan aims to strengthen the role of elected representatives of Panchayats and SHG Women under DAY-NRLM in effective Gram Sabha.

70. Who has been elected as the new prime minister of Japan?

- A. Yasushi Kaneko
- B. Fumio Kishida
- C. Yoshihisa Furukawa
- D. Nobuo Kishi

Answer : B

Solution :

Japan's parliament elected former foreign minister Fumio Kishida as the new prime minister.

Fumio Kishida replaces Yoshihide Suga, who resigned with his Cabinet earlier.

He has also presided over the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) since 29 September 2021.

71. Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of which Scheme/Programme?

- A. PM-KISAN
- B. Namami Gange Programme
- C. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission
- D. AMRUT 2.0

Answer : B

Solution :

At the 37<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Chacha Chaudhary was declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme.

NMCG has tied-up with Diamond Toons to develop and distribute comics, e-comics and animated videos.

The total estimated budget for the project is Rs. 2.26 Cr.

About Chacha Chaudhary:

Chacha Chaudhary is an Indian comic book character, created by cartoonist Pran Kumar Sharma in 1971.

About Namami Gange Programme:

It is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government in June 2014 to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.

72. Consider the following statements regarding the Exercise 'Mitra Shakti 2021'.

- i. It was the 8th edition of India-Sri Lanka bilateral Joint Military Exercise.
- ii. It was conducted in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : A

Solution :

The 8th edition of India-Sri Lanka bilateral Joint Military Exercise 'Mitra Shakti 2021' commenced at the Combat Training School Ampara in Sri Lanka.

The two week long exercise is being conducted from 4 to 15 October 2021.

The Indian Army contingent of 120 personnel of Infantry Battalion Group and a similar strength from a Battalion of the Sri Lankan Army are participating in the bilateral exercise.

The aim of the exercise is to promote close relations between Armies of both countries and enhance inter-operability and sharing best practices in counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations.

Note: The 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of Exercise Mitra Shakti was conducted at Foreign Training Node, Pune, Maharashtra in 2019.

73. Consider the following statements regarding the 2021 Nobel Prize in Medicine.

- i. American scientists David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian jointly won the 2021 Nobel Prize in medicine.
- ii. They won the Prize for development of COVID-19 Vaccines.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : A

Solution :

American scientists David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian jointly won the 2021 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.

Their findings "have allowed us to understand how heat, cold and mechanical force can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us."

"This knowledge is being used to develop treatments for a wide range of disease conditions, including chronic pain."

About Nobel Prize:

Nobel Prizes were created and funded in the will of Swedish dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel.

Nobel Prizes are awarded in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, and Peace.

In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Sir Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.

74. Pandora Papers investigation, recently in the news, is related to.....

- A. COVID-19 origin data leak
- B. Funds deposited in tax havens
- C. Customer's bank account data leak
- D. Aadhar data leak

Answer : B

Solution :

The International Consortium of International Journalists (ICIJ) has come out with what is claimed to be a 2.94 terabyte data trove that exposes the offshore secrets of wealthy elites from more than 200 countries and territories.

**Pandora Papers** are 11.9 million leaked files from 14 global corporate services firms. There are at least 380 persons of Indian nationality in the Pandora Papers including 60 prominent individuals and companies.

The investigation is based on a leak of confidential records of 14 offshore service providers that give professional services to wealthy individuals and corporations seeking to incorporate shell companies, trusts, foundations and other entities in low or no-tax jurisdictions.

Further, the Government of India has directed that investigations in cases of Pandora Papers leaks appearing in the media under the name 'PANDORA PAPERS' will be monitored through the Multi Agency Group, headed by the Chairman, CDBT.

Earlier similar such leaks- Panama Papers and Paradise Papers.

75. Which of the following states will host the 56th National Cross Country Championship in January 2022?

- A. Kerala
- B. Tripura
- C. Gujarat
- D. Nagaland

Answer : D

Solution :

Nagaland Athletics Association will host the 56th National Cross Country Championship on 15th of January 2022.



It will be hosted under the sponsorship of the Athletics Federation of India.

Note: Chandigarh Athletics Association hosted the 55<sup>th</sup> National Cross Country Championship in February 2021.

