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**Current  
Affairs**

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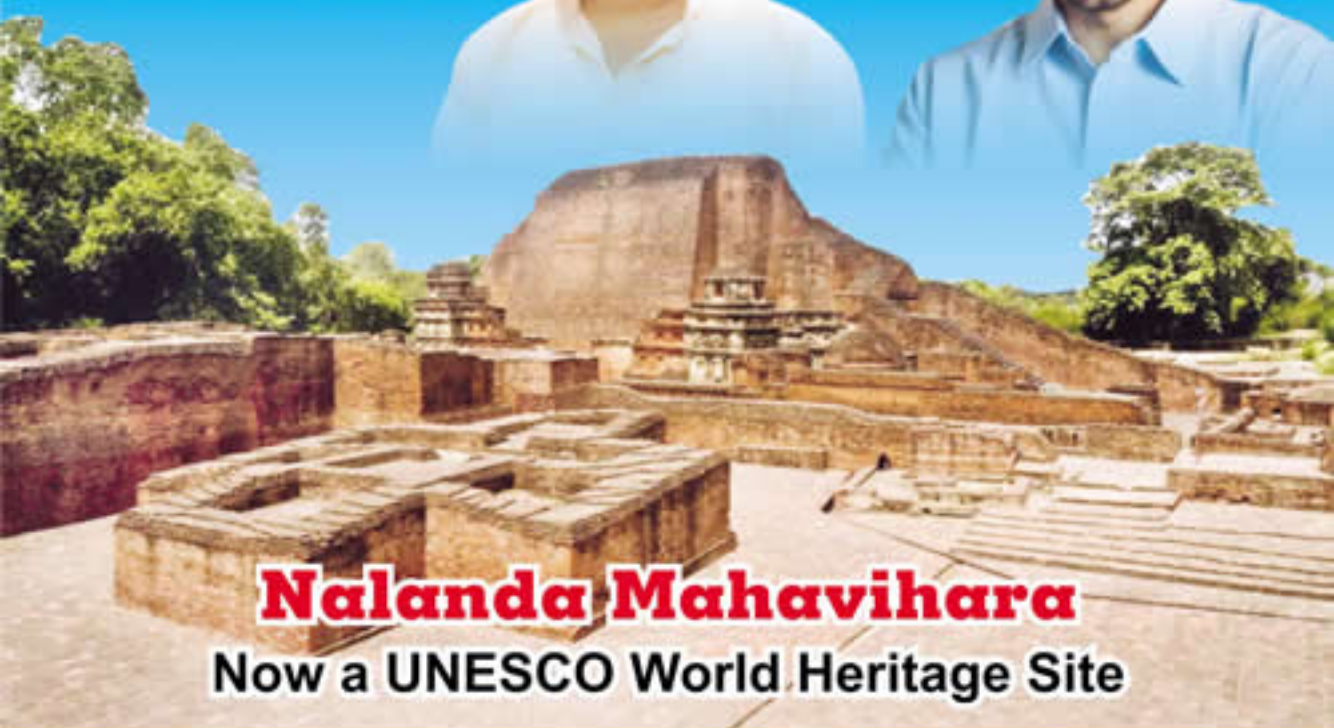
Day to Day

**Questions and Related Facts**

**INDEX:**

(A) Chronological Order

(B) Current Affairs Sections



**Nalanda Mahavihara**

Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site

**1 July, 2016 to 31 July, 2016**

# Preface

Dear readers, we have started edristi English edition as well since August, 2015. We are hopeful that it will help us to connect to the broader audience and amplify our personal bonding with each other.

While presenting Day-to-day current affairs, we are very cautious on choosing the right topics to make sure only those get the place which are useful for competitive exams perspective, not to increase unnecessary burden on the readers by putting useless materials. Secondly, we have also provided the reference links to ensure its credibility which is our foremost priority. You can always refer the links to validate its authenticity.

We will try to present the current affairs topics as quickly as possible but its authenticity is given higher priority over its turnaround time. Therefore it could happen that we publish the incident one or two days later in the website.

Our plan will be to publish our monthly PDF on very first day of every month with making appropriate modifications of day-to-day events. In general, the events happened till 28th day will be given place in the PDFs. The necessity of this is to ensure the contents factual authenticity.

Reader's satisfaction is our utmost priority so requesting you to provide your valuable feedback to us. We will warmly welcome your appreciation/criticism given to us. It will surely show us the right direction to improve the content quality. Hopefully the current affairs PDF (from 1st July to 31st July) will benefit our beloved readers.

Current affairs data will be useless if it couldn't originate any competitive exam questions. E-Dristi has been very successful in that direction. Almost all the questions from UPPCS and other examinations have been asked from our materials. You can verify that by matching the question papers and e-Dristi contents from yourselves.

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# NATIONAL

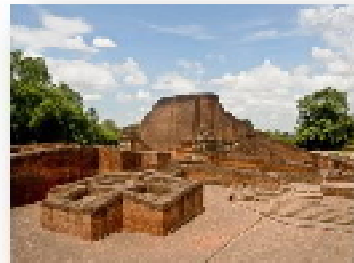
## 3 Indian Sites included in UNESCO's World Heritage List

**Question:** Recently how many Indian sites are included in UNESCO'S World Heritage List?

- a) 2
- b) 3
- c) 5
- d) 7

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- The 40th session of the World Heritage Committee meeting was held in Istanbul on 10-20 July 2016.
- During the 10-day meeting on July 15, 2016, the Committee Included 4 sites worldwide in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- In this three Indian sites are included in UNESCO'S World Heritage List
- This is the first time three sites of a country got included in the UNESCO World Heritage list in a single session of the meeting.
- This includes archaeological site of Nalanda Mahavihara (Nalanda University) in Bihar was included in UNESCO'S World Heritage.
- It is second in the list of UNESCO'S World Heritage from the state of Bihar, India.
- Earlier in 2002, Mahabodhi Temple, located in Bodh Gaya, became a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Alexander Cunningham had discovered the remains of Nalanda University.
- It was the world's first residential university, about 10 thousand students from around the world used to live for education.
- Among the incoming students the number of Buddhist followers was more.
- The university remained until the 13th century; the Ottoman invader Bakhtiyar Khilji burnt the university.
- The Capitol Complex in Chandigarh also made it to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The third in the list from India is Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP) in Sikkim.
- Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP) in Sikkim is located on the world's third highest peak Khangchendzonga.
- There are 35(27 cultural and 7 natural sites and 1 mixed) World Heritage Sites in India that are recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as on July 2016.
- It may be recalled that The Great Himalayan National Park in Kullu, Himachal Pradesh and Rani-ki-Vav (The Queen's Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat were included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2014 during 38th Unesco's World Heritage Committee meeting in Doha.

