

75+ February 2021 Current Affairs PDF



1. Which organization has released its report titled "The State of School Feeding Worldwide"?

- A. World Bank
- B. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- C. United Nations World Food Programmes (UNWFP)
- D. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- E. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Ans. C

Sol.

- The United Nations World Food Programmes (WFP) has released its report titled "The State of School Feeding Worldwide" on February 24, 2021.
- As per the report, the COVID-19 pandemic risks have reversed the efforts that were made worldwide in a decade to provide nutritious food to the most vulnerable children across the globe.
- The report highlights that, one in two school children that would count as around 388 million children worldwide received the school meals when the pandemic was at its peak. This accounts for the highest number in history.
- When the pandemic was at its peak around April 2020, 199 countries had closed their schools. Because of which, 370 million children were suddenly deprived of nutritious meal of the day.
- The report highlighted that, the lockdown threw spotlight on the critical role that school plays in feeding vulnerable children and protecting their futures.

2. Who has been appointed as the new Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN's sexual and reproductive health agency?

- A. Priyanka Chopra
- B. Deepika Padukone
- C. Natalia Vodianova
- D. Jessica Alba
- E. Natalie Portman

Ans. C

Sol.

- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN's sexual and reproductive health agency, has appointed Russian supermodel Natalia Vodianova as its new Goodwill Ambassador to tackle stigma and advance women's health
- She will empower women and girls by promoting sexual and rights of them and tackling the stigma and taboos that surround their bodies and health, including menstruation that lead to discrimination and exclusion.
- She has teamed up with UNFPA over the past 3 years to launch a series of "Let's Talk" events worldwide. This series have mobilised policy makers, civil society and the private sector to address shame, exclusion and discrimination, faced regularly by millions of women and girls.

3. Who has been elected as the President of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)?

- A. Abhay Chautala
- B. Dushyant Chautala
- C. Randeep Hooda
- D. Deepender Singh Hooda
- E. Bhavya Bishnoi

Ans. B

Sol.

- Dushyant Chautala, the Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana, was re-elected as the President of Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI).
- He was unanimously elected during the 84th Annual meeting of TTFI at Panchkula, Haryana.
- He will hold the post for a period of 4 years.
- He is the youngest president of any National sports federations in India.
- He would venture to provide opportunities to the youngsters to represent India and their respective states in international and national events.



4. Who is the author of the book titled 'India: A Scamster Born Every Minute'?

- A. Snigdha Poonam
- B. Madhavi S Mahadevan
- C. Sahar Mansoor
- D. Indira Banerjee
- E. Kiran Kher

Ans. A

Sol.

- Snigdha Poonam authors a new book titled 'India: A Scamster Born Every Minute'.
- Penguin Random House India acquired the book from the leading international literary agency, The Wylie Agency. It will be released under Penguin's Viking imprint in 2022.
- The book provides insight about the subculture of scams, cons and frauds in India.
- It proposes to navigate the sociocultural landscape of India and maps the evolution of corruption in India.

5. Which country has been named as the preferred bidder to host the 2032 Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?

- A. India
- B. Indonesia
- C. Australia
- D. Brazil
- E. South Korea

Ans. C

Sol.

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has named Brisbane, Australia as the preferred bidder to host the 2032 Olympic Games.
- The IOC's future host commission recommended that the body enters "targeted dialogue" with Brisbane bid organisers and the Australian Olympic Committee.
- The state of Queensland had hosted the 2018 Commonwealth Games and Brisbane was praised for its high percentage of

existing venues, a good masterplan, experience in organising major events and its favourable weather.

6. Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of edtech platform Unacademy?

- A. Rahul Dravid
- B. Amir Khan
- C. Sachin Tendulkar
- D. Mahendra Singh Dhoni
- E. Rohit Sharma

Ans. C

Sol.

- Bengaluru-based edtech platform Unacademy has entered into a strategic partnership with former Indian cricketer and Bharat Ratna recipient Sachin Tendulkar.
- According to the terms of the partnership, Tendulkar will serve as the brand ambassador for Unacademy and will also conduct a series of live interactive classes on the platform.
- The former cricketer has also invested in the company.

7. Which Indian state assembly played the National Anthem after almost 60 years?

- A. Manipur
- B. Nagaland
- C. Sikkim
- D. Meghalaya
- E. Mizoram

Ans. B

Sol.

- Almost 60 years after Nagaland attained statehood, the national anthem was played inside its assembly for the first time in February 2021.
- The move is historic for a state that has been ravaged by decades of secessionist violence and protracted peace talks that still hang fire.
- Nagaland attained statehood on December 1, 1963, and was the 16th state of the Union.



8. The Union Government approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for how many sectors as per the announcement made by Finance Minister while presenting budget 2021-22?

- A. 10
- B. 12
- C. 13
- D. 15
- E. 17

Ans. C

Sol.

- The union budget was presented on February 1, 2021, by Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister, India.
- She announced that the government aims to spend ₹1.97 lakh crore on various PLI schemes over the next 5 years, starting from this fiscal.
- She informed, to achieve double-digit growth, PLI schemes to create manufacturing global champions for an Atma Nirbhar Bharat have been announced for 13 sectors.
- This will be an addition to the ₹40,951 crore announced for the PLI for electronic manufacturing schemes.

9. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is a scheme implemented under which Union Ministry?

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- C. Ministry of Rural Development
- D. Ministry of Agriculture
- E. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal and Dairying

Ans. B

Sol.

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is a flagship scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- The Union Food Processing Industries Ministry cleared 20 projects worth Rs 363.4 crore for two schemes under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).

10. Which ministry has organized "Mushaira" on the theme of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat"?

- A. Ministry of Culture
- B. Ministry of Education
- C. Ministry of Minority Affairs
- D. Ministry of External Affairs
- E. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Ans. C

Sol.

