

100+ Most Important November Month Current Affairs Questions



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1. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Climate Change Performance Index 2022?

- i. The top three places in the overall ranking were kept empty.
 - ii. India is ranked 10th.
 - iii. The index has been released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- A. ii only
B. i and ii only
C. i and iii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

India has retained its top 10 spot in the best performing countries for the third year in a row in the global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022 and ranked 10th.

The report, published by German-watch, was released on the sidelines of the 26th Conference of the Parties (CoP26).

No country performed well enough in all index categories to achieve an overall very high rating in CCPI.

As a result, the top three places in the overall ranking remain empty once again.

Denmark placed 4th and is the highest ranked country in CCPI 2022.

Performance of G20 countries, responsible for about 75% of the world's GHG emissions, shows the UK (7th), India (10th), Germany (13th), and France (17th) are four G20 countries among the high-performers.

China is the current biggest polluter and figured at 37th position while the second highest current emitter -- US -- was at the 55th spot in the CCPI 2022.

About Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI):

The CCPI evaluates 60 countries and the European Union, which together generate more than 90 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

The CCPI looks at four categories, with 14 indicators: Greenhouse gas emissions (40 percent of the overall score), renewable energy (20 percent), energy use (20 percent) and climate policy (20 percent).

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas:

- i. It will be celebrated on 15th November every year.
- ii. Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.

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 Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the declaration of 15th November as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

15th November is the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda who is revered as Bhagwan by tribal communities across the country.

Birsa Munda fought bravely against the country against the exploitative system of the British colonial system and spearheaded movement against British oppression giving a call for 'Ulgulan' (Revolution).

The day will be celebrated every year and would recognize the efforts of the tribals for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of Indian values of valour, hospitality and national pride.

Note: Tribal Freedom Fighter Museum at Ranchi where Birsa Munda breathed his last will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

3. Which edition of Indo-Thai CORPAT between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was conducted from 12 – 14 November 2021?

- A. 34th
- B. 32nd
- C. 33rd
- D. 31st

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The 32nd edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was conducted from 12 – 14 November 2021.

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon, a Khamrosin Class Anti-submarine Patrol Craft, along with Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies participated in the CORPAT.

CORPAT builds up understanding and interoperability between navies and facilitates institution of measures to prevent and suppress unlawful activities like Illegal Unreported Unregulated (IUU) fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery and piracy.

Note: Towards reinforcing maritime links between the two countries and with an aim of keeping this vital part of the Indian Ocean safe and secure for international trade, the two navies have been undertaking CORPAT bi-annually since 2005 along their International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).

Other Military Exercises between India and Thailand:

Exercise SIAM BHARAT (Air Force)

Exercise MAITREE (Army)

4. When is World Diabetes Day observed?

- A. November 15
- B. November 14
- C. November 26
- D. November 17

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

World Diabetes Day is celebrated every year on 14 November.

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2021-23 is 'Access to Diabetes Care'.

In 2007 the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 14 November as World Diabetes Day.

World Diabetes Day was launched in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation and the World Health Organization (WHO) in response to the rapid rise of diabetes around the world.

5. Who is the author of the book "Sunrise over Ayodhya – Nationhood in our Times"?

- A. Shashi Tharoor
- B. Sanjaya Baru
- C. Amitav Ghosh
- D. Salman Khurshid

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Salman Khurshid, Former Union Minister and Congress leader launched his book on the Ayodhya verdict named "Sunrise over Ayodhya – Nationhood in our Times".

According to Khurshid, "People used to think that it would take 100 years for the verdict to come. After the verdict, people started giving opinions perhaps without reading it or understanding what, why or how the Supreme Court gave the judgement."

6. Who has been appointed as the Director-General of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)?

- A. Punit Goenka
- B. Satya Narayan Pradhan
- C. Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- D. Samant Kumar Goel

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Satya Narayan Pradhan, Senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, has been appointed as the full-time Director-General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

His appointment has been done on a deputation till August 31, 2024, or until further orders.

Previously, despite being the Director-General of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Pradhan was also holding the additional charge of NCB Chief.

He is a 1988 batch IPS officer from Jharkhand Cadre.

7. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021?

- i. Australia won their maiden ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 title after beating New Zealand.
 - ii. David Warner was declared Player of the series.
 - iii. It was held in India.
- A. i only
B. i and iii only
C. i and ii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Australia won their maiden ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 title after beating New Zealand by 8 wickets in the final at the Dubai International Stadium, Dubai.

Player of the match: Mitchell Marsh (Australia)

Player of the series: David Warner (Australia)

8. Consider the following statements regarding the 6th Edition of exercise "EX SHAKTI 2021":

- i. It was a joint military exercise between India and France.
- ii. It was held at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan.

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 6th Edition of the India- France joint military exercise “EX SHAKTI 2021” is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021 in Frejus, France.

A platoon strength of a Gorkha Rifles Infantry Battalion is representing the Indian Army in this bilateral exercise and the French side is being represented by troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of 6th Light Armoured Brigade.

Exercise SHAKTI will focus on Counter Terrorism operations in backdrop of semi-urban terrain under United Nations Mandate with an aim to enhance military cooperation and inter-operability between the two Armies.

The last edition of Exercise SHAKTI was conducted at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan from 31 Oct to 13 Nov 2019.

Note: India and France carry out 3 biennial training exercises namely, Exercise GARUDA with Indian Air force, Exercise VARUNA with Indian Navy and Exercise **SHAKTI** with Indian Army.

9.The central government has extended the tenures of the directors of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):

- A. From 2 years to up to 5 years
- B. From 2 years to up to 3 years
- C. From 3 years to up to 5 years
- D. From 2 years to up to 4 years

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The central government has brought two ordinances to extend the tenure of directors of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for up to five years.

At present, the tenure for the chiefs of both central agencies is two years.

The Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 and The Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 were promulgated.

As per the ordinances promulgated, a CBI or ED director can be appointed first for a period of two years, but if needed, the tenure can be extended for three more years. This will require three separate annual extensions.

However, no extension can be granted to an ED or CBI chief after a period of five years.

The CBI is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946.

The ED is governed by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) Act, 2003.

Note:

Currently, Sanjay Kumar Mishra is the Director of ED.

Currently, Subodh Kumar Jaiswal is the Director of CBI.

10. Which railway station has been renamed after Rani Kamalapati?

- A. Sultanpur Railway Station
- B. Habibganj Railway Station
- C. Azamgarh Railway Station
- D. Hoshangabad Railway Station

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the redeveloped Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in Bhopal.

Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in Bhopal is the country's first ISO certified, first Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model based railway station.

The redeveloped Rani Kamalapati Railway station, named after brave and fearless Queen Kamalapati of the Gond kingdom, is the first world class railway station in Madhya Pradesh.

The station is also developed as a hub for integrated multi-modal transport.

Note: The name of Bhopal's Habibganj Railway Station has been changed to Rani Kamalapati Railway Station.

11. Which state Chief Minister inaugurated the newly created 'Eastern West Khasi Hills' district which will be the 12th district of the state?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Meghalaya
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Tripura

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The 12th district of Meghalaya – 'Eastern West Khasi Hills' was inaugurated by Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma.

This new district, with its headquarters at Mairang, was bifurcated from its parent district of West Khasi Hills.

The new district comprises Mairang and Mawthadraishan C&RD blocks respectively.

Mairang is one of the oldest civil sub-divisions, which was inaugurated on November 10, 1976, and exactly after 45 years, it was upgraded to a new district.

12. Who has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)?

- A. Atul Karwal
- B. S N Pradhan
- C. Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- D. Samant Kumar Goel

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Senior IPS officer and director of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Atul Karwal, has been appointed Director-General of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

The appointment committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the appointment of Mr. Karwal, a 1988 batch IPS officer of Gujarat cadre.

13. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Exercise 'SITMEX-2021'?

- i. It was the 3rd edition of the Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand Trilateral Maritime Exercise.
 - ii. It was conducted in the Andaman Sea.
 - iii. It was hosted by Thailand.
- A. i only
B. ii and iii only
C. i and ii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The 3rd edition of India, Singapore and Thailand Trilateral Maritime Exercise 'SITMEX – 21' was conducted from 15 to 16 Nov 2021 in the Andaman Sea.

The exercise was hosted by Thailand.

Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette participated in SITMEX – 21.

The two days of maritime drills witnessed the three navies engaged in various tactical exercises including naval manoeuvres and surface warfare drills.

Note:

SITMEX is being conducted annually since 2019 with an aim to enhance mutual inter-operability and imbibing best practices between Indian Navy (IN), Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and Royal Thai Navy (RTN).

The maiden edition of SITMEX was hosted by the Indian Navy (IN) off Port Blair in September 2019.

Singapore hosted the second edition of the exercise in November 2020.

Other Military Exercises between India and Singapore:

SIMBEX (Navy)

Bold Kurukshetra (Army)

Joint Military Training (Air Force)

Other Military Exercises between India and Thailand:

Indo-Thai CORPAT (Navy)

MAITREE (Army)

SIAM BHARAT (Air Force)

14. Consider the following statements regarding the first Audit Diwas:

- i. It was celebrated on 16 November 2021
- ii. It was celebrated to mark the historic origins of the institution of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

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 |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the event marking the celebration of first Audit Diwas on November 16, 2021.

He also unveiled the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) office.

Audit Diwas was celebrated to mark the historic origins of the institution of CAG and the contribution it has made to the governance, transparency and accountability over the past several years.

Under the Government of India Act 1858, after the merging of audit departments of Bengal, Madras & Bombay presidencies, on 16th Nov 1860 the first Auditor-General took charge.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is the Constitutional Authority in India, established under Article 148 of the Constitution of India.

Note: The former Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu Kashmir G. C. Murmu is the current Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) of India.

15. India's first Centre for Excellence in Research on Drone/UAV Technology and Artificial Intelligence has been launched in which institutions?

- A. IIT Bombay
- B. IIT Guwahati
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IIT Roorkee

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Minister of State Civil Aviation and retired general VK Singh inaugurated India's first Center for Excellence in Research on Drone/UAV Technology and Artificial Intelligence at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati.

IIT Guwahati's other initiatives-- Skill development center for drone/UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) operation and maintenance, Nodal center for overall administrative drone data management for northeast region and "AXOMDroneports"

The AXOMDroneports will be used to support cargo drones delivering urgent/medical and emergency supplies and precious supplies to remote areas of the North East.

16. Recently, which Union Ministry has launched the eGCA portal?

- A. Ministry of Women and Child Development
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. Ministry of Civil Aviation
- E. None of the above/more than one of the above

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Union Minister of Civil Aviation launched eGCA (e-Governance in Directorate General of Civil Aviation) platform.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has implemented its e-governance platform eGCA.

The project has been aimed at automation of the processes and functions of DGCA, with 99 services covering about 70% of the DGCA work being implemented in the initial phases, and 198 services to be covered in other phases.

The e-platform provides an end-to-end solution including various software applications, connectivity with all the regional offices, a 'portal' for dissemination of information and for providing online and speedy service delivery in a secure environment.

The services provided to various DGCA stakeholders such as Pilots, Aircraft Maintenance Engineers, Air Traffic Controllers, Air Operators, Airport Operators, Flying Training Organizations, Maintenance and Design organizations etc. are now available on the eGCA online.

The project has been implemented with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) as Service Provider and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as Project Management Consultant.