**Reference:**

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/in>

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1524>

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/1530/>

## New Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh

**Question:** Recently who has been sworn in as the 9th Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh?

- (a) Chowna Mein
- (b) Prem Khandu
- (c) Khaliko Pul
- (d) Pema Khandu

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 July 2016 Pema Khandu was sworn in as the ninth Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh .
- He was administered the oath by Governor Tathagata Roy at the Rajbhavan in Itanagar.
- Chowna Mein was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister.
- On 13 July 2016 Supreme court in his historic verdict restores the political status quo in the Arunachal Pradesh as of 15 December 2015.
- On this date there was a Congress government led by Nabam Tuki.
- It may be recalled 20 rebel Congress MLAs (of the total 42), 11 BJP MLAs and two Independents. The rebels, along with the 13 others, passed the impeachment motion.
- The special session also moved a no-confidence motion against CM Tuki. At the end of the session, Tuki was 'defeated' in a floor test and the 'House' 'elected' Kalikho Pul as the new leader of the House.
- Due to political crisis, on 25 January 2016 on the recommendation of the Cabinet the President's rule was approved by the President.
- On 18 February 2016, the Supreme Court ruled to withdraw the order to continue the president's rule in the state.
- Following on 19 February 2016. The president of India, Pranab Mukerjee accepted the recommendation of the Cabinet to remove present's rule.
- On 20 February 2016 Kalikho Pul was sworn in as chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh.
- He was supported by 19 Congress MLAs, 11 BJP MLAs and two Independents.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pema-khandu-sworn-in-as-chief-minister-of-arunachal-pradesh/article8862082.ece>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/meet-pema-khandu-indias-youngest-chief-minister/article8862288.ece>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/arunachal-assembly-session-supreme-court-verdict-likely-today/article8841476.ece>

## Expansion of Union Council of Ministers

**Question:** How many new ministers were included during the recent expansion of Union council of ministers?

- (a) 19    (b) 20  
(c) 18    (d) 12

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expanded Union council of ministers.
- The newly constituted Union council of ministers of minister were expanded by 19 new Ministers of State.
- President Pranab Mukherjee at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new ministers.
- Prakash Javadekar, Minister of State with Independent Charge of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has been elevated as Cabinet Minister.
- List of newly appointed ministers includes the name of Ajay Tamta, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Fagan Singh Kulaste, S. S. Ahluwalia, Rajen Gohain, C.R. Chaudhary, Mansukh Lakshmanbhai Mandaviya, Vijay Goel, Ramdas Athawale, Anupriya Singh Patel, Nil Madhav Dave, Subhash Ramrao Bhamre, M J Akbar, Ramesh Chandappa Jigajinagi, Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor, Mahendra Nath Pandey, Parsottam Rupala and P.P. Chaudhary.
- Subsequently, the five ministers were removed from their posts.
- The five ministers are Sanwar Lal Jat Minister of State for Water Resources River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Nihal Chand Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava Minister of State for Tribal Affairs and Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria Minister of State for Human Resource Development.
- After this expansion, including the Prime Minister now there are total 78 ministers. Earlier the number was 66.
- This includes 27 cabinet ministers, 12 ministers of state (independent charge) and 38 Ministers of State.
- After this expansion, portfolios of some of the ministers has been changed as follows:
  - i. Smriti Zubin Irani-Ministry of Textiles
  - ii. Prakash Javadekar – HRD
  - iii. Ravi Shankar Prasad- Ministry of Law & Justice, Electronic and Information Technology.
  - iv. Narendra Singh Tomar-Ministry of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
  - v. Chaudhary Birendra Singh,-Ministry of Steel
  - vi. Venkaiah Naidu- Additional charge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
  - vii. Sadananda Gowda-Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
  - viii. Manoj Sinha- Communications (Independent Charge)
  - ix. Anil Madhav Dave – Environment, Forests and Climate Affairs (Independent).

**Reference:**

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/union-council-of-ministers-expanded-with-19-new-ministers-of-state/?comment=disable](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/union-council-of-ministers-expanded-with-19-new-ministers-of-state/?comment=disable)

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/portfolios-of-the-union-council-of-ministers-2/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/portfolios-of-the-union-council-of-ministers-2/)

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146788>

# INTERNATIONAL

## Sustainable Development Goal Index

**Question:** In the new Sustainable Development Goal Index released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung, India is ranked-

- (a) 106th
- (b) 108th
- (c) 99th
- (d) 110th

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung launched a new Sustainable Development Goal Index.
- The SDG Index and Dashboard collect available data for 149 countries to assess where each country stands in 2016 with regard to achieving the SDGs.
- The SDG Index ranks countries based on their performance across 17 goals.
- The index has been topped by Sweden with the score of 84.5.
- The next four countries in the list are 2. Denmark (Score -83.9), 3. Norway (Score -82.3), 4. Finland (score-81.0) and 5. Switzerland (Score -80.9).
- The Central African Republic is at the bottom of the list (149th rank) with the score of 26.1.
- Above this Liberia with the score of 30.5 ranked 148th.
- Congo (Score -31.3) is ranked 147 th, Niger (Score -31.4) 146 th and Chad (Score -31.8) at 145.
- India is ranked 110th in the index with the score of 48.4.
- Among the neighboring countries Bhutan 82nd place (score -58.2), Sri Lanka 97 th (score 54.8), Nepal 103rd place (score 51.5), Pakistan ranked 115 (score -45.7), Bangladesh ranked 118 (score -44.4) and Afghanistan ranked 139 (score -36.5) has been received.
- Among the BRICS countries Russia ranked 47th (score -66.4), Brazil 52th (score-64.4), China 76th (score -59.1).
- Among the developed countries, United States, ranked 25th (score -72.7), UK 10th (score -78.1), Japan 18th (score -75.0), Singapore 19th (score -74.6), Australia 20th (score -74.4), Germany 6th (score -8.5), and Canada 13th (score -76.8).