- Union Ministry of Minority Affairs organized "Mushaira" on the theme of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" in New Delhi on 20th February 2021 where renowned poets of the country presented their couplet.
- Renowned poets and poetess such as Shri Wasim Barelvi; Mrs Shabeena Adeb; Shri Manzar Bhopali; Shri Popular Meeruthi; Mrs Saba Balrampuri; Ms Naseem Nikhat; Mrs Mumtaz Naseem; Col. V. P. Singh; Shri Alok Shrivastava; Sardar Surendra Singh Shajar; Shri Khursheed Haider; Shri Aqeel Nomani; Dr. Nayyar Jalalpuri; Shri Sikandar Hayat Gadbad will enthral the audience in "Mushaira", to be organised at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Janpath in New Delhi.

11. Which country hosted the Meeting of BRICS Finance and Central Bank Deputies?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. South Africa
- D. Brazil
- E. Russia

Ans. A

Sol.

- India hosted a Meeting of BRICS Finance and Central Bank Deputies virtually here today and was co-Chaired by Shri.
- Tarun Bajaj, Secretary Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Dr. Michael Patra, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India.
- Other participants included BRICS Finance and Central Bank Deputies of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa.



- India assumed the BRICS Chairship in 2021, at a time when BRICS is celebrating its 15th anniversary.
- Under the theme BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation, India's approach is focused on strengthening collaboration through Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus.
- This was the first meeting on the BRICS Financial Cooperation under India Chairship in 2021.

12. Who has been appointed as the Chairman National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)?

- A. Krishan Pal Gurjar
- B. Vijay Sampla
- C. Som Prakash
- D. Hans Raj Hans
- E. Kailash Vijayvargiya

Ans. B

Sol.

- Former Union Minister Vijay Sampla has assumed the charge of Chairman National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC).
- He has been the former Union Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment from 2014 to 2019.
- NCSC is an Indian constitutional body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, that works for the socio-economic development of the scheduled castes and to prevent atrocities against them.

13. Name the Indian social activist who has been for the newly-instituted International Anti-Corruption Champions Award by the Joe Biden Administration?

- A. Sunita Krishnan
- B. Shaheen Mistri
- C. Vidya Shah
- D. Anjali Bharadwaj
- E. Rachan Dhingra

Ans. D

Sol.

- Anjali Bharadwaj, an Indian social activist working on issues of transparency and accountability, is one of the 12 "courageous" individuals named by the Biden administration for the newly-instituted International Anti-Corruption Champions Award.
- The 48-year-old Bhardwaj has served as an active member of the Right to Information Movement in India for over two decades.
- She is the founder of the Satark Nagrik Sangathan (SNS), a citizens' group which promotes transparency and accountability in government and encourage the active participation of citizens.

14. Jasmine Harrison held from which country who has become the youngest woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean?

- A. France
- B. Italy
- C. Spain
- D. England
- E. Belgium

Ans. D

Sol.

- A British woman, Jasmine Harrison of England has become the youngest woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
- The 21-year-old from Thirsk, North Yorkshire in the UK, achieved the feat by finishing top in the 2020 Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, organized by Atlantic Campaigns.
- Harrison, who is a swim instructor and bartender by profession, travelled 3,000 miles (4,828km) across the Atlantic Ocean in 70 days, 3 hours and 48 minutes.



15. Which became the first country to receive a batch of free anti-coronavirus vaccine doses through the COVAX initiative?

- A. Mauritius
- B. Ghana
- C. Sudan
- D. Kenya
- E. Nigeria

Ans. B

Sol.

- Ghana became the first country on Wednesday to receive a batch of free anti-coronavirus vaccine doses through the COVAX initiative, a shot-sharing scheme behind the inoculation drive in poorer countries.
- The World Health Organization (WHO), which leads COVAX together with Gavi the Vaccine Alliance and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, said the shipment of 600,000 AstraZeneca doses was the first step in immunizing the West African nation of 30 million.

16. Who has been appointed as the US ambassador to the United Nations?

- A. Richard Verma
- B. MaryKay Carlson
- C. Linda Thomas-Greenfield
- D. Kenneth Juster
- E. Jonathan Cohen

Ans. C

Sol.

- The US Senate on February 23, 2021 confirmed Linda Thomas-Greenfield as US ambassador to the United Nations. Greenfield's name was nominated for the post by US President Joe Biden.
- The Senate voted 78-20 to confirm Thomas-Greenfield for the Cabinet-level position. Greenfield is the eighth confirmed member of President Joe Biden's Cabinet.
- Linda Thomas-Greenfield is a US diplomat with vast experience in Africa. She is a three-decade veteran of the US State Department.

17. Asia's biggest cattle park was inaugurated in which state of India?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Kerala
- D. Uttar Pradesh
- E. Madhya Pradesh

Ans. A

Sol.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister (CM) Edappadi K Palaniswami inaugurated Asia's biggest cattle park, Advanced Institute for Integrated Research on Livestock and Animal Sciences (AIIRLAS) in Thalaivasal, Salem district.
- It was constructed at a cost of Rs 1,023 crore. It is the state's 5th veterinary college.
- In addition to this he also inaugurated a veterinary medical college and Thalaivasal revenue taluk office.
- On the occasion, he also announced that a frozen semen station will be set up in Karumandurai, Salem at the cost of Rs 100 crore.

18. Who has authored the book titled, '#METOO'?

- A. Sahar Mansoor
- B. Avinuo Kire
- C. Karan Puri
- D. A K Rajan
- E. Indira Banerjee

Ans. C

Sol.

- Karan Puri launched his second book titled, '#METOO'. The book is a collection of 6 short stories. It is published by Invincible publishers.
- Author's 1st fiction novel is 'Shit Happens - A desi boy in America'.
- This book was a best seller and also as mentioned in India Today Top 20 books in 2012.
- The book highlights the strength of human beings who have lived through the trauma of sexual violence.



• It also motivates all the people to become more evolved and compassionate in our intimate connections.

19. Who has been elected as the president of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)?

- A. Vijay Sampla
- B. Ajai Malhotra
- C. Ajay Mathur
- D. Satishwar Balakrishnan
- E. A Sakthivel

Ans. E

Sol.