17. Which state has declared the 'Kaiser-i-Hind' as the State butterfly?

- A. Sikkim
- B. Arunachal Pradesh
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Tripura

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The State Cabinet of Arunachal Pradesh, headed by Chief Minister Pema Khandu, approved the Kaiser-i-Hind as the State butterfly.

Kaiser-i-Hind is a large and brightly coloured butterfly.

It is scientifically known as *Teinopalpus imperialis*.

The insect with a 90-120 mm wingspan is found in the eastern Himalayas.

The butterfly also flutters in Nepal, Myanmar, Laos, Bhutan, Vietnam and southern China.

Protection Status:

Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule II

IUCN: Near Threatened

CITES: Appendix II

18. Who has been appointed as the Director-General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)?

- A. Sheel Vardhan Singh
- B. Atul Tyagi
- C. Subodh Jaiswal
- D. Samant Kumar Goel

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Senior IPS officer Sheel Vardhan Singh was appointed as Director-General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Mr. Singh has been appointed as the Director-General up to 31.08.2023, the date of his superannuation, an order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

Mr. Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Police Service officer of Bihar cadre, is currently Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau.

19. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Pochampally village?

- i. The Pochampally village has been selected as one of the best Tourism Villages by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).
 - ii. It is often referred to as the Silk City of India.
 - iii. Pochampally Ikat has received a Geographical Indicator (GI Status).
- A. i only
 - B. ii and iii only
 - C. i and ii only
 - D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The Pochampally village in Telangana State has been selected as one of the best Tourism Villages by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

The prestigious award will be given on the occasion of the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly on 2nd December 2021 in Madrid, Spain.

About Pochampally Village:

Pochampally, 50 Kms from Hyderabad, is a town in Nalgonda district of Telangana and is often referred to as the Silk City of India for the exquisite sarees that are woven through a unique style called Ikat.

This style, Pochampally Ikat, received a Geographical Indicator (GI Status) in 2004.

In 2015, to recognise the diversity of weaving techniques and rich handloom tradition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first National Handloom Day on August 7 as a tribute to the formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement that was made in a meeting at the Calcutta Town hall on the same day in 1905.

Pochampally is also known as Bhoodan Pochampally to commemorate the Bhoodan Movement that was launched by Acharya Vinobha Bhave from this village on April 18th, 1951.

Note:

The Ministry of Tourism recommended three villages for the UNWTO Best Tourism Village entry from India.

These were Kongthong in Meghalaya, Ladhpora Khas, Madhya Pradesh and Pochampally in Telangana. Pochampally, was awarded by UNWTO.

About Best Tourism Villages Initiative:

The Best Tourism Villages by UNWTO Pilot initiative aims to award those villages which are outstanding examples of rural destinations and showcase good practices in line with its specified nine evaluation areas.

It also aims to support villages to enhance their rural tourism potential through training and access to opportunities for improvement.

About United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO):

The World Tourism Organization is the United Nations specialized agency entrusted with the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

Headquarters: Madrid, Spain

Founded: 1 November 1975

20. Consider the following statements regarding the Purvanchal Expressway:

- i. It is a 441 km long Expressway.
- ii. It passes through 7 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

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 |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Purvanchal Expressway.

He also witnessed the Airshow on the 3.2 km long airstrip constructed on the Expressway in Sultanpur district, Uttar Pradesh.

About Purvanchal Expressway:

The Purvanchal Expressway is 341 Km long.

It starts from village Chaudsarai, district Lucknow located on Lucknow-Sultanpur road (NH-731) and ends at village Hydaria located on National Highway No. 31 in Ghazipur district, 18 km east of UP-Bihar border.

It passes through 9 Uttar Pradesh districts - Lucknow, Barabanki, Amethi, Ayodhya, Sultanpur, Ambedkar Nagar, Azamgarh, Mau and Ghazipur.

Constructed at an estimated cost of about Rs 22500 crore, the Purvanchal Expressway is going to give a boost to the economic development of eastern part of Uttar Pradesh.

The expressway will connect with the existing Agra-Lucknow and Agra-Noida Yamuna expressways to form an industrial corridor, providing connectivity from the eastern to western borders of Uttar Pradesh.

21. Which company has joined the United Nations Global Compact, the world's largest sustainability initiative?

- A. Hero
- B. Bajaj
- C. TVS
- D. Honda

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

TVS Motor Company, the flagship company of the TVS Group, has joined the United Nations Global Compact, the world's largest sustainability initiative.

TVS Motor Company has become the first Indian two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer to be a part of UN Global Compact.

About United Nations Global Compact:

The United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies to align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take action in support of UN goals and issues embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Launched in 2000, the UN Global Compact is the largest corporate sustainability initiative globally, with more than 14,000 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories in over 160 countries and more than 70 Local Networks.

22. Who is set to become the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican?

- A. Aadavan Pillai
- B. Arun Swami
- C. Devasahayam Pillai
- D. Devarya Patel
- E. None of the above/more than one of the above

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Devasahayam Pillai, a Hindu converted to Christianity in the 18th century, is set to become the first Indian layman (a non-ordained member of the Church) to be declared a saint by the Vatican on May 15, 2022.

Born on April 23, 1712 in the village of Nattalam in Tamil Nadu's Kanyakumari District, Devasahayam went on to serve in the court of Travancore's Maharaja Marthanda Varma.

Devasahayam, who took the name 'Lazarus' in 1745, was first approved for sainthood in February 2020 for "enduring increasing hardships" after he decided to embrace Christianity.

On January 14, 1752, just seven years after he became a Catholic, he was shot dead in the Aralvaimozhy forest.

He was declared Blessed on December 2, 2012, in Kottar, 300 years after his birth.

23. Who is set to become the first gay judge of Delhi High Court?

- A. Saurabh Kirpal
- B. Manoj Kumar
- C. Rahul Nidar
- D. Mohan Sachdeva

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The Supreme Court collegium has recommended Saurabh Kirpal, a senior advocate, as a judge to the Delhi High Court, a historic first as Kirpal is self-professed gay.

The SC collegium led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) NV Ramana took a decision on Kirpal's elevation and sent the recommendation to the Law Ministry.

Kirpal's name was in the reckoning for a judge's post since 2017 but was stalled due to that he was gay.

The collegium deferred taking a call on his elevation at least four times despite the HC's recommendation.

Note: His father B N Kirpal was Chief Justice of India in 2002.

24. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Rajya Sabha?

- A. J B Mohapatra
- B. Atul Tyagi
- C. PC Mody
- D. Sushil Kumar Goel

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

PC Mody (Pramod Chandra Mody), a 1982-batch retired IRS officer and former Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Rajya Sabha.

Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu appointed Mody as the Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha in the rank and status of Cabinet Secretary till August 10, 2022 or until further orders whichever is earlier.

PC Mody comes in place of PPK Ramacharyulu, who was appointed Secretary General on September 1, 2021.

Note: PPK Ramacharyulu has now been appointed as an advisor in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat.

25. Consider the following statements regarding the 2021 Bribery Risk Matrix:

- i. India is ranked 82.
- ii. It was released by TRACE.

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 |||

India slipped to 82nd position, five places down from 77th rank last year, in a global list of 2021 TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix (TRACE Matrix).

In 2020, India ranked 77 with a score of 45 while this year, the country stood at 82nd position with a score of 44.

North Korea, Turkmenistan, Venezuela and Eritrea pose the highest commercial bribery risk, while Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand present the lowest in 2021 Matrix.

About the TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix:

The list by TRACE, an anti-bribery standard setting organisation, measures business bribery risk in 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions.

This score is based on four factors — business interactions with the government, anti-bribery deterrence and enforcement, government and civil service transparency, and capacity for civil society oversight which includes the role of the media.

It was originally published in 2014.

The TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix aggregates relevant data obtained from leading public interest and international organisations, including the United Nations, World Bank, V-Dem Institute at the University of Gothenburg and World Economic Forum.

26. Consider the following statements regarding the All India Presiding Officers' Conference:

- i. The All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC), the apex body of the Legislatures in India, is celebrating its hundred years in 2021.
- ii. The 82nd edition of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference was held in Lucknow.

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 |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 82nd All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) on 17 November, 2021.

The All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC), the apex body of the Legislatures in India, is celebrating its hundred years in 2021.

To commemorate the centennial year of AIPOC, the 82nd edition of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference was held in Shimla on 17-18 November 2021.

The first Conference was also held in Shimla in 1921.

27.7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Conclave was hosted by which country?

- A. India
- B. Australia
- C. France
- D. South Africa

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The 7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)-2021 Conclave of Chiefs was hosted by the French Navy at Paris from 15 - 16 Nov 2021.

The Conclave of Chiefs was attended by Chiefs of Navies/ Heads of Lead Maritime Agencies of IONS nations.

Note:

The 7th edition of IONS Symposium was held at Le-Reunion from 28 Jun - 01 Jul 2021 in hybrid format due to COVID protocols.

During the Symposium, it was agreed upon to conduct the extant Conclave of Chiefs at Paris.

About Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):

It is a series of biennial meetings between the littoral states of the Indian Ocean region.

It provides a forum to increase maritime security cooperation, discuss regional maritime issues, and promote friendly relationships among the member states.

The symposium was first held in 2008 with India as host.

France assumed the Chairmanship in June 2021 for two-year tenure.

28. Which country will host the first-ever World Yogasana Championship in June 2022?

- A. Japan
- B. Nepal
- C. India
- D. Thailand

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

India will host the first-ever World Yogasana Championship in June 2022.

The National Yogasana Sports Federation (recognised by the Sports Ministry) is working towards building a strong culture of fitness, competition, well-being, and growth through practice and development of yogasana.

Note: Yogasana sport for both male and female categories has been included in the Khelo India Youth Games, 2021.

29. When is World Toilet Day observed?

- A. November 21
- B. November 24
- C. November 17
- D. November 19

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

World Toilet Day is celebrated annually on 19 November to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and help achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), which promises Sanitation for All by 2030.

The theme of 2021 is 'Valuing Toilets'.

The Day was designated by the UN General Assembly on 24 July 2013.

In India:

As part of the 'World Toilet Day' celebrations, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched a week long awareness campaign on SafaiMitra Suraksha Challenge (SSC) from November 14th to 20th November 2021 to run up to the 'Swachh Amrit Diwas', an award ceremony to recognize the role and efforts of the states, cities, ULBs and Cantonment Board in Swachh Survekshan 2021, and Garbage Free Star Rating certification on 20th November, 2021.

Note: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the SafaiMitra Suraksha Challenge (SSC) on the occasion of World Toilet Day (19th November 2020).

30. Who will become the new head of the National Cricket Academy (NCA)?

- A. VVS Laxman
- B. Anil Kumble
- C. Virendra Sehwag
- D. Irfan Pathan

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Former India batsman VVS Laxman will be the new head of the National Cricket Academy (NCA).

Laxman will take over from his former teammate Rahul Dravid, who was recently appointed as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team following the end of Ravi Shastri's tenure.

Laxman is a batting consultant for Bengal in domestic cricket and is also a team mentor for SunRises Hyderabad in the Indian Premier League.

Laxman took retirement from international cricket in 2012.

31. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the National Sports Awards 2021?

- i. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award will be given to 7 Sports persons.
 - ii. 35 Sports persons will receive Arjuna Awards.
 - iii. Shikhar Dhawan will receive the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.
- A. ii only
 - B. i and ii only
 - C. ii and iii only

D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announced the National Sports Awards 2021.