### Reference:

<http://unsdsn.org/news/2016/07/20/new-index-shows-countries-need-to-act-urgently-to-achieve-sustainable-development-goals/>

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7679980\\_India-ranks-110th-on-Sustainable-Development-index-](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7679980_India-ranks-110th-on-Sustainable-Development-index-)

<http://unsdsn.org/news/2016/07/22/the-sdgindex-dashboards-launch/>

## List of World's 100 Highest-Paid Celebrities

**Question:** Recently Forbes released the list of 2016 World's Highest-Paid celebrities. Which among the following is India's Highest paid celebrities?

- a) Salman Khan
- b) Shahrukh Khan
- c) Akashya Kumar
- d) Amir Khan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 11 July 2016 Forbes released the list of 2016 World's Highest-Paid celebrities.
- The list has been topped by American singer Taylor Swift with an earning of USD 170 million.
- English-Irish boy band "One Direction" has claimed the second spot on the list with earnings of USD 110 million.
- Author James Patterson was ranked at the 3rd spot with the USD 95 million followed by Real Madrid footballer Cristiano Ronaldo 4th with the USD 88 million.
- This year only two Indian celebrities are included in the list.
- Shahrukh ranks 86th on the list with earnings of USD 33 million, while Akshay comes in on the 94th spot with USD 31.5 million earnings.
- Justin Webber is the youngest celebrity on the list and Paul McCartney is oldest celebrity on the list.

**Reference:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/bollywood/shah-rukh-khan-akshay-kumar-in-forbes-list-of-world-100-highest-paid-celebs-2908710/>  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/zackomalleygreenburg/2016/07/11/celeb-100-the-worlds-highest-paid-celebrities-of-2016/#de1ff671fb33>  
<http://www.forbes.com/pictures/eeel45fgmij/the-global-celebrity-100/#485232865829>  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/zackomalleygreenburg/2016/07/13/full-list-the-worlds-highest-paid-celebrities-of-2016/#633268c94ee2>



## Dhaka: Terrorist Attack

**Question: Name the operation launched by Bangladesh Armed Forces to rescue hostages inside the Holey Artisan Bakery during terrorist attack in Dhaka?**

- (a) 'Operation Black Thunder'
- (b) 'Operation Thunderbolt'
- (c) 'Operation Blue Star'
- (d) 'Operation Bolt'

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 1 July 2016 six militants opened fire on the Holey Artisan Bakery located in Dhaka, Capital city of Bangladesh in Gulshan -an affluent area with many embassies in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- After the attack, all the people taken hostage by militants in the restaurant, among hostages almost all were foreigners.
- The operation to rescue hostages inside the Holey Artisan Bakery was launched by the Bangladesh Armed Forces named 'Thunderbolt'.
- The operation was led by the 1st Para-Commando Battalion of Bangladesh.
- The terrorist killed 20 hostages because they could not recite a verse from the Quran including Tarishi Jain, a 19-year-old female student of the University of California, Berkeley, of Indian nationality.
- In "Operation Thunderbolt" six terrorist were killed and a terrorist was caught alive.
- 13 hostages were rescued in the operation.
- Bangladesh's home ministry said in a statement that the attack was carried out by country grown terrorist group Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen.
- The home ministry also claimed that Pakistan's Intelligence agency ISI is also involved. But ISIS claimed responsibility for the incident.

**Reference:**

<http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2016/07/02/chronology-of-gulshan-cafe-crisis>

<http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2016/07/02/bangladesh-pm-hasina-says-13-hostages-rescued-alive-from-gulshan-cafe>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/07/01/gunmen-attack-restaurant-in-diplomatic-quarter-of-bangladeshi-ca/>

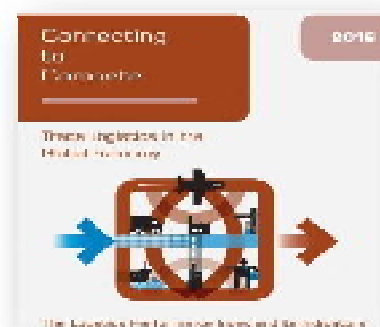
## Logistics Performance Index-2016

**Question:** Recently the World Bank has released the Logistics Performance Index 2016 titled 'Connecting to compete: 2016: Trade Logistics in the Global Economy.' In the Index India is ranked-

- (a) 54th
- (b) 65th
- (c) 35th
- (d) 26th

**Ans. (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 June 2016 the World Bank has released the Logistics Performance Index 2016 titled 'Connecting to compete: 2016: Trade Logistics in the Global Economy.'
- The Logistics Performance Index (LPI)-2016 provide comparisons across 160 countries by ranking them.
- Out of the 160 countries listed in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI)-2016, Germany topped the Index with the score of 4.23.
- The next four countries in the Index are Luxembourg (4.22), Sweden (4.20), Netherlands (4.19), and Singapore (4.14).
- Syrian Arab Republic is ranked at 160th position in the Index with the score of 1.60.
- India has improved its ranking in the World Bank Group's bi-annual "Logistics Performance Index 2016 by 19 ranks.
- India was ranked 54th in 2014 and jumped to 35th position in 2016 with the score of 3.42.
- According to the latest rankings India has left behind countries such as New Zealand, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Latvia and Indonesia.
- Among India's neighbour's Bangladesh ranked 87th (score – 2.66), Nepal 124th (score – 2.38) and Bhutan 135th (score- 2.32).
- Among the developing countries in the BRICS members China ranked (27th, score - 3.66), India (35th, score -3.42), Brazil (55th, score -3.09) Russia (99th, score -2.57) and South Africa (20th, score -3.78).
- Among the developed countries, United States is ranked 10th (score -3.99), Japan 12th (score -3.97), UK 8th (score -4.07), Canada 14th (score -3.93) and France 16th (score - 3.90).