- The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) has unanimously elected Padma Shri Dr A Sakthivel as its president.
- He is the owner and Founder of Poppys Group of Companies of Tirupur, Tamil Nadu and is currently the Chairman of Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).
- He succeeds Sharad Kumar (S K) Saraf, a Mumbai-based businessman.

20. Irakli Garibashvili has been appointed as the new prime minister of which country?

- A. Belgium
- B. Norway
- C. Georgia
- D. Spain
- E. Ukraine

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Parliament of Georgia confirmed the appointment of Defence Minister Irakli Garibashvili (38 years old) of Georgian Dream party, as the new Prime Minister (PM) of Georgia.
- He took office immediately after the vote.
- He was appointed as the PM following the resignation of former PM Giorgi Gakharia on 18th February 2021.
- He was elected as the head of the government with 89 votes in favor and 2 against.

21. Who has been conferred with best actor male award at Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival awards 2021?

- A. Ajay Devgan
- B. Akshay Kumar
- C. Salman Khan
- D. Ayushman Khurana
- E. Rajkumar Rao

Ans. B

Sol.

- Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2021 were held in Mumbai on February 20. Sushmita Sen, Kiara Advani, Akshay Kumar, Nora Fatehi and Bobby Deol were among the recipients
- The award season 2021 continues as Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards honoured the best in film, television, music and the new addition, OTT
- Akshay Kumar was declared best actor (male) in the horror-comedy Laxmii, which was a remake of hit Tamil film Kanchana (2011).
- Akshay's co-star in the film, Kiara Advani, won for her performance in the Netflix film Guilty.

22. Renowned personality Rahul Khullar passed away recently, he was former chairman/head of which regulator?

- A. IRDAI
- B. TRAI
- C. SEBI
- D. RBI
- E. PFRDA

Ans. B

Sol.

- Former chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Rahul Khullar passed away Tuesday morning in New Delhi owing to a prolonged illness.
- Khullar, a 1975-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, was appointed as TRAI chief in May 2012. He served at TRAI for three years. Before being appointed as TRAI chief, he was a



secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Trade.

- He had topped MA Economics in 1974 from Delhi School of Economics and then taught briefly at Hansaraj College, Delhi University, before joining the IAS in 1975.
- Subsequently, he had obtained a PhD in Economics from Boston University. He taught at Boston University's Development Economics.

23. Which scheme has completed two years of its implementation in February, 2021?

- A. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna
- B. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna
- C. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
- D. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana
- E. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna

Ans. C

Sol.

- The PM-Kisan scheme, launched with an aim to ensure a life of dignity and prosperity for farmers has completed two years in February 2021.
- PM-Kisan scheme was launched with an aim to ensure a life of dignity as well as prosperity for our hardworking farmers, who work day and night to keep our nation fed. The tenacity and passion of our farmers is inspiring.
- Over the last 7 years, the Government of India has taken many initiatives for transforming agriculture. From better irrigation to more technology, more credit and markets to proper crop insurance, focus on soil health to eliminating middlemen, the efforts are all-encompassing.

24. Which global entity has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO), New Delhi for promoting research in the domestic power sector?

- A. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
- B. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
- C. Indian Environmental Society (IES)

- D. Centre for Media Studies (CMS)
- E. Centre For Environmental Studies (CES)

Ans. A

Sol.

- The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Power System Operation Corporation (POSOCO), New Delhi for promoting research in the domestic power sector.
- The entities will work towards addressing the challenges of the Power Sector.
- The aim of the MoU is to enhance the interaction between the industry-research bodies for knowledge sharing and capacity building through collaboration and to encourage research on issues related to the Indian power sector.

25. Which country hosted a workshop on COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward?

- A. France
- B. India
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Nepal
- E. China

Ans. B

Sol.

- India hosted a Workshop on 'COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward'.
- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles and Sri Lanka participated in the workshop.
- All countries including Pakistan supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposals at the workshop.

26. The 17th India International Mega Trade Fair & Home Decor Exhibition 2021 was organized in which state?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Karnataka
- C. Odisha
- D. Andhra Pradesh
- E. Telangana



Ans. C

Sol.

- Odisha hosted the 17th India International Mega Trade Fair & Home Decor Exhibition 2021 at Janata Maidan, Bhubaneswar.
- It was organized by the Odisha Chapter of the Real Estate Developers Association of India (CREDAI).
- Partner Country for the 2021 Fair – Bangladesh & focus countries are Afghanistan & Iran.
- Bihar is the Partner State for the Fair.
- It was inaugurated by the Odisha Law Minister Pratap Jena.

27. Which bank has been adjudged as the "Best Service Provider" in Human Resources and also the best institution for "Excellence in Learning & Development" at 29th Global HRD Congress awards?

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- Union Bank of India was today awarded "Best Service Provider" in Human Resources and also the best institution for "Excellence in Learning & Development" at 29th Global HRD Congress awards function held at Mumbai.
- Shri Kalyan Kumar, Chief General Manager, HR was named as "Chief Human Resources Officer of the Year". Shri Vinayak V Tembhurne, General Manager, HR, received the coveted award on his behalf.
- Global HRD Congress Awards are given to institutions annually for the best HR practices under different categories. Eminent jury which consists of best in industry selects the organizations taking into account their remarkable achievements in HR.

28. Which state has hosted 13th edition of annual cultural festival Utsavam 2021?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra
- E. Assam

Ans. B

Sol.

- To preserve the rich culture and art forms of Kerala, the state plays host to the 13th edition of Utsavam 2021.
- Organized by Kerala Tourism along with Kerala Folklore Academy, Bharat Bhavan, and District Tourism Promotion Councils.
- The festival brings alive Kerala's rich and diverse folk and ritualistic art traditions in 30 venues across the state, the 7-day annual cultural festival 'Utsavam 2021' started on a colourful note on February 20.

29. Recently which country has officially rejoined the Paris Climate Agreement?

- A. Japan
- B. UK
- C. USA
- D. India
- E. France

Ans. C

Sol.