The awardees will receive their awards from the President of India at the Darbar Hall of Rashtrapati Bhavan on 13th November, 2021.

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2021 will be given to 12 Sports persons.

35 Sports persons will receive Arjuna Awards.

A large number of nominations were received, which were considered by the Selection Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) Mukundakam Sharma (former Judge of Supreme Court).

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2021:

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
1.	Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
2.	Ravi Kumar	Wrestling
3.	Lovlina Borgohain	Boxing
4.	Sreejesh P.R	Hockey
5.	Avani Lekhara	Para Shooting
6.	Sumit Antil	Para Athletics
7.	Pramod Bhagat	Para Badminton
8.	Krishna Nagar	Para Badminton
9.	Manish Narwal	Para Shooting
10.	Mithali Raj	Cricket
11.	Sunil Chhetri	Football
12.	Manpreet Singh	Hockey

Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2021:

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
1.	Arpinder Singh	Athletics
2.	Simranjit Kaur	Boxing
3.	Shikhar Dhawan	Cricket
4.	Bhavani Devi Chadalavada Anandha Sundhararaman	Fencing
5.	Monika	Hockey
6.	Vandana Katariya	Hockey
7.	Sandeep Narwal	Kabaddi
8.	Himani Uttam Parab	Mallakhamb
9.	Abhishek Verma	Shooting
10.	Ankita Raina	Tennis
11.	Deepak Punia	Wrestling
12.	Dilpreet Singh	Hockey
13.	Harman Preet Singh	Hockey
14.	Rupinder Pal Singh	Hockey
15.	Surender Kumar	Hockey
16.	Amit Rohidas	Hockey
17.	BirendraLakra	Hockey
18.	Sumit	Hockey
19.	Nilakanta Sharma	Hockey
20.	Hardik Singh	Hockey
21.	Vivek Sagar Prasad	Hockey
22.	Gurjant Singh	Hockey
23.	Mandeep Singh	Hockey
24.	Shamsher Singh	Hockey
25.	Lalit Kumar Upadhyay	Hockey
26.	Varun Kumar	Hockey
27.	Simranjeet Singh	Hockey
28.	Yogesh Kathuniya	Para Athletics
29.	Nishad Kumar	Para Athletics
30.	Praveen Kumar	Para Athletics
31.	Suhash Yathiraj	Para Badminton
32.	Singhraj Adhana	Para Shooting
33.	Bhavina Patel	Para Table Tennis
34.	Harvinder Singh	Para Archery
35.	Sharad Kumar	Para Athletics

32. Consider the following statements:

- i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) during the G20 Rome Summit 2021
- ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged at the COP26 UN climate conference in Glasgow that India will achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

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 |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged at the COP26 UN climate conference in Glasgow that India will achieve net-zero emissions by 2070.

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP-26) is being hosted by the United Kingdom in Glasgow from 31st of October to 12th of November 2021.

India announced that it will reach carbon neutrality by 2070 as part of a five-point action plan that included reducing emissions to 50% by 2030.

The country would make one billion-tonne reduction in projected emissions from now until 2030.

Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS):

PM Narendra Modi launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) on the sidelines of the climate summit in Glasgow.

It is aimed at achieving sustainable development through a systematic approach to resilient, sustainable and inclusive infrastructure in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Indian Space Research Organisation will build a special data window for Small Island Developing States to provide them timely information about cyclones, coral-reef monitoring and coast-line monitoring.

'Climate Equity Monitor': On Day One of COP26, India launched an online dashboard called the 'Climate Equity Monitor' for assessing equity in Climate Action, inequalities in emissions, energy and resource consumption across the world.

More than 100 world leaders have promised to end and reverse deforestation by 2030, in the COP26 climate summit's first major deal.

33. Which country has inaugurated the World's largest Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Plant?

- A. South Korea
- B. Japan
- C. France
- D. India

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

World's largest Hydrogen Fuel Cell Power Plant has been inaugurated in South Korea.

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of South Korea announced that the 'Shinincheon Bitdream Fuel Cell Power Plant' at the Shinincheon Bitdream headquarters of Korea Southern Power in Seo-gu, Incheon has been inaugurated.

The fuel cell power plant is operated by South Korea's independent power production company, POSCO Energy and Doosan Fuel Cell.

The power plant has a capacity of 78 MW constructed in 4 stages from 2017.

34. Which country has become the first country to pass climate change disclosure laws for financial firms?

- A. Australia
- B. Japan
- C. Singapore
- D. New Zealand

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

New Zealand has become the first country to pass laws requiring banks, insurers and investment managers to report the impacts of climate change on their business.

The new laws will require financial firms to explain how they would manage climate-related risks and opportunities, and the disclosure requirements will be based on standards from New Zealand's independent accounting body.

The standards will be based on the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), and the disclosures will become mandatory for financial years beginning in 2023.

35. What is the name of Captain Amarinder Singh's new political party?

- A. Punjab Rajya Congress
- B. Punjab People Congress
- C. Punjab Lok Congress
- D. Punjab Lok Party

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Former Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh resigned from the Congress.

Singh also announced the name of his new political party 'Punjab Lok Congress'.

Punjab goes to polls early next year.

Punjab is slated to go through assembly polls in 2022.

Facts about Punjab:

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Capital: Chandigarh

Chief Minister: Charanjit Singh Channi

36. Who has been recently appointed as the Head Coach of the senior Indian men's cricket team?

- A. MS Dhoni
- B. Rahul Dravid
- C. Kapil Dev
- D. Sunil Gavaskar

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Former India captain Rahul Dravid has been appointed as the Head Coach of the senior Indian men's cricket team.

Dravid takes over from Ravi Shastri, whose term ends after the ongoing ICC T20 World Cup 2021.

Dravid will take over the new role and begin his tenure as India's full-time coach from the home T20I series against New Zealand starting November 17, 2021.

37. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Times Higher Education (THE)'s World Reputation Rankings 2021?

- i. 4 Indian institutes have made it to the Times Higher Education (THE)'s World Reputation Rankings 2021 that lists the world's top 200 universities.

ii. IIT Delhi has topped among the Indian Institutes.

iii. Harvard University has secured first place.

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

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

4 Indian institutes have made it to the Times Higher Education (THE)'s World Reputation Rankings 2021 that lists the world's top 200 universities based on votes from leading academics around the world.

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore ranked among the top 100 (91-100 band) has topped the Indian institutes.

Globally:

Ranking Institute

1 Harvard University (US)

2 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US)

3 University of Oxford (UK)

Ranking of Indian Institutes:

Ranking Institute

91-100 IISc Bangalore

126-150 IIT Bombay

176-200 IIT Delhi

176-200 IIT Madras

38. Consider the following statements regarding the Covaxin:

- i. It is now only recognized by the American government.
- ii. It is developed by the Indian biotechnology company Bharat Biotech.

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 Technical Advisory Group of WHO has recommended the Emergency Use Listing (EUL) status for Bharat Biotech's Covaxin.

This decision will ease international travel and the export of the indigenous vaccine.

According to WHO, Covaxin, developed by the Indian biotechnology company Bharat Biotech in partnership with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has a 77.8 percent efficacy rate against COVID-19 and is "extremely suitable" for low- and middle-income countries because it is easy to store.

Bharat Biotech's Covaxin and AstraZeneca and Oxford University's Covishield are the two widely used vaccines in India.

Note:

Recently, the Central government launched the '*Har Ghar Dastak*' mega-vaccination campaign against coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The month-long door-to-door vaccination campaign aims to inoculate the entire population in poor-performing districts.

39. Which state has topped the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020?

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Punjab
- C. Karnataka
- D. Haryana

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 was released by the Ministry of Power.

Karnataka has topped the Index.

Rank 1: Karnataka (Score- 70)

Rank 2: Rajasthan (61)

Rank 3: Haryana (59.5)

Rajasthan has registered 61 points, which is a tremendous rise from the score of 18.5 at the previous year index, SEEI 2019.

About State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI):

It has been developed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE).

This year's Index has 68 indicators covering all demand sectors – buildings, industry, municipalities, transport, agriculture – and DISCOMs.

Thirty-six states and union territories have been assessed in SEEI 2020.

Based on their efforts and achievements, states have been classified as 'Front runner', 'Achiever', 'Contender' and 'Aspirant'.

40. Recently, with which e-commerce marketplace has the Ministry of Rural Development signed a MoU for Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)?

- A. Amazon
- B. Flipkart
- C. Zomato
- D. Grofers

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Rural Development of the Government of India, for their ambitious Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) program, to help empower local businesses and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) – especially those that are led by women – by bringing them into the e-commerce fold.

MoU will enable rural women to sell their products to more than 10 crore Flipkart's customers.

This MoU is a part of the Flipkart Samarth program.

The Flipkart Samarth program was launched in 2019 as a sustainable and inclusive platform to empower underserved domestic communities and businesses with better opportunities and livelihoods.

41. Which word has been declared as the word of the year 2021 by the Oxford English Dictionary?

- A. Lockdown
- B. Covid
- C. Global
- D. Vax

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The Oxford English Dictionary (OED) has declared 'Vax' as the word of the year 2021.

According to 'a report into the language of vaccines' by Oxford Languages, the word 'vax' had appeared more than 72 times by September than the same time last year.

The word Vax is defined as, "a colloquialism meaning either vaccine or vaccination as a noun and vaccinate as a verb."

The appearance of the word 'vaccine' itself doubled between September 2020 and September 2021 according to the report by Oxford Languages.

42. Who has won the Booker Prize 2021 for his novel 'The Promise'?

- A. Alexander Pushkin
- B. Damon Galgut
- C. David Diop

D. Ruskin Bond

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

South African author Damon Galgut has won the Booker Prize 2021 for his novel 'The Promise'.

Galgut was also nominated for this award in the years 2003 and 2010.

Galgut has become the third writer from South Africa to win the prize.

About The Booker Prize:

The Booker Prize, formerly known as the Booker Prize for Fiction and the Man Booker Prize, is a literary prize awarded each year for the best novel written in English and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland.

The winner receives a £50,000 (\$68,000) prize.

43. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) Report 2021?

- i. Punjab, Gujarat and Haryana have emerged as the top performers in the index respectively.
 - ii. It ranks the states on the basis of quality and capacity of key infrastructure such as road, rail and warehousing etc.
 - iii. It is released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI).
- A. ii only
B. ii and iii only
C. i and iii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) has released the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) Report 2021.

Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab have emerged as the top performers in the LEADS 2021 index respectively.

Proactive policies, well-developed infrastructure and services driven by a responsive Government have helped Gujarat to maintain its rank.

Haryana has secured the second position, followed by Punjab.

Within the North Eastern States and Himalayan Region, Jammu and Kashmir is the top ranker followed by Sikkim and Meghalaya.

Delhi stands at the top rank among Other UTs.

Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand have witnessed a remarkable improvement in their ranks compared to 2019 LEADS ranking and have emerged as the top improvers.

The inputs given by LEADS Report 2021 can lead the way to bring down logistics cost by 5% over the next 5 years.

India's logistics costs account for 13-14 percent of GDP, compared to 7-8 percent in developed countries.

About Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) Report:

The LEADS report is aimed at gauging the logistics performance of states and Union Territories (UT) and identifying areas where they can improve logistics performance.

States are ranked based on quality and capacity of key infrastructure such as road, rail and warehousing as well as on operational ease of logistics including security of cargo, speed of terminal services and regulatory approvals.