**Reference:**

<http://lpi.worldbank.org/>

[https://wb-lpi-media.s3.amazonaws.com/LPI\\_Report\\_2016.pdf](https://wb-lpi-media.s3.amazonaws.com/LPI_Report_2016.pdf)

## Human Capital Report-2016

**Question: What is the rank of India in recently released Human Capital Report-2016 of World Economic Forum?**

- (a) 106<sup>th</sup> (b) 105<sup>th</sup>  
(c) 110<sup>th</sup> (d) 99<sup>th</sup>

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 June 2016 Geneva based World Economic Forum has released its annual report named “Human Capital Report-2016”.
- This year’s World Economic Forum’s Human Capital Report ranks 130 countries across the world.
- The index takes a life-course approach to human capital, evaluating the levels of education, skills and employment available to people in five distinct age groups, starting from under 15 years to over 65 years.
- The Index assesses Learning and Employment outcomes on a scale from 0 (worst) to 100 (best).
- Finland has been ranked as first with overall score of 85.86.
- The next four countries in the Index are 2. Norway (Score -84.64), 3. Switzerland (Score -84.61), 4. Japan (score -83.44), 5. Sweden (Score -83.29).
- Mauritania with the least score of 42.33 is ranked 130th in the Human Capital Index-2016.
- India with the score of 57.33 is ranked 105th in the Index.
- It may be recalled that in the human capital index -2015 India was ranked 100th with a score of 57.62 in the list of 124 countries.
- Among the neighbouring countries Bangladesh ranked 104th (Score -57.84), Nepal ranked 108th (score -57.35), Bhutan 91st place (score -61.83), Sri Lanka 50th place (score -71.69) and Pakistan 118th place (score 53.10) .
- Among the BRICS countries India is ranked below Russian Federation (28th, score -77.86), Brazil (83th, score -64.51), China (71st, score -67.81).
- Human Capital Index of developed countries is as follows :United States in 24th place (score 78.86), the UK’s 19th place (score -80.04), Australia ranks 18th (score -80.08), France 17th (score- 80.32) and Germany placed 11th (score -81.55).

**Reference:**

<http://reports.weforum.org/human-capital-report-2016/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/human-capital-report-2016/rankings/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/human-capital-report-2016/south-asia/>

[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/HCR2016\\_Main\\_Report.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/HCR2016_Main_Report.pdf)

# ECONOMICS

## Fortune Global 500

**Question:** How many Indian companies are mentioned in the recently released 2016 Fortune Global 500 list of the world's biggest firms?

- a) 8
- b) 7
- c) 11
- d) 6

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 21 July 2016 American business magazine Fortune has released the list of 2016 Fortune Global 500 list of the world's biggest firms.
- The overall list was topped by Walmart with revenue of 482,130 million US dollars, followed by State Grid at Second place and China National Petroleum at the third place.
- Others in the global top 10 companies include Sinopec Group (4th, \$294,344 million), Royal Dutch Shell (5th, \$272,156 million), Exxon Mobil (6th, \$246,204 million), Volkswagen (7th, \$236,600 million), Toyota Motor (8th, \$236,592 million), Apple (9th, \$233,715 million) and BP (10th, \$225,982 million).
- The world's 500 largest companies generated \$27.6 trillion in revenues and \$1.5 trillion in profits in 2015.
- Seven Indian companies have made it to the latest Fortune 500 list of the world's biggest corporations in terms of revenue.
- State-run Indian Oil Corp (IOC) ranked highest at 161st with revenues of US \$ 54 711 million.
- Second and third biggest Indian firms in revenue were Reliance Industries (RIL) with revenues of US \$ 43437 million and Tata Motors Ltd with revenues of US \$ 42 092 million with 215th and 226th ranks respectively.
- State Bank of India (SBI) with revenues of US \$ 41,681 million India's largest bank in terms of customer base came fourth after Tata Motors to occupy the 232nd rank.
- Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) with the revenue of US \$ 29,082 million is ranked 358th and Hindustan Petroleum Corp with the revenue of US \$ 28 689 million ranked 367th were placed as the fifth and sixth, respectively.
- The surprise entry from India at the seventh position is Bengaluru-based Rajesh Exports at 423rd rank with revenue of US \$ 25 224 million, that has replaced ONGC in the list.

**Reference:**

<http://beta.fortune.com/global500>

<http://beta.fortune.com/fortune500>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/7-indian-companies-on-fortune-s-list-116072100447\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/7-indian-companies-on-fortune-s-list-116072100447_1.html)

## World Bank Approved \$625 Million to Support Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Program in India

**Question:** Recently the World Bank Board has approved a \$625 million loan to support the Government of India's program to generate electricity from widespread installation of rooftop solar photo-voltaic (PV). The program will be implemented by which of the following bank?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) Reserve Bank of India
- (c) HDFC
- (d) Bank of Baroda

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 13 May 2016 the World Bank Board approved a \$625 million loan to support the Government of India's program to generate electricity from widespread installation of rooftop solar photo-voltaic (PV).
- The Board also approved a co-financing loan of \$120 million on concessional terms and a \$5 million grant from Climate Investment Fund's (CIF) Clean Technology Fund.
- The project will finance the installation of at least 400 MW of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic (GRPV) across India.
- The project will be implemented by the State Bank of India (SBI). SBI will on-lend funds to solar PV developers/aggregators and end-users.

**Reference:**

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/05/13/world-bank-approves-625-million-to-support-grid-connected-rooftop-solar-program-in-india>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/world-bank-approves-aid-for-indias-solar-programme/article8607725.ece?textsize=small&test=2>

## Networked Readiness Index-2016

**Question:** Recently the World Economic Forum has released the Networked Readiness Index-2016 as part of its annual Global Information Technology Report (GITR). Which of the following country has been ranked first in the Index?

- (a) Finland
- (b) Switzerland
- (c) Sweden
- (d) Singapore

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 6 July 2016 World Economic Forum has released the Networked Readiness Index-2016 as part of its annual Global Information Technology Report (GITR).
- The Global Information Technology Report assesses the state of networked readiness of 139 economies using the Networked Readiness Index (NRI).
- The index assesses the factors, policies and institutions that enable a country to fully leverage information and communication technologies (ICTs) for increased competitiveness and well-being.
- The 2016 edition of the Networked Readiness Index ranked Singapore as the highest-placed country in the world when it comes to networked readiness.
- Finland, which topped the ranking in 2014, remains in second place for a second year in a row.
- The list is followed by Sweden (3rd), Norway (4th) and the United States (5th), which climbed two places.
- Other countries which are include in the top 10 are the Netherlands(6th), Switzerland(7th), the United Kingdom(8th), Luxembourg(9th) and Japan(10th).
- India has been ranked 91st in the Networked Readiness Index-2016.



- Despite of improvements in its political and regulatory environment (78th, up four) and in its business and innovation environment (110th, up five), India slips down two positions to an overall rank of 91.
- In year 2015 India was ranked 89th in the list.
- India's position on the list has come down for the fourth year in a row, from 89th in 2015, 83rd in 2014 and 68th in 2013.
- Among the India's neighbouring country Sri Lanka-63rd, Bhutan-87th, Pakistan -110th, Bangladesh-112nd and Nepal-118th.
- India (91st) is ranked the lowest among the BRICS nations- Russia (41st), China (59th), South Africa (65th) and Brazil (72nd).
- Malaysia leads the Emerging Asian economies in 2016 and moves up one spot to 31st position overall.
- The United Arab Emirates (26th) and Qatar (27th) continue to lead the Arab world in networked-readiness.
- The sub-Saharan African countries among the top upward movers, including South Africa (65th, up 10), Ethiopia (120th, up 10) and Cote d'Ivoire (106th, up 9).
- Europe remains at the technology frontier; seven of the top 10 NRI countries are European.
- The Global Information Technology Report series and the Networked Readiness Index (NRI) were launched by the Geneva based World Economic Forum in 2001.