76. Recently, which organisation has launched a home robot named 'Astro'?

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

Answer : C

Solution :

Recently, Amazon launched a home robot named 'Astro'.

However, civil society has highlighted the concerns of privacy issues of 24x7 surveillance.

**About Astro:**

The robot has cartoony-eyes on a tablet-like touchscreen and comes equipped with a periscope camera and microphone.

Astro is basically a combination of the Echo Show and sophisticated Ring security camera integrated into one single device.

The home robot is designed to take up tasks such as home monitoring, setting up routines and reminders, and can play music and TV shows while rolling around the house.

Issues Related to Privacy:

Civil society is worried that the amount of data Amazon gets to fetch with the Astro, giving the company easy access to the household.

There are concerns of stealing or hacking of the device.

Due to this, the perpetrator can get access to the digital map that the robot creates of someone's home.

77. The Indian Navy partnered with which bank to launch NAV-eCash Card?

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

Answer : B

Solution :

State Bank of India (SBI) and Indian Navy launched SBI's NAV-eCash Card onboard the country's largest naval aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya.

The Card will obviate the difficulties faced by personnel onboard in handling physical cash during deployment of the ship at high seas.

The infrastructure at naval ships inhibits traditional payment solutions particularly when the ship is in high sea where there is no connectivity.

NAV-eCash Card, with its dual-chip technology, will facilitate both online as well as offline transactions.

78. Consider the following statements regarding the World Space Week.

- i. It is held annually from 4 to 10 October.
- ii. The theme for World Space week 2021 is 'Women in Space'.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : C

Solution :

World Space Week is held annually from 4 to 10 October to celebrate the scientific and technological advancements.

The theme for World Space week 2021 is 'Women in Space'.

History:

The United Nations General Assembly declared in 1999 that World Space Week will be held each year from October 4-10.

These dates commemorate two events:

October 4, 1957: Launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1

October 10, 1967: The signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

79. Consider the following statements regarding the 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics.

- i. It has been awarded to scientists from Japan, Germany, France.
- ii. This is the first time climate scientists have been awarded it.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : B

Solution :

The 2021 Nobel Prize for physics has been awarded to scientists from Japan, Germany, Italy.

The 2021 Nobel Prize for Physics is awarded with one half jointly to Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann "For the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming".

And the other half to Giorgio Parisi "For the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales"

This is the first time climate scientists have been awarded the Physics Nobel.

Syukuro Manabe (Princeton University, USA) demonstrated how increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere lead to increased temperatures at the surface of the Earth.

Klaus Hasselmann (Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Germany) created a model that links together weather and climate, thus answering the question of why climate models can be reliable despite weather being changeable and chaotic.

Giorgio Parisi (Sapienza University, Italy) discovered hidden patterns in disordered complex materials.

80. Where was the 5th edition of Japan- India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'JIMEX 2021' held?

- A. South China Sea
- B. Japan Sea
- C. Arabian Sea
- D. Bay of Bengal

Answer : C

Solution :

The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of **Japan- India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'JIMEX 2021'**, between the Indian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, commenced in the **Arabian Sea**.

The exercise is being conducted from 06 to 08 October 2021.

JIMEX-2021 aims to develop common understanding of operational procedures and **enhance inter-operability through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises**, across the entire spectrum of maritime operations.

Note:

The JIMEX exercises commenced in January 2012 with special focus on maritime security cooperation.

The last edition of JIMEX was conducted in September 2020.

81. Which country successfully test fired a Zircon hypersonic cruise missile from a nuclear submarine?

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

Answer : D

Solution :

According to the Russian Defence Ministry, Russia successfully test fired a Zircon hypersonic cruise missile from a nuclear submarine 'Severodvinsk' for the first time. The Severodvinsk nuclear submarine performed two launches of the Zircon cruise missile at mock targets in the Barents Sea.

It first test-fired Zircon from the surface and then launched another missile from a submerged position in the White Sea.

The Zircon missile would be capable of flying at nine times the speed of sound and have a range of 1,000 kilometres.