The first version of the report, LEADS 2018, focused on export-import trade and assessed the efficiency of the logistics ecosystem in each State and UT.

The second edition of the study – LEADS 2019, covered both international and domestic trade.

The LEADS 2021 exercise has gone one-step ahead in analyzing the domestic and EXIM logistics ecosystem of the state.

44. Consider the following statements regarding the 2020 Padma awards:

i. President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma awards to 119 recipients.

ii. Actress Kangana Ranaut received the Padma Shri.

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 |||

President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma awards to 119 recipients — some of them posthumously — for the year 2020 at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The list comprises 7 Padma Vibhushans, 10 Padma Bhushans and 102 Padma Shri awards.

Of the total awardees, 29 were women and one was transgender, while 16 were posthumous awardees.

Among the personalities awarded the Padma Vibhushan were BJP stalwarts Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj, former Union minister George Fernandes (all posthumously), and Hindustani classical singer Pandit Chhannulal Mishra.

Badminton player P V Sindhu won the Padma Bhushan award, along with Dr Anil Prakash Joshi for social work, Dr S C Jamir for public affairs and Mumtaz Ali for spiritualism.

Actress Kangana Ranaut and singer Adnan Sami also received the Padma Shri.

45. Which day has been proposed on the birth anniversary (Gurpurab) of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev?

- A. World Sikhism Day
- B. World Pedestrian Day
- C. World Service Day
- D. World Cooperation Day

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Recently, Punjab Police proposed the birth anniversary (Gurpurab) of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev be declared as 'World Pedestrian Day'.

A written proposal in this regard has been proposed to send to the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

In 2021, Guru Nanak's 552nd Gurpurab will be celebrated on November 19.

The proposal further says that while beginning can be made by declaring 'National Pedestrian Day' within the country by the Union ministry, the Government of India can later take up the matter with the United Nations to get Gurpurab declared as 'World Pedestrian Day' to spread awareness on road safety.

To spread the message of oneness and to break barriers across faiths by engaging in spiritual dialogues, Guru Nanak Dev, travelled far and wide during the 15th and 16th centuries.

46. Recently, which organisation has launched the State of Global Climate 2021 Report?

- A. UNEP
- B. WEF
- C. UNDP
- D. WMO

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The last 7 years have been the warmest on record and global sea-level rise accelerated since 2013, reaching a new high in 2021, according to a provisional report titled 'State of Global Climate 2021' released by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

Findings of the Report:

Greenhouse gas concentrations reached new highs in 2020.

Levels of carbon dioxide were 413.2 parts per million, methane at 1889 parts per billion (ppb) and nitrous oxide at 333.2 ppb.

These levels respectively were 149 percent, 262 percent and 123 percent more than pre-industrial levels. The increase has continued in 2021.

The global mean temperature for 2021 (based on data from January to September) was about 1.09°C above the average during the 1850-1900 period. Moreover, 2016 was the warmest year on record according to most of the datasets surveyed.

The global mean sea-level rise was 2.1 mm per year between 1993 and 2002, but it jumped to 4.4 mm per year between 2013 and 2021, mostly due to the accelerated loss of ice mass from glaciers and ice sheets.

The Arctic-wide sea-ice extent was at a record low in the first half of July, 2021.

47. Logos of which railways have been registered by India as its intellectual property?

- A. Nilgiri Mountain Railway
- B. Delhi Metro
- C. Darjeeling Himalayan Railway
- D. Lucknow Metro

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

More than two decades after the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, India has finally registered the logos of the iconic 'Toy Train' internationally as its intellectual property.

DHR was declared a World Heritage Site on December 5, 1999 by UNESCO.

The use of these logos anywhere in the world will now require written permission from India and the payment of a fee.

The DHR, which started operations in 1880, more than 140 years ago, has two logos, both of which have been patented.

Both logos are over a century old, and popular in world heritage circuits.

The Railway Ministry in Delhi and the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway office in Kurseong, West Bengal, initiated the process of registering the logo with the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry in August 2021.

The claim was then sent to the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), a specialised agency of the United Nations based in Geneva, Switzerland, in accordance with the procedure laid down in WIPO's Vienna Classification (VCL).

48. Who has/have been awarded the prestigious 'Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020'?

- A. Priyanka Mangesh Mohite
- B. Jay Prakash Kumar
- C. Amit Bisht
- D. All the above

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Maharashtra-based 28 year old mountaineer Priyanka Mohite will be bestowed with the prestigious 'Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020' for her outstanding contribution in the field of land adventure.

In April 2020, Mohite scaled Mt Annapurna, the 10th highest mountain peak in the world, and became the first Indian woman climber to achieve the feat.

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2020 – List of complete Winners:

Awardee	Category
Priyanka Mangesh Mohite	Land Adventure
Jay Prakash Kumar	Land Adventure
Col. Amit Bisht	Land Adventure
Lt. Col. Servesh Dhadwal	Air Adventure
Sheetal	Land Adventure
Srikaanth Viswanathan	Water Adventure
Jai Kishan	Life Time Achievement

Note: Winners will receive the award from President Ram Nath Kovind at a function in the Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi on November 13, 2021.

49. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Global Drug Policy Index 2021?

- i. It is released by the Harm Reduction Consortium.
- ii. It is the second edition of the index.
- iii. India is ranked 18th.

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

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The inaugural Global Drug Policy Index 2021 ranks Norway, New Zealand, Portugal, the UK and Australia as the 5 leading countries on humane and health-driven drug policies.

The 5 lowest-ranking countries are Brazil, Uganda, Indonesia, Kenya, and Mexico.

India's rank is 18 out of 30 countries.

The index is released by the Harm Reduction Consortium.

India has an overall score of 46/100. On the criteria of use of extreme sentencing and responses, it has a score of 63/100, on health and harm reduction, 49/100; on proportionality of criminal justice response, 38/100; on availability and access of internationally controlled substances for the relief of pain and suffering, 33 /100.

About Global Drug Policy Index:

The index is a data-driven global analysis of drug policies and their implementation.

The index is composed of 75 indicators running across 5 broad dimensions of drug policy: criminal justice, extreme responses, health and harm reduction, access to internationally controlled medicines, and development.

50. Consider the following statements regarding the UNESCO Creative Cities Network:

- i. UNESCO designated Srinagar as a part of UNESCO Creative Cities Network.
- ii. Srinagar is the third Indian city designated as a part of UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

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 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated Srinagar as a part of UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) 2021.

Srinagar has been designated the creative city in the field of Crafts and Folk Arts.

UNESCO designated 49 cities as part of the creative cities network. With this, the total number of creative cities in the world has reached 295 across 90 countries.

After Hyderabad, Varanasi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Jaipur, Srinagar is the 6th Indian city to achieve this distinction.

Indian Cities on UCCN:

Srinagar - Crafts and Folk Arts (2021)

Hyderabad – Gastronomy (2019)

Mumbai – Film (2019)

Chennai- Music (2017)

Varanasi- Music (2015)

Jaipur- Crafts and Folk Arts (2015)

About UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN):

It is a project of UNESCO launched in 2004 to promote cooperation among cities which recognized creativity as a major factor in their urban development.

UNESCO designates the creative cities in seven fields — Craft, Folk Art, Media Arts, Gastronomy, Film Design, Literature and Music.

51. Kaho village, recently came in news, is situated in which state?

- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Uttar Pradesh

- C. Odisha
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Arunachal Pradesh is planning to serve the country one of its most patriotic destinations on the 75th year of Independence — Kaho, a village on the China border.

The State's Department of Information, Public Relations and Printing has sent a 12-member team to Kaho in Anjaw district for filming a documentary on the village and its people.

One of seven villages in the Kibithoo block bisected by the Lohit River, Kaho had weathered the Chinese attack in 1962. Its people had assisted the Indian soldiers.

About Kaho village:

Kaho is the first village from the China border in Anjaw district.

Anjaw is one of the 11 districts of Arunachal Pradesh that share their border with China.

52. Who has been appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff'?

- A. R B Pandit
- B. R Hari Kumar
- C. A B Singh
- D. Anil K Chawla

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Government has appointed Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar presently Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Western Naval Command as the next Chief of the Naval Staff.

The present Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Karambir Singh retires from service on 30th November, 2021.

Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar was commissioned on 1st January, 1983 into the Executive Branch of the Indian Navy.

During his long and distinguished service spanning nearly 39 years, he has served in a variety of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments.

53. Which has clinched 1st position in World Deaf Judo Championship 2021 held at Paris Versailles, France?

- A. Uttar Pradesh team for deaf
- B. Karnataka team for deaf
- C. West Bengal team for deaf
- D. Jammu & Kashmir team for deaf

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The Jammu & Kashmir team for deaf clinched 1st position in 1st World Deaf Judo Championship 2021 held at Paris Versailles, France.

The championship is organised by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD).

54. Who has won a bronze medal at the AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships 2021?

- A. Manish Kaushik
- B. Akash Kumar
- C. Vikas Krishan
- D. Amit Panghal

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

In AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships 2021, Debutant Akash Kumar had to settle for bronze after going down in the 54 kg category semi-final against Makhmud Sabyrkhan of Kazakhstan at Belgrade in Serbia.

Akash has become the seventh Indian male boxer to win a medal at the world championships.

55. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)?

i. The Union Cabinet has recently approved the restoration and continuation of MPLADS during the remaining part of Financial Year 2021-22 and up to Financial Year 2025-26.

ii. The Ministry will release MPLADS fund at the rate of Rs. 2 crore per Member of Parliament for the remaining period of FY 2021-22 in one instalment.

iii. It is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Government of India.

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

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the restoration and continuation of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) during the remaining part of Financial Year 2021-22 and up to Financial Year 2025-26 co-terminus with the period of 15th Finance Commission.

The Ministry will release MPLADS fund at the rate of Rs. 2 crore per Member of Parliament for the remaining period of FY 2021-22 in one instalment and at the rate of Rs. 5.00 crore per annum per Member of Parliament during FY 2022-23 to FY 2025-26 in two instalments of Rs.2.5 crore each.

About Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS):

The MPLADS is a Central Sector Scheme fully funded by the Government of India.

It was announced on 23 December 1993.

The objective of the scheme is to enable MPs to recommend works of developmental nature with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets in the areas of drinking water, primary education, public health, sanitation and roads, etc. primarily in their Constituencies.

56.Consider the following statements regarding the INS Vela:

- i. INS Vela is the second Scorpene-class submarine of the Project – 75.
- ii. Project – 75 includes construction of eight submarines of Scorpene design.

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 |||

INS Vela, India's fourth Scorpene-class submarine of the Project – 75, was delivered to the Indian Navy.

Project – 75 includes construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.

INS Vela was launched in May 2019.

These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.

Other Submarines under Project-75:

The first submarine, INS Kalvari, was commissioned in December 2017.

The second submarine, INS Khanderi, was commissioned in September 2019.

The third submarine, INS Karanj, was commissioned in March 2021.

The fifth submarine, INS Vagir, was launched in November 2020 and has commenced harbour trials.

The sixth submarine, INS Vagsheer, is in the advanced stage of outfitting.

57. Recently, the Delhi Regional Security Dialogue was held. It was mainly based on which country's peace and security?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Syria
- C. Iraq
- D. Yemen

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan was held in New Delhi.