#### **Reference:**

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2016/networked-readiness-index/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2016/infographics-and-shareables/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2016/press-releases/>

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-information-technology-report-2016/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-information-technology-report-2016/>

## Interest subvention for providing short term crop loan to farmers

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet has approved the Interest Subvention Scheme for farmers for the year 2016-17. The Government has earmarked how much amount for this purpose ?

- (a) Rs. 18,276 Crore (b) Rs. 19,276 Crore  
(c) Rs. 20,000Crore (d) Rs. 22,000 Crore

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 the Union Cabinet has approved the Interest Subvention Scheme for farmers for the year 2016-17.
- Interest subvention has been provided to Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, Cooperative Banks, Regional Rural Banks and NABARD for providing short term crop loan to farmers.
- The Government has earmarked a sum of Rs. 18,276 Crore for this purpose.
- This will help farmers getting short term crop loan payable within one year up to Rs. 3 lakhs at only 4% per annum.
- The main features of the scheme are:
- The Central Government will provide interest subvention of 5 per cent per annum to all farmers for short term crop loan upto one year for loan upto Rs. 3 lakhs borrowed by them during the year 2016-17.
- Farmers will thus have to effectively pay only 4% as interest.
- In case farmers do not repay the short term crop loan in time they would be eligible for interest subvention of 2% as against 5% available above.
- The Central Government will give approximately Rs 18,276 crores as interest subvention for 2016-17.
- In order to give relief to small and marginal farmers who would have to borrow at 9% for the post-harvest storage of their produce, the Central Government has approved an interest subvention of 2% i.e an effective interest rate of 7% for loans upto 6 months.
- To provide relief to the farmers affected by Natural Calamities, the interest subvention of 2% will be provided to Banks for the first year on the restructured amount.
- In case farmers do not repay the short term crop loan in time they would be eligible for interest subvention of 2% as against 5% available above.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146825>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/cabinet-approves-interest-subvention-scheme-for-farmers-for-the-year-2016-17-116070600147\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/cabinet-approves-interest-subvention-scheme-for-farmers-for-the-year-2016-17-116070600147_1.html)

## SM@ Bank service for small-and medium enterprises (SME) launched

**Question:** SM@ Bank, banking service for small-and medium enterprises (SME) is recently launched by which of the following bank?

- (a) HDFC
- (b) ICICI
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) Bank of Baroda

**Ans. (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 June 2016 HDFC Bank Ltd. launched SM@ Bank, India's first full-fledged digital banking service for small-and medium enterprises (SME).
- SM@ Bank is the second stage of the 'Bank Aapki Mutthi Mein' campaign. In the first stage it was launched for the Bank's retail customers in December 2014 at Varanasi
- SM@ Bank will provide a total Digital banking experience where the control of the Bank account resides in customer's hands.
- Some of its features are:
  - Pay and receive all money without even using a cheque book.
  - One view of all credit lines of the clients with the Bank and the asset outstanding.
  - All Important documents like Stock statements, Insurance, financials etc. can be uploaded with ease to the Bank for smooth continuation of credit facilities.

**Reference:**

[https://www.hdfcbank.com/htdocs/aboutus/News\\_Room/pdf/Press-Release-HDFC-Bank-launches-Indias-1st-SME-Bank.pdf](https://www.hdfcbank.com/htdocs/aboutus/News_Room/pdf/Press-Release-HDFC-Bank-launches-Indias-1st-SME-Bank.pdf)

## RBI will study the advantages of the block chain technology

**Question:** What could be the maximum number of the RBI Deputy Governors?

- (a) Two
- (b) Four
- (c) Three
- (d) One

**Ans. (b)**



**Related facts:**

- On 24 June 2016 Reserve Bank of India Deputy Governor H R Khan said the central bank may soon set up a committee to study the use of 'Blockchain' technology.
- The study of Blockchain technology will be done in order to decentralized cashless economic system to stimulate the economy and create cashless economy by reducing the use of paper currency.
- The Blockchain is seen as the main technical innovation of bitcoin. It acts as the proof of all transactions on the network. The blockchain consists of blocks that hold time stamped batches of valid transactions. Each block includes the hash of the prior block, linking the blocks together.

**Reference:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/RBI-to-study-Blockchain-technology-to-curtail-paper-currency/articleshow/52906383.cms>

## Impact of Brexit on the global economy: IMF

**Question:** According to the International Monetary Fund(IMF) what will be the effect of Brexit on the progress of the global economy?

- (a) Rapid growth in the economy
- (b) Slow growth in the economy
- (c) No effect on the economy
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- Gerry Rice, Spokesman, IMF Communications Department during press conference said that Britain's decision to leave the European Union(Brexit) has created "significant uncertainty" that will have repercussions not only for the UK and Europe, but also for the global economy.
- He has also mentioned that Brexit will led to Short-term global economic growth slow down.
- He mentioned that IMF "strongly supports" the commitments made and steps taken by major central banks, including the Bank of England, the European Central Bank, the US Fed and the Bank of Japan, among others, to provide liquidity and curtail excess financial volatility.

**Reference:**

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/tr/2016/tr063016.htm>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/brexit-imf-warns-of-repercussions-for-global-economy/article8796657.ece>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/imf-warns-of-repercussions-in-global-economy-as-after-effects-of-brexit-116070200490\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/imf-warns-of-repercussions-in-global-economy-as-after-effects-of-brexit-116070200490_1.html)

## RBI released June 2016 Financial Stability Report

**Question:** Recently Reserve Bank of India has released which of the following edition of its a biannual publication named “Financial Stability Report-2016”?