82. Where was the world's largest Khadi National Flag installed?

- A. Ladakh
- B. Jammu and Kashmir
- C. Gujarat
- D. Himachal Pradesh

Answer : A

Solution :

The world's largest Khadi National Flag was installed in Leh, Ladakh on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary.

It was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur.

The tricolor, which is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide, weighs around 1,000 kg. The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai which is affiliated to the Khadi Village and Industries Commission (KVIC).

83. Which organisation has received the 2021 Right Livelihood Award?

- A. Pratham
- B. LIFE
- C. Care India
- D. Goonj

Answer : B

Solution :

Delhi-based environmental organisation 'Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)' has received the 2021 Right Livelihood Award for its "grassroots approach of empowering vulnerable communities to protect their livelihoods and claim their right to a clean environment."

The award is known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.

Other awardees include Cameroonian women rights activist Marthe Wandou, Russian environmental activist Vladimir Slivyak, and Canadian Indigenous rights defender Freda Huson.

Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) was founded by lawyers Ritwick Dutta and Rahul Choudhary in 2005.

About Right Livelihood Award:

It was established in 1980 by German-Swedish philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull, and is presented annually in early December.

84. Consider the following statements regarding the Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) Arjun Mk-1A .

- i. Recently, the Ministry of Defence has placed an order with Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, Chennai for supply of 75 Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) Arjun Mk-1A .
- ii. It has been developed by the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii

D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : B

Solution :

The Ministry of Defence placed an order with Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, Chennai for supply of 118 Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) Arjun Mk-1A for the Indian Army.

Note: The Prime Minister had handed over the MBT Arjun Mk-1A to Chief of Army Staff General M M Naravane in Chennai on February 14, 2021.

About MBT Mk-1A:

The state-of-the-art MBT Mk-1A is a new variant of Arjun Tank designed to enhance fire power, mobility and survivability.

Infused with 72 new features and more indigenous content from the Mk-1 variant, the tank would ensure effortless mobility in all terrains, besides precise target engagement during day and night.

Significance:

The order, worth Rs 7,523 crore, will provide further boost to the 'Make in India' initiative in the defence sector and is a big step towards achieving 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

Developed by:

It has been designed & developed by Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE), along with other laboratories of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

85.Which institute has developed the Solar DC Cooking System?

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. CSIR-CMERI
- C. RDSO
- D. DRDO

Answer : B

Solution :

The CSIR-CMERI has developed a Solar DC Cooking System.

About Solar DC Cooking System:

It is a Solar Energy based Cooking System which consists of a solar PV panel, charge controller, battery bank and cooking oven.

The technology provides a Clean Cooking Environment, Inverter-Less Direct Operation, Fast and Uniform Heating and a potential to save 1 ton Carbon Dioxide emissions per year/household.

It has 20-25% better efficiency and is more Economical in comparison with Conventional Solar based Cooking Systems.

About CMERI (Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute):

It is a public engineering research and development institution in Durgapur, West Bengal.

It is a constituent laboratory of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

86. Who has been appointed as WHO Ambassador for Global Health Financing?

- A. Mathias Cormann
- B. Gordon Brown
- C. David Cameron
- D. Theresa May

Answer : B

Solution :

The World Health Organization announced the appointment of Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, as WHO Ambassador for Global Health Financing.

More recently, Mr Brown has tirelessly called on wealthy nations as well as the private sector to ensure the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

Note: He served as the Prime Minister of the UK from 2007 to 2010.

87. Which of the following was conferred with the Global Goalkeeper Award 2021?

- A. Satta Sheriff
- B. Jenifer Colpas
- C. Fairooz Faizah Beether
- D. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

Answer : D

Solution :

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, former United Nations under-secretary-general and executive director of UN Women, as the winner of the Global Goalkeeper Award 2021.

The foundation also announced the winners of 3 additional Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards.

Changemaker Award 2021- Fairouz Faizah Beether of Bangladesh

Progress Award 2021- Jenifer Colpas of Colombia

Campaign Award 2021- Satta Sheriff of Liberia

About Goalkeepers Award:

Goalkeepers Award is the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's campaign to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).

88. When is World Tourism Day observed?

- A. September 27
- B. September 17
- C. September 19
- D. September 26

Answer : A

Solution :

World Tourism Day is celebrated each year on September 27 to spread awareness about the importance of tourism and its impact on our society.