The Regional Security Dialogue which was held on 10th November, 2021 in an expanded format and attended by National Security Advisers / Secretaries of the National Security Councils of India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The meeting was chaired by the National Security Adviser Ajit Doval.

This is the third meeting of the process that was initiated by Iran in 2018.

After the withdrawal of US forces and the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan, India is concerned about security in the region.

The Dialogue on Afghanistan called for "urgent humanitarian assistance" to the Afghan people.

A joint statement titled the 'Delhi Declaration' issued after the meeting called for "collective cooperation" against terrorism and drug trafficking in the region and "expressed concern over the deteriorating socio-economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and underlined the need to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan".

58. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT)?

- A. R B Tiwari
- B. Ashok Bhushan
- C. V K Singh
- D. Manish Sharma

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Centre has appointed retired Supreme Court judge Ashok Bhushan as the Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).

Justice Ashok Bhushan has been given a term of four years or until he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is the earliest.

He has been associated with several landmark judgments, including Ram Mandir, COVID Management and registration of migrant workers.

Note: Meanwhile, the Centre has approved the appointment of Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar as the President of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

59. What is the name of the world's first Earth Science Satellite dedicated to serving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

- A. Chinung
- B. Taiyuan
- C. Guangmu
- D. Biyang

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

China has launched the world's 1st Earth Science Satellite "Guangmu" into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern Shanxi Province.

The satellite was launched by a Long March-6 carrier rocket and entered the planned orbit.

Developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the satellite (SDGSAT-1) is the world's first space science satellite dedicated to serving the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It was the 395th flight mission of the Long March rocket series.

Note: Recently, Wang Yaping became the first Chinese woman astronaut to walk in space.

60. Which country became the 101st member country of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- A. Germany
- B. US
- C. Australia
- D. UK

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

John Kerry, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate announced at the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow that the United States of America (USA) has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a member country.

The U.S. becomes the 101st country to sign the framework agreement of the ISA to catalyze global energy transition through a solar-led approach.

About The International Solar Alliance (ISA):

The launch of the International Solar Alliance was announced by Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Francois Hollande, former President of France on 30th November 2015, at the 21st session of United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP-21) in Paris, France.

Note: Earlier at COP26, the United States also joined the Steering Committee of the GGI-OSOWOG comprising of 5 members – USA, Australia, France, the United Kingdom, and India – and endorsed the One Sun Declaration along with 80 countries.

61. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding India's First Manned Ocean Mission 'Samudrayan'?

- i. The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has launched it.
 - ii. It will be a part of the Deep Ocean Mission.
 - iii. The MATSYA 6000, the deep water manned submersible, will be ready for trials by the second quarter of 2024.
- A. ii only
B. i and iii only
C. ii and iii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) has launched India's First Manned Ocean Mission 'Samudrayan' at Chennai.

With the launch of this Unique Ocean Mission, India joined the elite club of nations such as the USA, Russia, Japan, France and China to have such underwater vehicles for carrying out subsea activities.

The Samudrayan Mission, undertaken by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), will be a part of the ₹6,000 crore Deep Ocean Mission.

This niche technology shall facilitate the Ministry of Earth Sciences in carrying out deep ocean exploration of the non-living resources such as polymetallic manganese nodules, gas hydrates, hydro-thermal sulphides and cobalt crusts, located at a depth between 1000 and 5500 meters.

The preliminary design of the manned submersible 'MATSYA 6000' is completed and realization of the vehicle is started with various organizations including ISRO, IITM and DRDO roped-in to support the development.

Sea trials of 500 metre rated shallow water version of the manned submersible are expected to take place in the last quarter of 2022 and the MATSYA 6000, the deep water manned submersible will be ready for trials by the second quarter of 2024.

Note: The Central Government has approved the Deep Ocean Mission in June 2021 to be implemented by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences for 5 years.

62. Consider the following statements regarding the G-20 Leaders' Summit-2021.

- i. It was held in Russia.
- ii. It focused on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: People, Planet, Prosperity.

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 G20 Leaders' Summit 2021 was held in Rome, Italy on 30–31 October 2021 under the Italian Presidency.

For 2021, the G20 focused on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: People, Planet, and Prosperity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the G-20 Summit 2021.

The G-20 aims to take the lead in ensuring a swift international response to the COVID-19 pandemic - able to provide equitable, worldwide access to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines - while building up resilience to future health-related shocks.

About the G-20:

The G-20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies.

Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet.

The G-20 is made up of 19 countries and the European Union.

The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK, and the US.

63. The Central Government has extended the tenure of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das for a period of.....years.

- A. 4 years
- B. 3 years
- C. 2 years
- D. 5 years

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Central Government has extended the tenure of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das for a period of 3 years.

With the second term of three years, Das will head the RBI till December, 2024.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the reappointment of Shaktikanta Das as Governor, RBI, for a period of three years beyond 10.12.2021.

Mr. Das was appointed as RBI's 25th Governor on December 11, 2018 for a period of three years.

64. The DRDO carried successful test-firing of surface-to-surface ballistic missile Agni-5. The missile can strike targets at ranges up to

- A. 5000 km
- B. 3000 km
- C. 6000 km

D. 4000 km

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

India successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile 'Agni-5' from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.

The missile, which uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine, is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 kilometres with a very high degree of accuracy.

The successful test of Agni-5 is in line with India's stated policy to have 'credible minimum deterrence' that underpins the commitment to 'No First Use'.

The missile was developed by the DRDO.

Note: At present, India has 5 missiles under the Agni series – Agni-1 with 700 km range, Agni-2 with 2,000 km range, Agni-3 and Agni-4 with 2,500 km to over 3,500 km range and Agni-5 with up to 5,000 km range.

65. Recently which company changed its name to Meta?

- A. Yahoo
- B. Oracle
- C. Apple
- D. Facebook

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Facebook Inc has changed its corporate name to Meta Platforms Inc "Meta" as part of a major rebrand.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced the new name as he unveiled plans to build a "metaverse" - an online world where people can game, work and communicate in a virtual environment.

However, the social network will still be called as Facebook.

66. Who has written the book titled “Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman”?

- A. Avtar Singh Bhasin
- B. Amitav Ghosh
- C. Chidanand Rajghatta
- D. Vikram Seth

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Renowned journalist and writer Chidanand Rajghatta authored a new book “Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman”.

It is a biography of Kamala Harris, the first women Vice President of the United States of America (USA).

The book features the life incidents of Kamala Harris, a woman of mixed race (India and Jamaica) who has become the first Indian descent, the first woman to become the vice president of the USA.

67. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the ‘Sarthak’?

- i. Sarthak is an indigenously built Indian Coast Guard Ship.
 - ii. It was commissioned and dedicated to the nation at Kerala.
 - iii. It will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat.
- A. ii only
 - B. i and iii only
 - C. ii and iii only
 - D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The indigenously built Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) ‘Sarthak’ was commissioned and dedicated to the nation at Goa.

ICGS Sarthak will be based at Porbandar in Gujarat and operate on India's Western Seaboard under the Operational and Administrative Control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (Northwest).

About Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) 'Sarthak':

ICGS Sarthak is 4th in the series of five OPVs (Offshore Patrol Vessels) being built by Goa Shipyard Limited for the ICG.

The 105-meter-long ship displacing 2,450 tons is propelled by two 9,100 kilowatt diesel engines designed to attain a maximum speed of 26 knots.

The ship is fitted with state-of-the-art equipment, machinery, sensors and weapons which enables it to function as a command platform and undertake mandated Coast Guard charter of duties including search & rescue, combating maritime crimes and preserving & protecting the marine environment.

Other OPVs: Vighraha, Sajag, Varaha, Yard 45006 VAJRA

68. Consider the following statements regarding the Sixth Edition of National Formulary of India (NFI).

- i. The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers launched it.
- ii. It has been published by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC).

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 |||

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya launched the Sixth Edition of National Formulary of India (NFI) 2021.

NFI has been published by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) to promote rational use of medicines in the country.

NFI 2021 would act as a guidance document for all the healthcare professionals such as clinicians, pharmacists, nurses, dentists etc.

It will play a crucial role in daily clinical practices.

NFI 2021 has been drafted by adopting the principle 'do not miss critical and do not overload' the information by revising the appendices, chapters and drug monographs.

The main salient feature of this edition includes:

34 therapeutic categories chapters including 591 drug monographs and 23 appendices are included in this edition.

The NFI is aligned with National Health Programmes and National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM).

Important Weblinks related to NLEM, Drugs banned in India, NHP, Drugs banned in sports, Immunization schedule, wherever necessary are provided for information to readers.

69. Which Union Ministry had organised the AI Pe Charcha (AI Dialogue)?

- A. Ministry of Education
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Electronics and IT

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The National e Governance Division (NeGD) of the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) recently organised yet another AI Pe Charcha (AI Dialogue) on the theme, "AI for Data Driven Governance".

AI Pe Charcha is a series of panel discussions involving various global and domestic leaders from the Government and industry, researchers and academicians sharing their views & experiences around Artificial Intelligence, related case studies, global best practices, breakthrough innovations and the challenges faced in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

The 'AI for Data Driven Governance' session had covered the importance of data driven and AI-enabled governance along with the global best practices.

70. Who has been appointed as chairperson of the newly set up National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)?

- A. K V Kamath
- B. G R Chintala
- C. D K Khara
- D. Urjit Patel

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The Central Government announced the appointment of veteran banker K. V. Kamath as chairperson of the newly set up ₹20,000-crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).

Parliament had in March 2021 cleared the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Bill 2021 to support the development of long-term non-recourse infrastructure financing in India, including the development of the bonds and derivatives markets necessary for infrastructure financing.

Mr. Kamath, the first head of the New Development Bank set up by the BRICS group of emerging market economies, had completed his five-year tenure last year.

71. Which state has become India's first state to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30)?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Assam
- D. Uttarakhand
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Maharashtra became India's first state to release its own Wildlife Action plan (2021-30).

The new plan, which will be implemented over the next 10 years, recognises concerns about climate change impacts on wildlife, coastal ecosystems, marine biodiversity, flora and fauna.

The plan will be a guiding document for an action plan for wildlife conservation for the next decade.

To develop a Climate Action Plan for the Coastal Region of the state in sync with the 'State Climate Change Action Plan' with special emphasis on 'Climate Change Adaptation' (CCA) and 'Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR)', the plan states.

72. Who has written the book titled 'AIIMS Mein Ek Jang Ladte Hue'?

- A. Amit Shah
- B. Amitav Ghosh
- C. Ramesh Pokhriyal
- D. Mansukh Mandviya

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The former Union Minister of Education Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has gifted his book titled 'AIIMS Mein Ek Jang Ladte Hue' to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The book was written by Pokhriyal while he was battling COVID-19 at AIIMS in Delhi.

It was published by Prabhat Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.

73. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the 'Bhasha Sangam'?

- i. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Culture under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
 - ii. It is developed by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
 - iii. It aims to teach basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages.
- A. ii only
 - B. i and iii only
 - C. ii and iii only
 - D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched Bhasha Sangam initiative for schools under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat to commemorate Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

He also launched Bhasha Sangam Mobile App and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Mobile Quiz App.

About Bhasha Sangam:

Bhasha Sangam is an initiative of the Ministry of Education under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, to teach basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages.

The idea is that people should acquire basic conversational skills in an Indian language other than their mother tongue.

It is developed by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

It is being made available on DIKSHA, ePathshala and through 22 booklets.

About Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat:

It was announced by the Prime Minister on 31st October, 2015 on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Through this innovative measure, the knowledge of the culture, traditions and practices of different states & UTs will lead to an enhanced understanding and bonding between the states, thereby strengthening the unity and integrity of India.

74. Consider the following statements regarding the 7th Indian Navy Frigate of P1135.6 class.

- i. It was launched in Russia.
- ii. It was formally named as 'Tushil'.

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 7th Indian Navy Frigate of P1135.6 class was launched at Yantar Shipyard, Kaliningrad, Russia.

The ship was formally named as 'Tushil'. Tushil is a Sanskrit word meaning Protector Shield.

Based on an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) between the Government of Republic of India and Government of Russian Federation for construction of two ships of Project 1135.6 ships in Russia and two ships in India at M/s Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), the contract for construction of two ships was signed between India and Russia in October 2016.

They feature "stealth technology" in terms of low radar and under water noise signatures.

About P1135.6 class frigates:

Project 1135.6 also known as Krivak or Talwar-class frigates are a class of stealth-guided missile frigates that are designed and built by Russia for the Indian Navy.

To date, the Indian Navy already operates six of these ships namely INS Talwar, Trishul, Tabar, Teg, Tarkash and Trikand. INS Tushil is the 7th.

75. Glacier in Antarctica named after which climate summit?

- A. Paris climate summit
- B. Geneva climate summit
- C. Rio climate summit
- D. Glasgow climate summit
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

The 100-km long body of ice in Antarctica, which has been experiencing rapid melting, was formally named Glasgow Glacier after the Glasgow climate summit.

The 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is being held in Glasgow, United Kingdom from 31st of October to 12th of November.

Besides Glasgow, the eight newly named glaciers are Geneva, Rio, Berlin, Kyoto, Bali, Stockholm, Paris and Incheon all named after cities hosting important UN climate meetings.

76. Which state government has recently launched the world's first-ever FIFA Football for School Programme?

- A. Manipur
- B. Odisha
- C. Gujarat
- D. Kerala

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha launched the world's first-ever FIFA Football for School Programme at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar.

Football for Schools (F4S) is an ambitious world-wide programme run by FIFA, which aims to contribute to the education, development and empowerment of around 700 million children.

77. In October 2021, which vaccine was launched nationwide under the Universal Immunization Programme?

- A. Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine
- B. Japanese Encephalitis vaccine
- C. Zika virus vaccine
- D. Malaria vaccine
- E. None of the above/More than one of the above

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya launched the nationwide expansion of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

It is for the first time in the country that Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) will be available for universal use.

Pneumonia is a leading cause of death among children under-5 years old, globally and in India.

Pneumonia caused by pneumococcus is the most common cause of severe pneumonia in children.

In India around 16 percent of deaths in Children occur due to pneumonia.

The nationwide rollout of PCV will reduce child mortality by around 60 percent.

About Universal Immunization Programme (UIP):

UIP is one of the largest public health programmes targeting close to 26.7 million newborns and 29 million pregnant women annually.

Under UIP, immunization is being provided free of cost against 12 vaccine preventable diseases.

78. Which organisation has released the Emissions Gap Report 2021?

- A. World Economic Forum
- B. United Nations Environment Programme
- C. International Atomic Energy Agency
- D. United Nations Development Programme

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) launched the Emissions Gap Report 2021.

It is the 12th edition of the Emissions Gap Report.

Findings of the Report:

The Report shows that new national climate pledges combined with other mitigation measures put the world on track for a global temperature rise of 2.7°C by the end of the century.

That is well above the goals of the Paris climate agreement and would lead to catastrophic changes in the Earth's climate.

To keep global warming below 1.5°C this century, the aspirational goal of the Paris Agreement, the world needs to halve annual greenhouse gas emissions in the next eight years.

If implemented effectively, net-zero emissions pledges could limit warming to 2.2°C, closer to the well-below 2°C goal of the Paris Agreement. However, many national climate plans delay action until after 2030.

As of September 30, 2021, 120 countries — representing just over half of global greenhouse gas emissions — had communicated new or updated NDCs.

Only three G20 members have announced other new mitigation pledges for 2030.

79. 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.

80. Consider the following statements regarding the Krishi UDAN 2.0.

- i. The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises launched it.
- ii. The scheme proposes to facilitate and incentivize movement of Agri-produce by air transportation.

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 |||

Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia launched Krishi UDAN 2.0.

Krishi UDAN 2.0 lays out the vision of improving value realization through better integration and optimization of Agri-harvesting and air transportation and contributing to Agri-value chain sustainability and resilience under different and dynamic conditions.

The scheme proposes to facilitate and incentivize movement of Agri-produce by air transportation.

About Krishi UDAN 2.0:

The enhanced version of the Krishi UDAN scheme was formulated with support from AAICLAS - a 100% subsidiary of the Airports Authority of India and Invest India, India's national Investment Promotion & Facilitation Agency, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

It offers full waiver of Landing, Parking, TNLC and RNFC charges for Indian freighters and P2C at selected Airports of Airport Authority of India primarily, focusing on NER, Hilly and Tribal region.

It will be implemented at 53 airports across the country mainly focusing on Northeast and tribal regions.

Technological convergence: Development of E-KUSHAL (Krishi UDAN for Sustainable Holistic Agri-Logistics). Platform to be developed facilitates information dissemination to all the stakeholders. Furthermore, integration of E-KUSHAL with the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is proposed.

Note: Krishi UDAN was launched in August 2020, on international and national routes to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products.

81. 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.

82. 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.

83. 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

84. Which of the following has won the UNESCO-ICM 2021 Martial Arts Education Prize?

- A. Bolo Yeung
- B. Kung Fu Nuns
- C. Bellator MMA
- D. Wesley Snipes

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The Kung Fu Nuns of Drukpa from India has won the inaugural UNESCO-ICM 2021 Martial Arts Education Prize for their brave acts of service.

Through martial arts, the Drukpa nuns empower young girls to defend themselves, build confidence, and take on leadership roles in their communities.

The Kung Fu Nuns are an order of Buddhist nuns who belong to the Drukpa Kagyu lineage.

About the Award:

It has been launched by UNESCO-ICM (International Centre of Martial Arts for Youth Development and Engagement), to collect and promote good practices of martial arts education.

85. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF)?

- i. In October 2021, the Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship launched the phase-III of MGNF.
- ii. It is a two-year long fellowship.

iii. Its Academic Partner is IIT, Bombay.

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

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Phase-II of Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF) under the SANKALP programme.

About Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF):

It is a two-year long fellowship conceived to create opportunities for young, dynamic individuals to contribute to enhancing skill development at the grassroots.

MGNF Phase-I (Pilot): Launched with IIM Bangalore as Academic Partner and 69 are Fellows currently deployed in 69 districts across 6 States.

MGNF Phase-II (National Roll Out): Launched on 25th October with 661 MGNFs who will be deployed across all districts of the country. 8 more IIMs have been on boarded taking the total to 9 IIMs (IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Bangalore, IIM-Jammu, IIM Kozhikode, IIM Lucknow, IIM Nagpur, IIM Ranchi, IIM-Udaipur and IIM Visakhapatnam).

MGNF is an opportunity for young women and men in the age group of 21-30 years who already possess some level of academic or professional expertise.

About SANKALP:

Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP), a World Bank loan assisted program, was launched by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in January 2018.

SANKALP engages with District Skill Committees (DSCs) to effectively reduce the mismatch between the supply and demand of skilled manpower in the country, thereby creating decent opportunities for the youth to work and earn.

86. Consider the following statements regarding the recently added new teams for Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022.

- i. Lucknow and Bhopal have been added.
- ii. Sanjiv Goenka's RPSG Group got the Lucknow franchise.

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 Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced Ahmedabad and Lucknow as the 2 new teams for the IPL (Indian Premier League) 2022.

The Sanjiv Goenka's RPSG Group (RPSG Ventures Ltd.) picked Lucknow as their home base with a winning bid of Rs 7090 crores while CVC Capital Partners (Irelia Company Pte Ltd.) have opted for Ahmedabad with a bid of Rs 5625 crores.

IPL 2022 will now comprise 10 teams.

Note: Before 2022, the 2010 edition of the IPL also featured 10 teams.

87. 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 Vinodraj, 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.

88. 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.

89. 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.

90. 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.

91. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the World Bank's Remittance Prices Worldwide Database Report 2021?

- i. India has become the world's largest recipient of remittances.
- ii. China was the biggest source of remittances in India.
- iii. The report was published by the World Bank.

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

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

According to the World Bank's Remittance Prices Worldwide Database Report 2021, India has become the world's largest recipient of remittances, receiving USD 87 billion (a gain of 4.6 % from previous year) in 2021.

India had received over USD 83 billion in remittances in 2020.

The United States was the biggest source of remittances in India, accounting for over 20 percent of these funds.

India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines and Egypt.

In India, remittances are projected to grow three percent in 2022 to \$ 89.6 billion.

Remittances to low- and middle-income countries are projected to have grown a strong 7.3 percent to reach \$589 billion in 2021.

Remittances are usually understood as financial or in-kind transfers made by migrants to friends and relatives back in communities of origin.

92. Consider the following statements regarding the India's first Food Museum:

- i. It was launched at Varanasi district in Uttar Pradesh.
- ii. It has been established by the Food Corporation of India (FCI).

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 |||

Union Minister for Commerce, Industry, Food and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal launched India's first Food Museum at Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu.

The food museum has been established by Food Corporation of India (FCI) in association with Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), Bengaluru at a cost of Rs. 1.1 crore.

Thanjavur is the birthplace of FCI where its first office was inaugurated on January 14, 1965.

93. Where was the three day 'Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv' inaugurated in November 2021?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Kanpur
- C. Jhansi
- D. Varanasi

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended 'Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv' in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the three-day 'Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv' in Jhansi on November 17, 2021.

It was organised from November 17-19, 2021 in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.

The Prime Minister dedicated several new initiatives of the Ministry of Defence to the Nation in a grand ceremony celebrating 'Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv' organised in the precincts of Jhansi Fort.

New Initiatives:

Launch of NCC Alumni Association, the Prime Minister was registered as the first member of the association

Launch of National Programme of Simulation Training for NCC Cadets

Kiosk to pay tribute to the fallen heroes at National War Memorial

Mobile app of National War Memorial

DRDO Designed and Developed Advanced Electronic Warfare Suite 'Shakti' for Indian Naval Ships

Light Combat Helicopter and drones

Rs 400 crore project of Bharat Dynamics Ltd at Jhansi Node of the UP Defence Industrial Corridor

600 MW Ultramega Solar Power Park at Garautha in Jhansi

Atal Ekta Park in Jhansi

94. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has received the Guinness World Records certificate for constructing the world's highest motorable road at.....

- A. Khardungla Pass
- B. Bara Lachala Pass
- C. Lachulungla Pass
- D. Umlingla Pass

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Director General Border Roads (DGBR) Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry received the Guinness World Records certificate on November 16, 2021 for the achievement of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) of constructing and black topping the World's highest motorable road at 19,024 feet at Umlingla Pass in Ladakh.

The 52-kilometre long Chisumle to Demchok tarmac road passes through the 19,024 feet high Umlingla Pass and betters the previous record of a road in Bolivia, which connects volcano Uturuncu at 18,953 feet.