- (a) 13th
- (b) 12th
- (c) 11th
- (d) 10th

**Ans. (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 June 2016 Reserve Bank of India released the Financial Stability Report (FSR) June 2016, a biannual publication and the thirteenth in the series.
- The theme of the report is “An optimal configuration for the financial system – Banks versus Market”.
- Highlights of FSR- June 2016 are:
- India’s financial system remains stable, even though the banking sector is facing significant challenges.
- As global uncertainties and transiting geopolitical risks impact India, continuation of sound domestic policies and structural reforms remain the key for macroeconomic stability.
- The global recovery remains fragile amidst weak and uneven growth, a slowdown in world trade and prevailing uncertainties in financial and commodities markets.
- The unintended side effects of current ultra-easy monetary policies being pursued in many advanced economies – without any clear signs of an exit strategy, are becoming evident.
- Indian economy at this juncture stands out in terms of growth and investment potential.
- With the Government’s commitment to continue on the path of fiscal discipline, the efforts on containing the revenue deficit and rationalising subsidies need to be reinforced, even as gross fixed capital formation needs a fillip.

- India's external sector indicators show a relatively stronger position. However, a faster growth in India's oil import in terms of volume in recent years makes it imperative to be alert to the risks of commodity cycle reversals.
- The prediction of a normal monsoon augurs well for agriculture sector growth in 2016-17, although the spatial and temporal distribution matter as much as the total quantum of rainfall.
- While stress in the corporate sector showed some signs of moderation in 2015-16, the risks of lower demand and weaker debt servicing capacity continue.
- The business of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) slowed significantly during 2015-16.
- The gross non-performing advances (GNPAs) ratio increased sharply to 7.6 per cent from 5.1 per cent between September 2015 and March 2016, largely reflecting reclassification of restructured standard advances as non-performing due to asset quality review (AQR).
- The restructured standard advances ratio declined but with a marginal increase in the overall stressed advances ratio from 11.3 per cent in September 2015 to 11.5 per cent in March 2016.
- The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of SCBs showed some improvement across the bank-groups.
- Asset quality of scheduled urban co-operative banks (SUCBs) as well as non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) improved.
- The performance of NBFC sector in general is relatively better than that of PSBs.
- Financial Stability Report reflects the overall assessment on the stability of India's financial system and its resilience to risks emanating from global and domestic factors.
- The Report also discusses issues relating to development and regulation of the financial sector.

#### Reference:

[https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37342](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37342)

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/raghuram-rajan-ebi-non-performing-assets-npas-banks-2881685/>



## READ MOREPayment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision-2018

**Question:** Who among the following has published “Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision-2018”?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Ministry Of Finance
- (c) NITI Ayog
- (d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 June 2016 RBI published vision document named “Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision-2018”.
- The Vision-2018 aims at building best of class payment and settlement systems for a ‘less-cash’ India.
- The broad contours of Vision-2018 revolve around 5 Cs – coverage, convenience, confidence, convergence and cost.
- To achieve these, Vision-2018 will focus on four strategic initiatives such as responsive regulation, robust infrastructure, effective supervision and customer centricity.
- The Vision Document for emphasized on use of electronic payment options for Payment and Settlement rather than in cash.
- With increasing use of technology-based innovative payment products, the strategic initiatives under Vision-2018 are expected to reduce paper-based instruments significantly and lead to accelerated growth in mobile banking and other modes of electronic payments.

**Reference:**

[https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37308](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37308)

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/economy/rbi-unveils-game-plan-for-a-less-cash-economy/>

[http://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/rbi-publishes-%E2%80%9Cpayment-and-settlement-systems-in-india-vision-2018%E2%80%9D-116062400292\\_1.html](http://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/rbi-publishes-%E2%80%9Cpayment-and-settlement-systems-in-india-vision-2018%E2%80%9D-116062400292_1.html)

# DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES

## INS Karna

**Question:** Marine Commando Force (MCF) is also known as-

- (a) Carlos
- (b) Marcos
- (c) Defence Force
- (d) Naval Staff

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 12 July 2016 Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM, AVSM, ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff commissioned the Marine Commandos Unit as 'INS Karna' in a solemn ceremony held at the Naval Base at Bheemunipatnam.
- The Marine Commando Force (MCF), also called as the 'MARCOS', was raised in February 1987 as the Indian Marine Special Force (IMSF).
- MARCOS are capable of operating in all three dimensions, at sea, in air and on land.
- Captain Varun Singh has been named as the Commanding officer of INS Karna.
- MARCOS have established themselves as Special Operations Force of international repute in a short span and have won well deserved gallantry awards for their acts of courage and valour.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146997>

<http://indiannavy.nic.in/content/chief-naval-staff-commissions-ins-karna>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/admiral-lanba-commissions-marine-commandos-unit-ins-karna/article8839250.ece>

## World's largest telescope

**Question:** Which of the following country has constructed the world's largest telescope?

- (a) China
- (b) Russia
- (c) United States of America
- (d) France

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 3 July 2016 China has completed the construction of the world's largest telescope with the aperture of 500m.
- The Five Hundred Metre Aperture Spherical Telescope, or FAST, is the size of 30 football fields and consists of small triangular panels.
- It consists of 4,450 panels.
- It has been cut out of a mountain in the south-western province of Guizhou, China.
- The project has the potential to search for more strange objects to better understand the origin of the universe and boost the global hunt for extraterrestrial life.
- The telescope is built by National Astronomical Observation under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.
- Construction of the telescope began in 2011 which costed \$180 million.

**Reference:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/03/china-puts-finishing-touches-to-worlds-biggest-radio-telescope>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/china-puts-final-touches-world-largest-telescope-160703080236077.html>

<http://sputniknews.com/asia/20160703/1042374917/china-worlds-biggest-radio-telescope.html>

## First Squadron of “Tejas” inducted into Indian Air Force

**Question:** Recently the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) “Tejas” inducted into No. 45 Squadron of Indian Air Force (IAF) which is also called as-

- (a) Flying Daggers
- (b) Indian Warriors
- (c) Indian flying Daggers
- (d) Sky Daggers

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 1 July 2016 the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) “Tejas” inducted into No. 45 Squadron of Indian Air Force (IAF).
- It should be known that No. 45 Squadron is also called as the “Flying Daggers”.
- The squadron is equipped with MiG 21 Bis Aircraft and operated from Nalia.
- It’s motto is “Ajeet Nabha”.
- Tejas will replace MiG-21 and MiG-27.
- The Squadron will operate from Bangalore for nearly two years before it moves to its designated location at Sulur near Coimbatore.
- It is the first fighter Squadron to be a part of the Southern Air Command of IAF headquartered at Thiruvananthapuram.
- Group Captain Madhav Rangachari, an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, is the Commanding Officer of Flying Daggers.
- “Tejas” has been designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and produced by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Tejas is the first advance Fly-by-wire (FBW) fighter aircraft designed, developed and manufactured in India.
- Tejas is a 4th Plus generation aircraft with a glass cockpit and is equipped with state of the art Satellite aided Inertial Navigation System.
- It has a digital computer based attack system and an autopilot.
- It can fire Air to Air Missiles, Bombs as well as Precision Guided Munitions.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146697>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146717>