- The United States re-joined the Paris Agreement – a global treaty which was adopted by 195 countries in December, 2015 as an international response to the climate crisis.
- Though technically the US remained outside the Agreement only for over three months after its formal exit from the deal in November last year, the country under Donald Trump administration kept itself away from the international accord in terms of federal climate action for four years even as sub-national players were doing their bit for a cleaner future.



30. Who resigned as the chief minister of Puducherry after failing to win the trust vote in the assembly?

- A. Edappadi K Planiswami
- B. Shipad Naik
- C. V Narayanaswamy
- D. Malladi Krishna Rao
- E. R. Kamalakannan

Ans. C

Sol.

- Puducherry Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy today tendered his resignation after failing to win the trust motion moved by him.
- Speaker V.P. Sivakolunthu declared that V. Narayanasamy lost the trust motion.
- Earlier Narayanasamy was asked to prove his strength in the assembly by the Lt. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan.

31. With which country India has signed a landmark Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)?

- A. Maldives
- B. Mauritius
- C. Mauritania
- D. Malaysia
- E. Mozambique

Ans. B

Sol.

- India signed a landmark Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) with Mauritius, the first of its kind with an African nation, making the strategically-located country a launch-pad for business expansion into the huge African continent.
- This agreement is India's first-such agreement with an African country.
- The CECPA will encourage Indian entrepreneurs to invest both in Mauritius and across the region, thus helping the ambition of the country to become a strategic regional economic hub and a centre of excellence.

32. India's first Digital University has been launched in which state?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. West Bengal
- D. Kerala
- E. Maharashtra

Ans. D

Sol.

- The state government of Kerala, on the line of its Digital Transformation Initiatives announced in Budget 2021, has launched India's first Digital University, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (KUDSIT) in Technocity at Mangalapuram in Thiruvananthapuram by upgrading its two-decade old Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Kerala (IIITM-K), a center of excellence in information technologies.
- The Governor of Kerala, Arif Mohammed Khan inaugurated the KUDSIT through videoconferencing.

33. How many toy manufacturing clusters have been approved by the Central Government at a cost of Rs 2,300 crore?

- A. 6
- B. 8
- C. 10
- D. 15
- E. 20

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Central Government has approved 8 toy manufacturing clusters at a cost of Rs 2,300 crore viz. three clusters in Madhya Pradesh, two in Rajasthan, and one each in Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- This decision has been taken on the lines of "National Action Plan for Indian Toy Story" that seeks to reduce import dependence of toys which was around \$1.5 billion in FY2020 of which 90% of imports was from China and Taiwan.
- In this regard, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and



the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) will develop toy clusters under existing schemes such as the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (Sfuri) which is currently being implemented in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

34. Rajeed Ram held from which country who has won Australian open mixed double event Barbora Krejckova of Czech Republic?

- A. India
- B. USA
- C. England
- D. France
- E. Germany

Ans. B

Sol.

- Indian-American Rajeed Ram and Czech Republic's Barbora Krejckova captured their second major title as a pair after defeating local wildcards Matthew Ebden and Samantha Stosur in the Australian Open mixed doubles final.
- The sixth seeds dominated from start to finish and did not drop serve in the match as they cruised to a 6-1, 6-4 victory in 59 minutes at the Rod Laver Arena, bringing the surprise run of the hometown pair to an end.
- It marks Krejckova's third straight mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park after she triumphed with Ram in 2019 and Nikola Pietrangeli last year, capping a successful fortnight for the Czech, who also reached the women's doubles final with compatriot Katerina Siniakova, losing to Elise Mertens and Aryna Sabalenka.

35. Who has authored the book titled "Agriculture Acts 2020"?

- A. K. Veeramani
- B. A K Rajan
- C. Indira Banerjee
- D. Vijaya K. Tahilramani
- E. Sanjay Kishan Kaul

Ans. B

Sol.

- Dravidar Kazhagam president K. Veeramani released a book "Agriculture Acts 2020" written by Justice A.K. Rajan, former judge of the Madras High Court.
- The book is about the three controversial Central farm laws, which resulted in a months-long massive protest by farmers in New Delhi.
- It has shown how the laws hit at the federal structure of India.

36. Which state government has approved the implementation of mission 'Lal Laker' to enable villagers living within the 'Lal Laker' to monetise their property rights and for availing benefits provided by the government departments, institutions and banks?

- A. Haryana
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Punjab
- E. Gujarat

Ans. D

Sol.

- The Cabinet of Punjab chaired by Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has approved the implementation of mission 'Lal Laker' to enable villagers living within the 'Lal Laker' to monetise their property rights and for availing benefits provided by the government departments, institutions and banks.
- Lal Laker refers to land that is a part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only.
- Earlier, these properties can be sold through power of attorney (POA) and the sale deeds could not be registered.

37. Who has won the Australian Open Men's Singles title 2021?

- A. Rafael Nadal
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Daniil Medvedev
- D. Alexander Zverev
- E. Dominic Thiem



Ans. B

Sol.

- Defending Champion Novak Djokovic has won his ninth Australian Open title, beating Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 in a one-sided final at Melbourne Park.
- This victory takes Djokovic's grand slam singles tally to 18 - just two behind Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.
- Both Nadal and Federer are tied at the top with 20 Slams so far.

38. With which country India has signed a 50 million dollar Defence line of Credit agreement?

- A. Maldives
- B. Mauritius
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Nepal
- E. Bhutan

Ans. A

Sol.

- Reaffirming its commitment for overall development and security of its maritime neighbour, India has signed a 50 million dollar Line of Credit agreement in defence sector with the Maldives.
- The credit line agreement for defence projects was signed between the Finance Ministry of Maldives and the Export-Import Bank of India to boost the maritime capabilities of the strategically vital Indian Ocean island nation.

39. Which country has recently announced that women can be employed in armed forces?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- Women in Saudi Arabia can now take up arms and enter the military, the latest

profession in the kingdom to open up to female recruits.