The Umlingla Pass road is another landmark in resurgent India's achievement as it has been constructed at an altitude higher than the North and South Base Camps of Mount Everest which are at an altitude of 16,900 feet and 17,598 feet respectively.

95. When is World Children's Day observed?

- A. November 20
- B. November 24
- C. November 17

D. November 19

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

World Children's Day is celebrated every year on 20 November.

2021 Theme: 'A Better Future for Every Child'

History:

World Children's Day was first established in 1954 as Universal Children's Day and is celebrated on 20 November each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.

November 20th is an important date as it is the date in 1959 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

96. India has been re-elected to the executive board of the UNESCO till which year?

- A. 2024
- B. 2025
- C. 2023
- D. 2022

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

India was re-elected to the executive board of the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) for the 2021-25 term with 164 votes.

India was re-elected to Group IV of Asian and Pacific States which also include Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Cook Islands and China.

The executive board of UNESCO is one of three constitutional organs of the UN agency.

The other two are the General Conference and the Secretariat.

The General Conference elects members of the executive board.

The executive board consists of 58 member-states, each with a four-year term.

It examines the programme of work for the organisation and corresponding budget estimates submitted to it by the director-general, according to the Unesco website.

Facts about UNESCO:

Headquarters: Paris, France

Founded: 16 November 1945

Parent organization: United Nations

97. Consider the following statements:

i. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) gave its approval for continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I and II (PMGSY-I, PMGSY-II) upto September, 2025 for completion of balance road and bridge works.

ii. The CCEA approved continuation of Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) upto March, 2023.

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 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval to the proposals of Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development for continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-I and II (PMGSY-I, PMGSY-II) upto September, 2022 for completion of balance road and bridge works.

The CCEA also approved continuation of Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas (RCPLWEA) upto March, 2023.

A total of Rs. 1,12,419 crore, including state share is likely to be incurred from 2021-22 to 2024-25 for completion of all the ongoing interventions of PMGSY.

4,490 Km road length and 105 bridges have already been completed under RCPLWEA since 2016 in 44 districts in 9 states.

Extension of time upto September 2022 is being granted to help North East and Hill States to complete balance works.

About Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY):

PMGSY-I: PMGSY-I was launched in the year 2000 to provide connectivity to eligible unconnected habitations of 500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-East and Himalayan states as per census 2001.

PMGSY-II: PMGSY-II, which was approved by the Cabinet in May, 2013, envisaged consolidation of 50,000 Km of existing rural road network.

PMGSY-III: The PMGSY-III was launched in the year 2019 for consolidation of 1,25,000 Km existing through routes and Major rural links connecting habitations, inter-alia, to Gramin Agricultural Markets, Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals and the implementation period of the scheme is upto March, 2025.

About Road Connectivity Project for Left Wing Extremism Affected Areas:

Launched in 2016 for construction/upgradation of 5,412 Km road length and 126 bridges of strategic importance in 44 districts in 9 states, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh, with an outlay of Rs. 11,725 crore.

Implementation period was 2016-17 to 2019-20.

98. Consider the following statements:

- i. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided that India and Bangladesh will jointly host the 2031 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.
- ii. The USA and Namibia will host an ICC World Cup event for the first time.

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 International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided that India and Bangladesh will jointly host the 2031 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

The ICC confirmed the 14 host countries for the ICC men's white ball events from 2024-2031.

It includes 11 full members and three associate members who will host two ICC Men's World Cups, four ICC Men's T20 World Cups and two ICC men's Champions Trophy events.

The USA and Namibia will host an ICC World Cup event for the first time.

The USA and West Indies will jointly host the 2024 Men's T20 World cup.

Note: Earlier, Bangladesh had organised the 2011 World Cup along with India and Sri Lanka.

99. Who has won the prestigious JCB Prize for Literature 2021 for his novel 'Delhi: A Soliloquy'?

- A. R Dinkar
- B. Suresh Divakaran
- C. RB Nandan
- D. M Mukundan

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Malayalam writer M Mukundan has been selected for the prestigious JCB Prize for Literature 2021 for his novel 'Delhi: A Soliloquy'.

Known as the Indian Booker Prize, the award carries Rs 25 lakh.

Delhi: A Soliloquy, published by Westland Books, is the English translation of his Malayalam novel Delhi Gaathakal.

It was translated by Fathima E V and Nandakumar K.

Note: This is the third translation that has won the JCB Prize after S Hareesh's 'Moustache' (2020) and Benyamin's 'Jasmine Days' (2018).

100. Recently, which Union Ministry has launched the 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica?

- A. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- B. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- C. Ministry of Science and Technology
- D. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

India's Ministry of Earth Sciences launched the 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica with the arrival of the first batch of its contingent at the southern white continent.

The first batch comprising of 23 scientists and support staff reached the Indian Antarctic station Maitri.

Four more batches shall be landing in Antarctica by air using DROMLAN facility and onboard chartered ice-class vessel MV VasiliyGolovnin by mid-January 2022.

The 41st expedition has two major programs.

The first program encompasses geological exploration of the Amery ice shelf at Bharati station. This will help explore the link between India and Antarctica in the past.

The second program involves reconnaissance surveys and preparatory work for drilling of 500 meters of ice core near Maitri. It will help in improving the understanding of Antarctic climate, westerly winds, sea-ice and greenhouse gases from a single climate archive for the past 10,000 years.

The ice core drilling will be done in collaboration with the British Antarctic Survey and the Norwegian Polar Institute.

Note:

The Indian Antarctic program, which began in 1981, has completed 40 scientific expeditions, and built three permanent research base stations in Antarctica, named Dakshin Gangotri (1983), Maitri (1988) and Bharati (2012).

As of today, Maitri and Bharati are fully operational.

The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa—an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Earth Sciences—manages the entire Indian Antarctic program.

101. Mannu Bhandari, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?

- A. Literature
- B. Politics
- C. Business
- D. Sports

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

Mannu Bhandari, a famous Hindi literateur, passed away at the age of 90.

Mannu Bhandari has been credited with writing many books, which date back to the late 1950s and early 1960s India.

Two of her most renowned Hindi novels, however, remain 'Aapka Banti' and 'Mahabhoj'.

She received awards such as Delhi's Shikhar Samman, Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad, Vyas Samman, Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi, and Uttar Pradesh Hindi Sansthan.

102. Who has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term?

- A. Mukul Rohatgi
- B. Bimal Patel
- C. Virendra Sharma
- D. Mohit Tyagi

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Professor Bimal Patel has been elected to the International Law Commission.

He will serve a 5 year term starting January 1, 2023.

Bimal Patel is the Vice-Chancellor of the Rashtriya Raksha University and a Member of the National Security Advisory Board of India.

About International Law Commission (ILC):

It is a body of experts responsible for helping develop and codify international law.

It is composed of 34 individuals recognized for their expertise and qualifications in international law, who are elected by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) every 5 years.

Founded: 1947

103. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Swachh Survekshan 2021 Awards?

- i. Indore was awarded the title of India's Cleanest City in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category.
 - ii. Varanasi emerged as the 'Best Ganga Town'.
 - iii. Ahmedabad Cantonment won the title of 'India's Cleanest Cantonment'.
- A. ii only
B. ii and iii only
C. i and iii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

President of India, Ram Nath Kovind felicitated the awardees of the cleanest cities of India at the 'Swachh Amrit Mahotsav' hosted as part of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

The award ceremony, organized to recognize the good work done for Swachhata by towns/cities, States and Union Territories under various initiatives of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), viz. Swachh Survekshan 2021, Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge, and certifications for Garbage Free Star rating for cities.

For the **fifth consecutive year**, **Indore** was awarded the title of India's **Cleanest City** under Swachh Survekshan, while **Surat** and **Vijayawada** bagged the **second and third spots respectively** in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category.

In the population category of 'less than 1 lakh', **Vita, Lonavala and Sasvad, all from Maharashtra, bagged the first, second and third positions respectively.**

Varanasi emerged as the 'Best Ganga Town' while Ahmedabad Cantonment won the title of 'India's Cleanest Cantonment', followed by Meerut Cantonment and Delhi Cantonment.

In the category of '**Fastest Mover**', **Hoshangabad (Madhya Pradesh) emerged as the 'Fastest Mover City'** (in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category) with a jump of 274 ranks from **361st position in the 2020 rankings to the 87th position this year**, thus securing a place among the top 100 cities.

In the State awards, **Chhattisgarh**, for the **third consecutive year** emerged as the '**Cleanest State**' in the category of "more than 100 Urban Local Bodies" while **Jharkhand**, for the **second time**, won the **Cleanest State** award in the "less than 100 ULBs category".

Karnataka and Mizoram became the 'Fastest Mover States' in the big (more than 100 ULBs) and small (less than 100 ULBs) state category respectively.

Maharashtra has successfully bagged a total of 92 awards, the highest by any State in this year's Survekshan, followed by Chhattisgarh with 67 awards.

Additionally, under the Prerak Daaur Samman, a new performance category introduced under Swachh Survekshan 2021, five cities – Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai, New Delhi Municipal Council and Tirupati were categorized as 'Divya' (Platinum).

About Swachh Survekshan 2021 Awards:

This year's Survekshan, participated by 4,320 cities, also saw an unprecedented number of citizens' feedback – over 5 crores, compared to 1.87 cores last year. SS 2021 has also helped identify over 6,000 innovations and best practices in sanitation and waste management from across urban India.

104. Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G):

- i. PMAY-G completed 5 years on 20th November, 2021
- ii. Its objective is to achieve "Housing for All" by 2025

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 |||

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) completed 5 years on 20th November, 2021.

To achieve the objective of providing “*Housing for All*” by the year 2022, the Government of India rolled out the revamped rural housing scheme, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) was launched on 20th November, 2016 with effect from 1st April 2016.

The program envisages the completion of 2.95 crore PMAY-G houses with all basic amenities by the year 2022.

The total release made to the States/UTs in FY 2021-22 under the PMAY-G scheme is Rs.7775.63 Crore.

Apart from focusing on providing houses to the eligible beneficiaries, PMAY-G also addresses the basic needs of households through convergence with other Government Schemes.

The beneficiary is entitled to 90/95 person-days of unskilled labour from MGNREGS.

Convergence for piped drinking water, electricity connection, LPG gas connection etc. under different Government programmes is also an inherent thematic component.

105. Which is India's first P15B stealth-guided missile destroyer ship?

- A. INS Kochi
- B. INS Visakhapatnam
- C. INS Vela
- D. INS Mumbai

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

INS Visakhapatnam, a P15B stealth guided missile destroyer, was commissioned into the Indian Navy at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.

The event marks the formal induction of the first of the four ‘Visakhapatnam’ class destroyers, indigenously designed by the Indian Navy’s in-house organisation Directorate of Naval Design and constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai.

INS Visakhapatnam measures 163m in length, 17m in breadth with a displacement of 7,400 tonnes and can rightfully be regarded as one of the most potent warships to have been constructed in India.

The ship is packed with sophisticated state-of-the-art weapons and sensors such as Surface-to-Surface missile and Surface-to-Air missiles.

A unique feature of this ship is the high level of indigenisation incorporated in the production, accentuating the national objective of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

The ship will be under the command of Captain Birendra Singh Bains, a Navigation & Direction specialist.

106. Who is the author of the book 'Shuttler's Flick: Making Every Match Count'?

- A. P V Sindhu
- B. Chetan Bhagat
- C. P Gopi Chand
- D. Saina Nehwal

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

India's chief national badminton coach P. Gopi Chand formally launched his autobiography 'Shuttler's Flick: Making Every Match Count'.