## Extension of NASA's New Horizons mission

**Question:** NASA's New Horizons mission was launched on 19 January 2006 to study which of the following planet?

- (a) Pluto
- (b) Jupiter
- (c) Mars
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**



### Related facts:

- NASA's New Horizons mission has received the extension to fly onward to an object deeper in the Kuiper Belt, known as 2014 MU69.
- New Horizons mission was launched by NASA on 19 January 2006 to study outermost and smallest planet(Dwarf),Pluto.
- It is expected that the New Horizons will reach the 2014 MU69 on 1 January 2019.
- It should be noted that after nine years of its launch, on 14 July 2015, New Horizons flew near the surface of Pluto.

### Reference:

<http://www.nasa.gov/image-feature/jpl/pia20490/pandemonium>

<http://pluto.jhuapl.edu/>

## Juno spacecraft

**Question:** US space agency NASA's Juno spacecraft sent to study Jupiter, entered into its orbit on-

- (a) 8 July 2016
- (b) 7 July 2016
- (c) 5 July 2016
- (d) 4 July 2016

**Ans. (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 4 July 2016 US space agency NASA's Juno spacecraft sent to study Jupiter, entered into its orbit.
- The Juno spacecraft was launched on Aug. 5, 2011, from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.
- Juno's principal goal is to understand the origin and evolution of Jupiter.
- With its suite of nine science instruments, Juno will investigate the existence of a solid planetary core, map Jupiter's intense magnetic field, measure the amount of water and ammonia in the deep atmosphere, and observe the planet's auroras.
- The Juno spacecraft is powered by solar arrays.
- Lockheed Martin Space Systems in Denver built the spacecraft.
- The partner country of the mission includes European Space Agency associated countries like Italy, France and Belgium
- Juno is part of NASA's New Frontiers Program, managed at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, United States.
- It should be noted that the spacecraft's name comes from Greco-Roman mythology in which goddess Juno was the wife of Jupiter.

**Reference:**

[https://www.missionjuno.swri.edu/news/juno\\_spacecraft\\_in\\_orbit\\_around\\_mighty\\_jupiter](https://www.missionjuno.swri.edu/news/juno_spacecraft_in_orbit_around_mighty_jupiter)

## China Launched Shijian-16 Satellite

**Question:** Recently which of the following country has launched its second Shijian-16 Satellite?

- (a) China
- (b) Russia
- (c) Japan
- (d) North Korea

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 June 2016 China has launched its second Shijian-16 Satellite.
- The satellite was carried by a Long March-4B rocket and took off at 11:21 a.m. from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.
- It was the 231st by a Long March rocket
- The satellite will be used for conducting special environment detection and technological experiments.
- The first Shijian-16 satellite was launched in October 2013.

**Reference:**

[http://english.cas.cn/newsroom/china\\_research/201606/t20160630\\_165035.shtml](http://english.cas.cn/newsroom/china_research/201606/t20160630_165035.shtml)

<https://www.nasaspacesflight.com/2016/06/chinese-conduct-long-march-4b-launch-with-shijian-16-2/>



## Successful test-firing of the Barak-8 missile

**Question:** Recently India test fired a new surface-to-air missile- Barak-8 from which of the following place?

- (a) Chandipur, Orissa
- (b) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Kochi, Kerala
- (d) Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 June 2016 India test fired a Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM), Barak-8 from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur, defence base off Odisha coast.
- It is developed jointly by Indian Defence Research Development Laboratory (DRDL), a laboratory of DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).
- It is capable of fired from air, water and land, is capable of destroying submarines, missiles and warships.
- Apart from the missile, the system includes a multi-functional surveillance and threat alert radar for detection, tracking and guidance of the missile.
- The test-firing of the missile was jointly carried out by Indian defence personnel, DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries.
- Its production in India is the result of the collaboration of Industries like BEL, L&T and Tata group.
- The missile was again tested on 1 July 2016 at Chandipur, Balasore which was also successful.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>

<http://www.ddinews.gov.in/Sci-Tech/Sci-Tech%20-%20Top%20Story/Pages/barak-8.aspx>

<http://odishatv.in/odisha/body-slider/barak-8-missile-test-fired-from-chandipur-153434/>

<http://www.defencenews.in/article/India-test-fires-Barak-8-surface-to-air-missile-for-second-day-10-Facts-6393>

## “Varunastra” inducted in the Indian Navy

**Question:** Recently Indigenously developed heavyweight torpedo Varunastra was inducted in the Indian Navy. It is a-

- (a) Anti Ballistic Missile
- (b) Anti Ship Missile
- (c) Anti-Submarine Missile
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 June 2016 the Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar handed over “Varunastra – a Ship Launched Heavy Weight Torpedo”, also known as underwater missile to the Indian Navy in a befitting ceremony held at New Delhi.
- It weighs about 1.25 tonnes, can carry around 250 kg of explosives at a speed of 40 nautical miles an hour.
- Varunastra, a versatile naval weapon which can be fired from the Rajput class destroyers, Delhi class and all future Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) ships capable of firing heavy weight torpedoes.
- Varunastra has been developed by Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL), a premier DRDO laboratory based at Visakhapatnam. M/s Bharat Dynamics Ltd has been associated as a production partner in concurrent engineering mode.
- It is capable of targeting quiet and stealthy submarines both in deep and littoral waters even in intense countermeasure atmosphere.