- Saudi Arabian women can be employed as soldiers, lance corporals, corporals, sergeants, and staff sergeants.
- The government has also added some additional criteria for female applicants.
- This move aims to increase the rights of women in the country.
- The plan to allow women in the armed forces was first announced in the year 2019.

40. Which state government has launched KFON project, aimed at providing free internet connections to BPL families?

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Kerala Govt has launched Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON) project, aimed at providing free internet connections to BPL families.
- Phase I of the project will also help connect users in schools, hospitals, offices and houses.
- In Kerala private sector Vodafone-Idea is a leading service provider with a 51.9% market share.
- Both the KSEB and the Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL) have 50% shares each in KFON.

41. Name the Indian women tennis player who has won maiden women's double title in Phillip Island Trophy with Russian partner Kamilla Rakhimova?

- A. Nirupama Sanjeev
- B. Karman Kaur Thandi
- C. Anikta Raina
- D. Shikha Uberoi
- E. Riya Bhatia



Ans. C

Sol.

- Ankita Raina won the women's double title in Phillip Island Trophy with Russian partner Kamilla Rakhimova.
- It is Ankita's maiden WTA title.
- The Ankita-Kamilla pair beat Russia's Anna Blinkova and Anastasia Potapova 2-6 6-4 10-7 in the final.
- The win will propel the 28-year-old Ankita to top-100 in the WTA rankings in doubles.
- She will be the second Indian woman player to be in top-100 after Sania Mirza.

42. Name the Indian Table Tennis player women's singles titles in the 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship?

- A. Manika Batra B. Reeth Rishya
C. Mouma Das D. Indu Puri
E. Ankita Das

Ans. A

Sol.

- India's top paddler Manika Batra clinched her second title by defeating Reeth Rishya 4-2 in the women's singles final of the 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship.
- Commonwealth Games gold medallist Manika, representing Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB), had won her maiden title in 2015 at Hyderabad.
- She ranked 63rd in the world ranking.
- 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship was held in Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex in Panchkula.

43. 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship was held in which stadium?

- A. Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex in Panchkula
B. Indira Gandhi Sports Stadium, Puducherry
C. Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Chennai
D. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat
E. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium, Mumbai

Ans. A

Sol.

- India's top paddler Manika Batra clinched her second title by defeating Reeth Rishya 4-2 in the women's singles final of the 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship.
- Commonwealth Games gold medallist Manika, representing Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB), had won her maiden title in 2015 at Hyderabad.
- She ranked 63rd in the world ranking.
- 82nd Senior National Table Tennis Championship was held in Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex in Panchkula.

44. Who has won the women's singles title in the Australian Open 2021?

- A. Jennifer Brady
B. Simona Halep
C. Sofia Kenin
D. Naomi Osaka
E. Serena Williams

Ans. D

Sol.

- Japan's Naomi Osaka has won the women's singles title in the Australian Open 2021.
- She defeated American Jennifer Brady in the final held in Melbourne, Australia.
- It was Naomi's fourth Grand Slam title.
- Osaka has now won two Australian Open titles after also triumphing at Melbourne Park in 2019.
- She has not suffered a defeat since February 2020 after winning her past 20 matches.
- She had also won US Open in 2018 and 2020.

45. Japan's Naomi Osaka has won the women's singles title in the Australian Open 2021 by defeating _____.

- A. Jennifer Brady
B. Simona Halep
C. Sofia Kenin
D. Ashleigh Barty
E. Serena Williams



Ans. A

Sol.

- Japan's Naomi Osaka has won the women's singles title in the Australian Open 2021.
- She defeated American Jennifer Brady in the final held in Melbourne, Australia.
- It was Naomi's fourth Grand Slam title.
- Osaka has now won two Australian Open titles after also triumphing at Melbourne Park in 2019.
- She has not suffered a defeat since February 2020 after winning her past 20 matches.
- She had also won US Open in 2018 and 2020.

46. Which agency has been mandated to undertake an awareness drive for promoting public charging, e-mobility and its ecosystem under the recently launched 'Go Electric' campaign?

- A. Central Electricity Authority of India
- B. Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- C. Solar Energy Corporation of India
- D. Rural Electrification Corporation
- E. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Union govt launched the 'Go Electric' campaign to spread awareness about the benefits of e-mobility and electric vehicle charging infra.
- 'Go Electric' logo was also unveiled on the occasion.
- Bureau of Energy Efficiency is mandated to undertake an awareness drive for promoting public charging, e-mobility and its ecosystem.
- BEE will extend technical support to the SDAs and other partners to ensure uniformity of information to implement the campaign.

47. In February 2021, Indian navy conducted Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the navy of which country in the Arabian Sea?

- A. Australia
- B. Iran
- C. Japan
- D. Indonesia
- E. Malaysia

Ans. D

Sol.

- The Indian and Indonesian navies carried out a military exercise (PASSEX) in the Arabian sea.
- the aim of the exercise is to enhance operational interoperability and overall cooperation.
- The Indian Navy participated in maritime exercises in the last few months with a number of countries, including Japan, Russia, Australia and the US.
- Indian Navy Ship INS Talwar & Indonesian Navy's multirole Corvette KRI Bung Tomo participated in the exercise.

48. Who has been appointed as the next President of Tokyo Olympic 2020 after resignation of former chief Yoshiro Mori?

- A. Seiko Hashimoto
- B. Mitarai Fujio
- C. Tsuga Kazuhiro
- D. Kono Ichiro
- E. Yamawaki Yasushi

Ans. A

Sol.

- The former Olympics Minister of Japan Seiko Hashimoto has been appointed as the next President of Tokyo Olympic 2020.
- She is a seven time Olympian herself, having competed as a cyclist and a speed skater.
- Former chief Yoshiro Mori resigned following a backlash over sexist comments he made.
- The Summer Olympics will begin on 23 July, after already being postponed by a year due to the pandemic.



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49. Recently India signed a MoU with which country for reconstruction of six secondary schools in Himalayan region?