The book has been co-authored by Priya Kumar.

It narrates his journey into badminton as a player, coach and the challenges he faced in producing top players, including Olympic medallists Saina Nehwal, P.V. Sindhu, B. Sai Praneeth and former World No.1 K. Srikanth.

The book is published by Simon & Schuster India.

107. When is World Fisheries Day observed?

- A. November 21
- B. November 24
- C. November 17
- D. November 19

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

World Fisheries Day is celebrated on 21st November every year to demonstrate solidarity with all fisher folk, fish farmers and concerned stakeholders throughout the world.

It started in 1997 where “World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers” met at New Delhi leading to formation of “World Fisheries Forum” with representatives from 18 countries and signed a declaration advocating for a global mandate of sustainable fishing practices and policies.

In India:

Several awards were given by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, in Bhubaneswar on the occasion of World Fisheries Day 2021.

Balasore, Odisha was awarded as the Best Marine District in the country.

Andhra Pradesh was awarded the Best Marine State while Best Inland State Award was given to Telangana.

Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh received the Best Inland District award; and Best Hilly and Northeastern State and District awards were taken away by Tripura and Bongaigaon, Assam respectively.

Note:

Fisheries sector has tremendous potential of growth and the Government of India is providing all necessary support to achieve the one lakh crore export target from the sector by 2024-25.

India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.

India is the 4th largest exporter of fish in the world as it contributes 7.7% to the global fish production.

108. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket Committee.?

- A. Sachin Tendulkar
- B. Sourav Ganguly
- C. Virendra Sehwag
- D. MS Dhoni

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president and former India captain Sourav Ganguly has been appointed as the chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Cricket Committee.

Note: Johnny Grave, CEO of Cricket West Indies has been appointed to the ICC Women's Cricket Committee.

Ganguly replaced Anil Kumble, who stepped down after serving a maximum of three, three-year terms.

He was president of the Cricket Association of Bengal between 2015 and 2019 and took over as BCCI president in October 2019.

109. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Smart Policing Index 2021?

- i. It is released by the Indian Police Foundation (IPF).
 - ii. Bihar has scored the lowest in overall policing.
 - iii. Uttar Pradesh has scored the highest in overall policing.
- A. ii only
B. i and ii only
C. ii and iii only
D. i, ii and iii

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

Bihar has scored the lowest in overall policing, followed closely by Uttar Pradesh, according to findings of a nationwide survey conducted by independent think-tank Indian Police Foundation (IPF).

Findings of Smart Policing Index 2021:

The top five states with the highest score on overall policing are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Assam, Kerala and Sikkim.

From bottom upwards are Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Punjab.

In Police Accountability, the top states are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Assam, Kerala and Odisha, while Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Bihar and Chhattisgarh are at the bottom.

Southern states and some in the Northeast fared better on most policing indices compared to states in the north.

About the Survey:

The survey is an attempt to assess the performance of various states on the Prime Minister's Smart Policing initiative.

The survey had 10 sets of questionnaires, which included six indices of "Competence-Based Indicators" dealing with issues such as police sensitivity, accessibility, responsiveness and technology adoption among others; and three indices of "Value-Based indicators" dealing with integrity of the police; and one index of "Trust".

110. Consider the following statements:

- i. In November 2021, the Union Cabinet gave its approval for provisioning of 4G based mobile services in Uncovered Villages of Aspirational Districts across 5 States.
- ii. The project would be funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

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 Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its approval for provisioning of 4G based mobile services in Uncovered Villages of Aspirational Districts across 5 States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Odisha.

The project would be funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme.

USOF was created under the Ministry of Communications in 2002. It is a non-lapsable fund.

The Project envisages to provide 4G based mobile services in the 7,287 uncovered villages of 44 Aspirational Districts across 5 States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Odisha at an estimated cost of implementation about Rs 6,466 crore including operational expenses for 5 years.

It will enhance digital connectivity useful for self-reliance, facilitate learning, dissemination of information and knowledge, skill upgradation and development, disaster management, e-Governance initiatives, establishment of enterprises & e-commerce facilities, provision of adequate support to educational institutes for knowledge sharing & availability of job opportunity and fulfilling the vision of Digital India promoting domestic manufacturing and fulfilling the objectives of Atmanirbhar Bharat etc.

111. Who has won the 2021 National Book Award for fiction for novel "Hell of a Book"?

- A. Jason Mott
- B. Martin Espada
- C. Tiya Miles
- D. Malinda Lo

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

The 72nd edition of the National Book Award was organized by the National Book Foundation.

Jason Mott won the 2021 National Book Award for fiction for his novel "Hell of a Book".

Winners of 2021 National Book Awards:

Category	Author	Book
Fiction	Jason Mott	Hell of a Book
Non-Fiction	Tiya Miles	All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake
Poetry	Martin Espada	Floater
Young People's Literature	Malinda Lo	Last Night at the Telegraph Club
Best Translated Literature	Elisa Shua Dusapin and Aneesa Abbas Higgins	Winter in Sokcho

112. Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) survey 2021 has been released by which organisation?

- A. Smile Foundation
- B. Khushi Education Foundation
- C. Pratham Education Foundation
- D. NITI Aayog

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

The 16th edition of the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) survey, which was released by Pratham Education Foundation, is the oldest survey of its kind in the country.

The report was prepared on the basis of the telephonic survey conducted in rural areas of 581 districts across 25 states and three union territories between September and October. As many as 76,706 households, 7,299 schools in 17,184 villages across India were covered in the survey.

Findings of the Report:

There has been an overall increase in the proportion of children enrolled in government schools between 2018 and 2020 i.e from 64.3% to 65.8%. However, in the year 2021, the enrollment suddenly went up to 70.3%.

The enrolment rate in private schools has however come down from last year. In 2020, the enrolment rate was 28.8% and in 2021 the enrolment rate went down to 24.4%.

About 73.1% school respondents have received training for implementation of COVID prevention measures in 2021.

According to the report, even though availability of smartphones increased from 36.5% in 2018 to 67.6% in 2021, more children in private schools had smartphones at home (79%) compared to government school going children (63.7%).

113. When is International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women observed?

- A. November 22
- B. November 24
- C. November 25
- D. November 26

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is celebrated on 25 November every year.

2021 Theme: Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!

The United Nations General Assembly has designated November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women will mark the launch of the UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign (Nov 25- Dec 10) — an initiative of 16 days of activism concluding on the day that commemorates the International Human Rights Day (10 December).

114. Which of the following has won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title 2021?

- A. Kolkata
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Chennai
- D. Karnataka

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

In cricket, Tamil Nadu won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy title 2021.

Tamil Nadu defeated Karnataka by four wickets in the finals in Arun Jaitley Stadium Delhi.

It was the 3rd title of Tamil Nadu.

The Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is a domestic T20 cricket championship in India, organized by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), among the teams from the Ranji Trophy.

115. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the SDG Urban Index and Dashboard 2021–22?

- i. The index was released by the SIDBI.
- ii. Shimla topped the Index.
- iii. Dhanbad was at the bottom of the index.

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

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

NITI Aayog under the Indo-German Cooperation released the inaugural Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Urban Index and Dashboard 2021–22.

About SDG Urban Index and Dashboard:

The index and dashboard are a result of the NITI Aayog-GIZ and BMZ collaboration focused on driving SDG localization in cities, under the umbrella of Indo-German Development Cooperation.

It ranks 56 urban areas on 77 SDG indicators across 46 targets of the SDG framework.

Methodology:

The statistical methodology for the SDG Urban Index is drawn from the globally accepted methodology developed by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).

Urban areas have been classified as below based on their composite score:

Aspirant: 0–49

Performer: 50–64

Front-Runner: 65–99

Achiever: 100

Results:

Top 3 Performers: Shimla, Coimbatore and Chandigarh

Worst 3 Performers: Dhanbad, Meerut and Itanagar

116. Consider the following statements:

i. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2021 has been awarded to civil society organisation 'Pratham'.

ii. The prize was instituted in 2001

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 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2021 has been awarded to civil society organisation 'Pratham'.

About Pratham:

Set up in 1995 in Mumbai by Madhav Chavan and Farida Lambay, Pratham has sought to give practical shape to its belief that every child should be in school and learning.

Its Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), based on surveying 6,00,000 rural Indian children, is now used as a model to assess education outcomes and learning deficiencies in 14 countries over three continents.

About Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development:

It was instituted in the memory of the former prime minister by a trust in her name in 1986.

It consists of a monetary award of Rs 25 lakh along with a citation.

117. Which countries participated in the trilateral exercise 'Dosti 2021'?

- A. India, Maldives and Thailand
- B. India, Maldives and Sri Lanka
- C. India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka
- D. India, Maldives and Bangladesh

Answer ||| B

Solution |||

The 15th edition of the biennial trilateral coast guard exercise 'Dosti 2021' involving India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka was conducted in the Maldives.

2021 marks 30 years since these exercises were first launched.

Indian Coast Guard vessels, the ICGS Vajra and ICGS Apoorva joined the Sri Lanka Coast Guard, SLCGS Suraksha for the 5 day exercise (20-24 November, 2021).

For many years after it was first launched in 1991, these exercises were bilateral, involving the Indian and the Maldives Coast Guards. In 2012, however, Sri Lanka joined these exercises for the first time and since then, it has been a trilateral exercise.

Exercise between India and Maldives:

Exercise Ekuverin (Military Exercise)

Exercise between India and Srilanka:

SLINEX (Naval exercise)

Exercise MITRA SHAKTI (Military Exercise)

118. Which state will soon become the only state in India to have five international airports?

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

Answer ||| C

Solution |||

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation Stone of Noida International Airport (NIA) in Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.

With this, Uttar Pradesh will become the only state in India to have five international airports.

Noida International Airport (NIA) will be the second international airport to come up in Delhi NCR.

The airport will be the logistics gateway of northern India.

It will be India's first net zero emissions airport.

The development of the first phase of the airport is being done with a cost of over Rs 10,050 crore. Spread over more than 1300 hectares of land, the completed first phase of the airport will have a capacity to serve around 1.2 crore passengers a year and work on it is scheduled to be completed by 2024.

It will be executed by the international bidder Zurich Airport International AG.

119. When is Constitution Day (India) observed?

- A. November 29
- B. November 24
- C. November 25
- D. November 26

Answer ||| D

Solution |||

Constitution Day (Samvidhan Divas), also known as National Law Day, is celebrated in India on 26 November every year to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India.

On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.

The Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day on 19 November 2015 by a gazette notification.

The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi made the declaration on 11 October 2015 while laying the foundation stone of the B. R. Ambedkar's Statue of Equality memorial in Mumbai.

120. India's first 'Grass Conservatory' was inaugurated in which state?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer ||| A

Solution |||

India's first 'Grass Conservatory' was inaugurated by the research wing of Uttarakhand forest department in Ranikhet of Almora district.

Established in an area of 2 acre, the project has been funded under central government's CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority) scheme.

Around 90 different grass species have been conserved/demonstrated in this conservation area displaying important scientific, ecological, medicinal and cultural information/aspects related to grass species.

The project aims to create awareness about the importance of grass species, promote conservation and to facilitate further research in these species, as it has been proved in latest research that grasslands are more effective in carbon sequestration than forest land.

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