The theme of World Tourism Day 2021 is 'Tourism for Inclusive Growth'.

Background:

Since 1980, the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has celebrated World Tourism Day as international observances on September 27.

This date was chosen as on that day in 1970, the Statutes of the UNWTO were adopted.

UNWTO is a leading UN international agency in the field of tourism.

Note: The National **Tourism Day (India)** is celebrated on 25 January.

89. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Quad Leaders' Summit 2021?

- i. It was the first in-person meeting hosted by Australia.
  - ii. During the summit, the Quad Fellowship was launched to sponsor 400 students per year.
  - iii. Quad is a strategic dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia.
- A. iii only  
B. i and ii only  
C. ii and iii only



D. i, ii and iii

Answer : A

Solution :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his counterparts from Australia and Japan on September 24, 2021 attended the first in-person meeting of Quad leaders hosted by US President Joe Biden.

Major Highlights of the Quad Summit:

Discussed Afghanistan and agreed to deepen their cooperation in South Asia

Quad Vaccine Initiative

Building on the G7's announcement of Build Back Better World (B3W)

Launch the Quad Infrastructure Coordination Group

Form a Green-Shipping Network

Establish a Clean-Hydrogen Partnership

Launch the Quad Fellowship: The Fellowship will sponsor 100 students per year—25 from each Quad country—to pursue masters and doctoral degrees at leading STEM graduate universities in the United States.

Launch a Quad Senior Cyber Group

About Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad):

It is a strategic dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia.

It was initiated in 2007 by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Note: Quad Leaders' virtual summit was held on March 12, 2021.

90. Consider the following statements regarding the recently awarded GI tag.

i. Assam's Judima rice wine is northeast's 1st traditional brew to get GI tag.

ii. Naga Cucumber from Nagaland was awarded the GI tag.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

A. i only

B. ii only

C. Both i and ii

D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : C

Solution :

Assam's rice wine Judima and Naga Cucumber from Nagaland gets GI tag.

Judima, a home-made rice wine of Assam's Dimasa tribe has become the first traditional brew in all of northeast to bag a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

This is the second product from the hill districts of Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao to get GI tag. Back in 2007, the ginger of Karbi Anglong was awarded the GI tag. Made from sticky rice, which is steamed and mixed with traditional herbs, the wine has a distinct sweet taste and takes around one week to prepare.

Other Recent GI Tagged Products from Assam:

Kaji Nemu (a type of lemon) and Chokuwa Rice

Naga Cucumber:

Nagaland's Naga Cucumber was awarded a Geographical Identification (GI) tag.

Naga cucumbers are juicy, soft and sweet and are grown completely organically.

Cucumber has been traditionally cultivated by Naga farmers in their Jhum fields as a mixed crop mainly during the Kharif season.

Note: Earlier, Manipur's Tamenglong orange and Hathei chilli, grown in the hill districts of Tamenglong and Ukhrul respectively, were granted GI tag.

91. Which Hydropower station has been conferred with the 'Blue Planet Prize' 2021 by the International Hydropower Association (IHA)?

- A. Hirakud Hydroelectric Power Plant
- B. Koyna Hydroelectric Project
- C. Nathpa Jhakri Dam
- D. Teesta-V Power Station

Answer : D

Solution :

NHPC's 510 MW Teesta-V Power Station, Sikkim has been conferred with the 'Blue Planet Prize' 2021.

About 'Blue Planet Prize':

It was presented by the International Hydropower Association (IHA), a London based non-profit membership association operating in 120 countries.

It is awarded to hydropower projects that demonstrate excellence in sustainable development.

Note: 510 MW Teesta-V Power Station has been built, owned and being operated by NHPC Limited and is located on Teesta River.

92. Which Union Ministry has launched the Scheme for "Promotion of Medical Device Parks"?

- A. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- B. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

- C. Ministry of Ayush
- D. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Answer : B

Solution :

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has launched the “Promotion of Medical Device Parks” Scheme.

Objectives:

The scheme will support the medical devices industry in India.

Financial Assistance:

The total financial outlay of the scheme is Rs. 400 crore and the tenure of the scheme is from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2024-2025.