- A. Nepal
- B. Afghanistan
- C. China
- D. Bhutan
- E. Myanmar

Ans. A

Sol.

- India and Nepal signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the reconstruction of six secondary schools in the Himalayan nation.
- The MoU was signed between the Indian Embassy and Nepal's Central Level Project Implementation Unit (Education) of Nepal Reconstruction Authority (NRA).
- The MoU was for the construction of six secondary schools at a total cost of Nepali Rupees 518 million, according to a statement by the Indian Embassy.
- Of the six schools, four including Kanti Bhairab Secondary School, Champa Devi Secondary School, Dhapasi Secondary School and Bishnu Devi Secondary School are located in Kathmandu district and remaining two Siddheshwar Secondary School and Harisiddhi Secondary School are located in Kavre district.
- Of the six schools, a groundbreaking ceremony of one was held yesterday amid a ceremony in Thali of Kathmandu.

50. ASHA is a trained female community health activist. What is the full form of ASHA?

- A. Association of Social and Health Agencies
- B. Accredited Social Health Activist
- C. Affiliated Social Help Agency
- D. Accord of Social and Health association
- E. None of the above

Ans. B

Sol.

- * Full form of ASHA is Accredited Social Health Activist.

* The ASHA scheme is presently in place in 33 states (except Goa, Chandigarh & Puducherry).

51. K S Chitra has been conferred with Padma Bhushan award for 2021. She was awarded for distinguished service in which of the following fields?

- A. Literature and Education
- B. Dance
- C. Social Worker
- D. Art and Music
- E. Trade and Industry

Ans. D

Sol.

- * Popular playback singer KS Chitra has been conferred with Padma Vibhushan in 2021 for her contribution to Indian film music.
- * She won the Padma Shri, one of the highest civilian honour in 2005.

52. Who has authored the book titled, 'Indian Economy's Greatest Crisis: Impact of Coronavirus and the Road Ahead'?

- A. Arun Kumar
- B. Shakti Sinha
- C. P S Sreedharan Pillai
- D. Nidhi Vadhera
- E. Mohammad Hamid Ansari

Ans. A

Sol.

- * Arun Kumar has authored a new book titled, 'Indian Economy's Greatest Crisis: Impact of Coronavirus and the Road Ahead'.
- * The book is published by Penguin Random House.
- * He is a veteran Indian economist.
- * Currently, he is the Malcolm S. Adiseshiah chair professor at the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.



53. Who authored the book titled "Louiz Banks: A Symphony of Love" which is a biography of Louis Banks, the Godfather of Indian Jazz?

- A. Ustad Zakir Hussain
- B. Bappi Lahiri
- C. Ashis Ghatak
- D. AR Rahman
- E. Salim Merchant

Ans. C

Sol.

* "Louiz Banks: A Symphony of Love", authored by Ashis Ghatak is the biography of Louis Banks, the Godfather of Indian Jazz. Ustad Zakir Hussain, the tabla maestro has written the foreword of this book.

* The book published by Rupa Publications was released on 11th February 2021, the 80th Birthday of Louiz Banks.

* The book of 15 chapters each named after a song by Banks provides a detailed narrative about the life incidents and experiences of Louiz Banks.

* The book features the mastery of banks in Jazz and fusion music along with his expertise as a jingle composer who contributed to many iconic commercials of Britannia, Vico, Liril, among others, and Dordharshan's 'Freedom Run', "Mile Sur".

54. Who has authored the book titled "The Epic Battle of Longewala" released by Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Chief Marshal R K S Bhadauria?

- A. Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora
- B. Air Marshal Amit Dev
- C. Air Marshal Manvendra Singh
- D. Air Marshal Bharat Kumar
- E. Air Marshal Rajiv Dyal Mathur

Ans. D

Sol.

* As a part of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary year of India's victory over Pakistan in 1971 war, Indian Air Force (IAF) Chief Air Chief Marshal R K S Bhadauria launched the book "The Epic

Battle of Longewala" authored by Air Marshal (ret'd) Bharat Kumar at the event organised at the IAF Museum in Palam, New Delhi.

* The book aims to document the stories of valour and pass it to the next generation.

* This book will provide a better understanding about the battle of Longewala to the present and future generation.

* The book features the candid details about the events that happened during the 1971 battle of Longewala.

* The book features the details of every mission, the crew, tank kills claimed and accounts for every tank and soft vehicle destroyed in the battle.

* The book also features the firsthand accounts of all the surviving fighter pilots who were involved in the battle.

55. What was the theme of the 29th NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF) 2021?

- A. Shaping the future towards a better normal
- B. The Future of Global Energy Security - Transition, Technology, Trade and Investment
- C. Sustainable and Inclusive Growth - Energy Access
- D. Inspiring people to realize the vision
- E. Planning the future and budgetary resources of the organizations

Ans. A

Sol.

* A three-day 29th NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF) 2021 is being held virtually on the theme "Shaping the future towards a better normal".

* It is organized by NASSCOM with Maharashtra Government as a state partner and Microsoft as Technology Partner.

* NASSCOM stands for National Association of Software and Service Companies.



* On February 17, 2021, the forum was virtually addressed by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi.

* It is being attended by 1600 participants from over 30 countries and more than 30 products.

56. First of its kind Solar-based Water Supply Projects has been launched in which state under its 'Har Ghar Paani, Har Ghar Safai' Mission?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Punjab
- D. Madhya Pradesh
- E. Himachal Pradesh

Ans. C

Sol.

* Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Department has set up First of its kind Solar-based Water Supply Projects at Jagrawan-Muradpur & Talwara villages of Jalandhar district. The pilot project has been set up under 'Har Ghar Paani, Har Ghar Safai' Mission.

* The project is expected to benefit around 141 households of Jagrawan & Muradpur and 102 households of Talwara village.

* The Solar-based projects have been commissioned at a cost of INR 67.71 Lakhs.

* The Solar based project will significantly reduce the electricity bill of the farmers, and the amount will be utilized for development works of the villages.

57. Who has been appointed as the Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)?

- A. Venkata Sanjay Kumar
- B. Usha Rao Monari
- C. Karim Khan
- D. Rashmi Samant
- E. Ajay Mathur

Ans. B

Sol.

* António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General appointed Ms. Usha Rao-Monari of India as Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

* She succeeds Mourad Wahba of Egypt, who served as the acting associate administrator. He also serves as the UNDP Regional Director for Arab States.

* The previous Associate Administrator of UNDP was Tegegnework Gettu.

58. The Mahabahu-Brahmaputra initiative launched was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which state of India?

- A. Tripura
- B. West Bengal
- C. Assam
- D. Meghalaya
- E. Arunachal Pradesh

Ans. C

Sol.

• PM Narendra Modi launched the Mahabahu-Brahmaputra initiative in Assam.

• Aim: to improve connectivity in the eastern states

• Under which Ro-Pax vessel operations between Neamati-Majuli Island, North Guwahati-South Guwahati and Dhubri-Hatsingimari inaugurated.

• Foundation stone of Inland Water Transport Terminal at Jogighopa and various tourist jetties on Brahmaputra and launch of digital solutions for Ease-of-Doing-Business were also the parts of the initiative.

59. The parliament of which country has passed an anti-radicalism bill?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. France
- C. Germany
- D. USA
- E. Italy



Ans. B

Sol.

- The lower house of the parliament has overwhelmingly approved Ant-Radicalism bill in a bid to fight the Islamic radicalism.
- The bill would strengthen oversight of mosques, schools and sports clubs to safeguard France from radical Islamists.
- It is a part of the broader French efforts that it initiated with the aim of fighting extremism.
- To accommodate changes, the bill adjusts France's 1905 law guaranteeing separation of church and state.

60. What is the budget outlay for the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for telecommunications (telecom) and networking products, launched by government of India, over five years?

- A. Rs 8,595 crore
- B. Rs 10,295 crore
- C. Rs 11,795 crore
- D. Rs 12,195 crore
- E. Rs 15,195 crore

Ans. D

Sol.

- Government of India has launched the scheme for telecommunications and networking products, with an outlay of Rs 12,195 crore over five years.
- The scheme will be operational from 1st April, 2021.
- Under the PLI scheme, Telecom manufacturing will be boosted in order to enhance the production of more than Rs 2.4 lakh crore.
- The scheme also has higher proposed incentives for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
- For MSMEs, the government has proposed 1 per cent higher incentive in the first three years. The minimum investment threshold for MSMEs has been kept at Rs 10 crore; for others, at Rs 100 crore.
- The PLI scheme was launched in the March 2020 in a bid to boost the domestic manufacturing.

61. Who has been accorded as the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha with effect from February 16?

- A. Mallikarjun Kharge
- B. Manmohan Singh
- C. Deepender Singh Hooda
- D. Randeep Surjewala
- E. Salman Khurshid

Ans. A

Sol.

- Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has accorded recognition to Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge as the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha with effect from February 16.
- Kharge was named Congress leader in the House to succeed Ghulam Nabi Azad whose term has ended.
- Kharge, a former union minister, had earlier been Congress leader in the Lok Sabha.

62. Which organisation released the "India Energy Outlook 2021", that predicted India will surpass European Union to become the World's 3rd largest energy consumer by 2030?

- A. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
- B. International Energy Agency (IEA)
- C. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- D. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- E. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited

Ans. B

Sol.

- As per the Energy Outlook 2021, published by the International Energy Agency (IEA), India will overtake the [European Union](#) as the world's third-largest energy consumer by 2030.
- India at present is the fourth-largest global energy consumer behind China, the United States and the European Union.
- India accounts for nearly one-quarter of global energy demand growth from 2019-40 -- the largest for any country. Its share



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in the growth in renewable energy is the second-largest in the world, after China.

- By 2040, India's power system is bigger than that of the European Union, and is the world's third-largest in terms of electricity generation; it also has 30 per cent more installed renewables capacity than the United States.

63. Which state government has launched a web portal on 'Digital Workforce Management System' under its Knowledge Mission?

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

Ans. A

Sol.

- Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi Vijayan launched the 'Kerala Knowledge Mission' at Thiruvananthapuram.
- The aim of the mission is to transform Kerala into a knowledge economy by promoting innovative ideas, coordinating knowledge initiatives & equipping young people with New Skills.
- Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) is heading the mission. It is supported by Kerala Startup Mission and ICT Academy.

64. Which Indian state has introduced a '16-digit unicode' to identify the landholdings in the state?

- A. Telangana
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh
- E. Karnataka

Ans. D

Sol.

- The government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) has introduced a new system to issue a unique 16-digit unicode to identify the landholding in UP.

- The unicode will be used to check on cases of land dispute and protect people from fraudsters.
- The revenue department of UP will be issuing these 16 digit unicode.
- The revenue court is working on marking the disputed plots in the computerised management system.

65. The Annual Convention of Association of Domestic Tour Operators (ADTOI) was held in which city of India?

- A. Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- B. Pune, Maharashtra
- C. Kevadia, Gujarat
- D. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- E. Hyderabad, Telangana

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Annual Convention of Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India (ADTOI) concluded at Kevadia in Gujarat.
- The convention was jointly organized by the Ministry of Tourism and ADTOI with support from Gujarat Tourism. It aimed at building public confidence to travel for the revival of domestic tourism in the country.
- The conference was attended by around 400 delegates comprising of ADTOI members from across India, hoteliers, airlines representatives, senior government officials, media-persons among other stakeholders of the tourism industry.

66. Who has been appointed as the Executive Secretary of the UN Capital Development Fund?

- A. Preeti Sinha
- B. DJ Patil
- C. Alok Sharma
- D. Bhavya Lal
- E. Ria Prasad

Ans. A

Sol.

- The UN Capital Development Fund has appointed Indian-origin investment and



development banker Preeti Sinha as its Executive Secretary, whose focus will be on providing micro-finance assistance to women, youth, small and medium-sized enterprises in under-served communities.