Based on the evaluation, the proposals of the State Government of Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have been given “in-principle” approval under the scheme.

Note: In 2020, Kerala established MedSpark, one of the first medical device parks in the country.

Medical Devices Sector in India:

The Medical Devices industry in India is valued at USD 5.2 billion, contributing about 4-5% to the USD 96.7 billion Indian Healthcare Industry.

India currently imports 80-90% of medical devices.

America, Germany, Japan, China and Singapore constitute the 5 largest exporters of medical equipment to India.

93. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission?

- i. The Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare launched it.
- ii. It will provide a health ID for every citizen.
- iii. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission Sandbox will be created for child immunization.

- A. ii only
- B. i and ii only
- C. ii and iii only
- D. i, ii and iii

Answer : A

Solution :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission.

The nation-wide rollout of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission coincides with NHA (National Health Authority) celebrating the third anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY).

**About Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission:**

The mission will create a seamless online platform that will enable interoperability within the digital health ecosystem.

The pilot project of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission had been announced by the Prime Minister from the ramparts of Red Fort on 15th August, 2020.

Currently, it is being implemented in the pilot phase in six Union Territories.

**Key Components:**

**Health ID for every citizen:** It will work as their health account, to which personal health records can be linked and viewed with the help of a mobile application.

**Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registries (HFR):** These will act as a repository of all healthcare providers across both modern and traditional systems of medicine.

**Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission Sandbox:** It will act as a framework for technology and product testing that will help organizations intending to be a part of National Digital Health Ecosystem become a Health Information Provider or Health Information User or efficiently link with building blocks of this Mission.

94. Which state will host the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2021?

- A. Odisha
- B. Kerala
- C. Punjab
- D. Karnataka

Answer : A

Solution :

Odisha will host the FIH (International Hockey Federation) Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2021.

The tournament will be held from 24 November to 5 December 2021 in Bhubaneswar and will feature 16 teams.

Note:

Odisha hosted the 2018 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup.

Odisha will also host the 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.

95. Which Union Ministry presented Hunarbaaz Awards to 75 divyangjan candidates from 15 states?

- A. Ministry of Education
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Science & Technology
- D. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Answer : B

Solution :

The National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad under the auspices of the Ministry of Rural Development presented Hunarbaaz Awards to 75 differently-abled candidates (divyangjan) from 15 states. The virtual award ceremony was organised by NIRD&PR with the Ministry of Rural Development, in association with State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs) and Rural Self-employment Training Institutes.

The awards are given to the candidates who were trained through Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI) schemes of the Ministry in various trades, they subsequently got placed and worked in the organizations for more than one year or were successfully settled in the trade of their choice as self-employed.

96. Recently, eminent women's rights activist, poet and author passed away. Her name is

- A. Vandana Shiva
- B. Vrinda Grover
- C. Kamla Bhasin
- D. Indira Jaising

Answer : C

Solution :

Eminent women's rights activist, poet and author Kamla Bhasin passed away at 75. She was the founder of Sangat (South Asian Network for gender training and activism) and co-founder of Jagori, a women's resource centre since 1984.

In 2017, Bhasin was awarded 'The Laadli Lifetime Achievement Award' during the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of South Asia Laadli Media and Advertising Awards for her work in women's development in Asia.

97. Consider the following statements regarding the Akash Prime Missile.

- i. It is developed by DRDO.
- ii. It is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. i only
- B. ii only
- C. Both i and ii
- D. Neither i nor ii

Answer : C

Solution :

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the maiden flight test of the new version of Akash Missile – Akash Prime from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.

In January 2021, the DRDO conducted the successful maiden launch of Akash-NG (New Generation) Missile.

About Akash Prime Missile:

In comparison to the existing Akash System, Akash Prime is equipped with an indigenous active Radio Frequency (RF) seeker for improved accuracy.

Other improvements also ensure more reliable performance under low temperature environments at higher altitudes.

**About Akash Missile:**

The development of the Akash surface to air missile (SAM) was started by the DRDO as part of the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

The Akash missiles have been developed by DRDO's Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad.

About Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP):

It was an Indian Ministry of Defence programme for the research and development of the comprehensive range of missiles.

It was managed by the DRDO and Ordnance Factories Board in partnership.

It started in 1982-83 under the leadership of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

98. Name the Cyclonic Storm which has recently affected the state of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

- A. Ambud
- B. Gulab

- C. Yaas
- D. Bulbul

Answer : B

Solution :

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for Odisha and Andhra Pradesh after the Cyclonic Storm 'Gulab' made landfall over Northwest and adjoining West-central Bay of Bengal.

Cyclone Gulab was named by Pakistan. The word "Gulab" refers to Rose in English. The name Gulab is from the list of cyclone names that is maintained by the World Meteorological Organisation/United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (WMO/ESCAP) Panel on Tropical Cyclones (PTC).

99. Who has become the first Formula-One (F1) driver to win 100 Grand Prix?

- A. Max Verstappen
- B. Valtteri Bottas
- C. Daniel Ricciardo
- D. Lewis Hamilton

Answer : D

Solution :

British **Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)** became the first Formula-One (F1) driver ever to reach 100 wins after he finished first at Russian Grand Prix 2021.

With the win, Hamilton became the only driver to win in the triple digits, with former Mercedes driver Michael Schumacher the closest at 91 race wins.

100. Which state's Sojat Mehndi has been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag?

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

Answer : A

Solution :

Sojat Mehndi from Rajasthan has received the geographical indication (GI) tag.

Sojat Mehndi originates from mehndi leaves grown in Sojat.

It is naturally cultivated by rainwater for getting high lawsone content in mehndi leaves.

Sojat tehsil of the Pali district in Rajasthan has several natural factors such as geological structure, topography and drainage system, climate and soil that make it suitable for the crop.

101. Who is the author of the “Jungle Nama” audiobook?

- A. Salman Rushdie
- B. Amitav Ghosh
- C. Vikram Seth
- D. Ruskin Bond

Answer : B

Solution :

Amitav Ghosh’s “Jungle Nama” has now been released as an audiobook with music and voice of US-based Ali Sethi.

It is the verse adaptation of an episode from the legend of Bon Bibi, a tale popular in the villages of the Sundarbans.

102. Which ministry has launched NIDHI 2.0?

- A. Ministry of Tourism
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- D. Ministry of Women and Child Development

Answer : A

Solution :

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India launched NIDHI 2.0 (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) and “India Tourism Statistics: At a Glance, 2021”. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Ministry of Tourism, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and The Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI) to actively promote and support ‘sustainability initiatives’ in the tourism sector of each other.

About NIDHI (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry):

NIDHI was launched by the Ministry of Tourism to facilitate the digitalization of the tourism sector.



Registration with NIDHI ensures electronic delivery of various services and benefits to the hospitality unit.

103. Nimaben Acharya has become the first woman Speaker of which state Legislative Assembly?

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

Answer : B

Solution :

Senior BJP MLA Nimaben Acharya became the first woman Speaker of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly.

For the first time after the formation of Gujarat in 1960, the state Assembly has a woman Speaker.

A gynaecologist by profession, 74-year-old Acharya is the fifth-time MLA from Bhuj-Kutch.

104. When was World Maritime Day 2021 observed?

- A. September 27
- B. September 13
- C. September 30
- D. September 26

Answer : C

Solution :

World Maritime Day is observed every year on the last Thursday of the month of September and this year it falls on September 30, 2021.

The theme of 2021 is "Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future".

The day is based on maritime safety and the maritime environment.

**History:**

The need for an international day for the maritime industry came with the establishment of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), a specialised agency for the purpose.

The first World Maritime Day was observed on March 17, 1978.

105. Which option is not correct about the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize?

- A. It is given by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- B. It is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45.
- C. It comprises a cash award of ₹5 lakh.
- D. It is given in five fields.

Answer : D

Solution :

**About Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize:**

It is a science award given annually by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The prize is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in seven fields—Biology, Chemistry, Environment Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Physics.

The prize comprises a citation, a plaque, and a cash award of ₹5 lakh.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize 2021: The names of 11 scientists, who received the country's highest science award Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for science and technology 2021, were announced during the 80th foundation day of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).