- Sinha commenced her tenure as UNCDF Executive Secretary, the highest leadership rank in the institution.
- Established in 1966, the New York-headquartered organisation provides micro-finance access to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), with the mandate to unlock the full potential of public and private finance.

67. The Joint Conference of the 11th World PetroCoal Congress and World Future Fuel Summit was held in which city of India?

- A. Kolkata
- B. New Delhi
- C. Bengaluru
- D. Hyderabad
- E. Bhopal

Ans. B

Sol.

- The Joint Conference of the 11th World PetroCoal Congress and World Future Fuel Summit was held New Delhi.
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan highlighted the increase in LPG coverage from 56 per cent to nearly 99.5 per cent in less than seven years.
- He also mentioned that to reduce vehicular pollution, the country leapfrogged from BS-4 to BS-6 emission standards from April 2020.

68. Naman Ojha is associated with which sports who announced his retirement recently?

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

Ans. B

Sol.

- Former Indian Wicketkeeper – Batsman Naman Ojha from Madhya Pradesh announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket.
- He has represented India in all three formats and holds the record for the most dismissals (351) by a wicketkeeper in Ranji Trophy.
- He made his international debut against Zimbabwe during India's 2010 tour of Zimbabwe.
- He represented India in a Test match against Sri Lanka held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2015 and became the first test cricketer from Madhya Pradesh since Rajesh Chauhan.

69. Where was India's first Children's Boat library inaugurated?

- A. Bengaluru, Karnataka
- B. Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- C. Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- D. Kochi, Kerala
- E. Kolkata, West Bengal

Ans. E

Sol.

- For the first time in India, the West Bengal Transport Corporation has introduced a boat library on Hoogly River in association with a heritage book store.
- The Young Readers' Boat Library features 500 and more perfectly-curated collections of books in Hindi, English and Bengali across several genres in a pleasant reading ambience.
- The boat library will take visitors on a three-hour trip along the river from Millenium Park to Belur Math and back to its original site.
- Reportedly, the ticket price for adults is INR 100 and INR 50 for children. For girls below 18 years of age, the ticket price would be INR 50 to encourage readership among young girls.



70. Which organisation is developing a vehicle with capabilities to act as a 'Space Taxi' for small satellites?

- A. SpaceX
- B. Electronics Corporation of India Ltd
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- D. Bellatrix Aerospace
- E. General Dynamics

Ans. D

Sol.

- Space technology startup Bellatrix Aerospace has partnered with its peer Skyroot Aerospace to ferry small satellites into multiple orbits.
- Bellatrix Aerospace, which is creating a vehicle that will work as "taxi in space", will launch on the Vikram rocket of Skyroot Aerospace.
- Bellatrix's space vehicle is expected to launch to the lower orbit of the earth in 2023. Its "taxi in space" will offer ridesharing for small satellites and drop each one of the passengers to their intended slots in space.

71. Which state government has launched 'Maa' scheme under which her government would provide a meal at a nominal cost of Rs 5 mainly to poor people?

- A. Bihar
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Tripura
- D. West Bengal
- E. Assam

Ans. D

Sol.

- Ahead of the assembly elections in the state, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday virtually launched the 'Maa' scheme under which her government would provide a meal at a nominal cost of Rs 5 mainly to poor people.
- They will get a platter of rice, dal, a vegetable and egg curry for Rs 5.
- The government will bear a subsidy of Rs 15 (per plate) while people will get it at Rs 5.

- Self-help groups will operate the kitchens from 1 pm to 3 pm every day and such kitchens will be set up everywhere in the state gradually.

72. Which state government has launched the Abhyudaya scheme to provide free coaching for competitive exams like NEET and IIT-JEE to students at the district level?

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

Ans. C

Sol.

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the Abhyudaya Scheme to provide free coaching to students appearing for the NEET, JEE (Mains and Advanced), and other competitive exams.
- This scheme aims at providing quality guidance and teaching to all aspirants coming from diverse backgrounds like rural areas, poor families and marginalised sections, who are not able to afford and avail private coaching services.
- There will be separate classes for NEET and Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for admission into the IITs.
- All the lectures and complete study material will be made available online.

73. Which country conducted military exercise 'Jidar-ul-Hadeed'?

- A. Iran
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Pakistan
- D. UAE
- E. Saudi Arabia

Ans. C

Sol.

- The Pakistan Army is holding a month-long exercise in the Thar Desert, located in the Sindh province, to prepare for conflict in extreme desert environments.



- The exercise, code-named 'Jidar-ul-Hadeed', began on January 28 and is scheduled to conclude on February 28.
- Troops from the Karachi Corps will be practising tactical drills and procedures as part of the exercise.
- The Thar Desert is an arid region that covers over 2,00,000 sq km. It forms a natural boundary along the border between India and Pakistan.

74. What is India's rank in the 'Asia-Pacific Personalised Health Index' released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)?

- A. 8th
- B. 10th
- C. 12th
- D. 15th
- E. 20th

Ans. B

Sol.

- * The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has released the 'Asia-Pacific Personalised Health Index'.
- * India ranked 10th out of 11 Asia Pacific countries.
- * Singapore ranked first in the index followed by Taiwan (2nd), Japan (3rd) and Australia (4th).
- * Indonesia ranked 11th in the index.
- * It measures performance against 27 different indicators of personalised health across four categories called 'Vital Signs'.

75. Who has been awarded with Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2021?

- A. Nick Nichols
- B. Martin Bailey
- C. Mark Fitzpatrick
- D. Charlie Davidson
- E. Robert Irwin

Ans. E

Sol.

- Australian wildlife photographer, Robert Irwin has won Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2021 People's Choice Award Contest.
- Robert won the award for the image titled 'bushfire', which is the picture of devastating Australian Bushfire in 2020, he captured using a drone, near the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve in Cape York, Queensland.
- Wildlife Photographer of the Year: Largest wildlife photography competition in the world, organised by the Natural History Museum.





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