**Reference:**

<http://www.indiannavy.nic.in/content/honble-rm-hands-over-varunastra-indian-navy>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146647>

# SPORTS

## TENNIS

### Swedish Open, 2016

**Question: Who among the following has won the men's singles title of the recently held Swedish Open, 2016?**

- (a) Marcel Granollers      (b) David Ferrer  
(c) Diego Schwartzman      (d) Albert Ramos-Vinolas

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- From 11 to 17 July 2016; The 2016 Swedish Open tennis tournament for the men and from 18 through 24 July 2016 for the women played in Båstad, Sweden.
- It played on outdoor clay courts as part of the ATP World Tour 250 Series of the 2016 ATP World Tour and as part of the International Series on the 2016 WTA Tour.
- It was also known as the 2016 SkiStar Swedish Open for the men and 2016 Ericsson Open for the women for sponsorship reasons.
- Result of the tournament is as follows:
- Men's Singles:
  - Winner: Albert Ramos-Vinolas (Spain)
  - Runner Up: Fernando Verdasco (Spain)
- Women's Singles:
  - Winner: Laura Siegemund (Germany)
  - Runner Up: Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)
- Men's Doubles:
  - Winner: Marcel Granollers and David Marrero (Both are of Spain)
  - Runner Up: Marcus Daniell (New Zealand) and Marcelo Demoliner (Brazil)
- Women's Doubles:
  - Winner: Andreea Mitu (Romania) and Alicja Rosolska (Poland)
  - Runner Up: Lesley Kerkhove (Netherlands) and Lidziya Marozava (Belarus)

**Reference:**

<http://men.swedishopen.org/en/News/Ramos-winner>

<http://men.swedishopen.org/Draws>

<http://www.ericssonopen.org/en/Draws>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016\\_Swedish\\_Open](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Swedish_Open)

## Wimbledon Championships-2016

**Question: Who among the following has won the women's singles title of recently held Wimbledon Championships-2016?**

- (a) Garbin Muguruja
- (b) Serena Williams
- (c) Martina Hingis
- (d) Jehanna Larson

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- From 27 June to 10 July 2016;.The 2016 Wimbledon Championships tennis tournament was played.
- It was a Grand Slam tennis tournament which took place at All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, London, United Kingdom.
- Result of the competition is as follows:
- **Men's Singles:**
  - Winner: Andy Murray(United Kingdom)
  - Runner Up:Milos Raonic(Canada)
- **Women's singles:**
  - Winner: Serena Williams (United States)
  - Runner Up: Angelique Kerber(Germany)
- **Men' Doubles:**
  - Winner:Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut(Both are of France)
  - Runner Up:Julien Benneteau and Édouard Roger-Vasselin(Both are of France)
- **Women's Doubles:**
  - Winner: Serena Williams and Venus Williams(Both are of United States)
  - Runner Up: Tímea Babos(Hungary ) and Yaroslava Shvedova(Kazakhstan)
- **Mixed Doubles:**
  - Winner:Henri Kontinen(Finland) and Heather Watson (United Kingdom)
  - Runner Up: Robert Farah(Colombia) and Anna-Lena Grönefeld(Germany)
- Serena Williams (United States) won her seventh Wimbledon crown and a historic 22nd major title.
- For Serena Williams and Venus Williams it was the sixth title at Wimbledon, and 14 in Grand Slams.
- Serena Williams successfully defended her women's Singles title and equalled Steffi Graf's Open Era record of 22 major singles titles.
- Margaret Court (Australia) holds the record of winning most women's singles Grand Slam title.
- She won 24 Grand Slam singles titles out of which 13 are of before Open Era (1968) and the remaining 11 are won by her after it.

**Reference:**

[http://www.wimbledon.com/en\\_GB/scores/index.html](http://www.wimbledon.com/en_GB/scores/index.html)

<http://www.wtatennis.com/news/article/5719208/title/champions-corner-serena>

<http://www.wtatennis.com/news/article/5715824/title/serena-williams-22-stats-for-22-slams>

# HOCKEY

## Women's Hockey Champions Trophy

**Question:** Which of the following country has won the Women's Hockey Champions Trophy for a record seventh time?

- (a) United States of America
- (b) Australia
- (c) Netherlands
- (d) Argentina

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- From 18 to 26 June 2016; The 2016 Women's Hockey Champions Trophy held in London United Kingdom.
- This Trophy was the 22nd edition of the Hockey Champions Trophy for women.
- Argentina won the gold in tournament for a record seventh time after defeating the Netherlands 2–1 in the final.
- United States of America secured third place after defeating Australia by 1-0 in a penalty shootout.
- Other major Awards are:
- Top Goalscorer- Carla Rebecchi(Argentina)
- Player of the Tournament- Carla Rebecchi(Argentina)
- Goalkeeper of the Tournament- Joyce Sombroek(Netherlands)
- Young Player of the Tournament- María José Granatto(Argentina)
- Next Women Champions Trophy will be held in November 17 to 25, 2018.

**Reference:**

<http://fih.ch/events/champions-trophy/2016-womens-champions-trophy/pools-matches/matches/>

<http://stats.fih.ch/#women>

<http://fih.ch/events/champions-trophy/2016-womens-champions-trophy/news/argentina-claim-record-seventh-champions-trophy-title/>

# FOOTBALL

## UEFA Euro 2016

**Question:** Which of the following country has won the title of 2016 UEFA European Championship?

- (a) Germany
- (b) Portugal
- (c) France
- (d) Wales

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- From 10 June to 10 July 2016. The 2016 UEFA European Championship, commonly referred to as UEFA Euro 2016 was held in France.
- It was the 15th UEFA European Championship, the quadrennial international men's football championship of Europe organised by UEFA.
- Portugal won the tournament for the first time, following a 1–0 victory after extra time over the host team, France, in the final played at Paris.
- Sub Eder of Portugal scored 109th-minute winner, his first competitive goal for country.
- This is Portugal's first major title since 1921.
- It was the first time in the 56 years history of Euro Cup that the goal was not scored in 90 minutes.
- The Player of the Tournament award was given to Antoine Griezmann of France.
- The Young Player of the Tournament award, open to players born on or after 1 January 1994, was given to Renato Sanches of Portugal.
- The Golden Boot was awarded to Antoine Griezmann of France, who scored one goal in the group stage and five in the knockout phase.
- The Silver Boot was awarded to Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, who scored two goals in the group stage and one in the knockout phase.
- The Bronze Boot was awarded to Olivier Giroud of France who scored one goal in the group stage and two in the knockout phase.
- Cristiano Ronaldo was the captain and Fernando Santos was the coach of Portugal football team.

**Reference:**

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/season=2016/matches/round=2000451/match=2017907/index.html>

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/news/newsid=2390063.html#uefa+euro+2016+numbers>

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/season=2016/matches/round=2000451/match=2017907/postmatch/report/index.html>

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro/news/newsid=2390091.html>



## Copa America Centenario

**Question:** Which of the following country has won the title of the recently held Copa America Centenario tournament?

- (a) Chile
- (b) Argentina
- (c) Colombia
- (d) United States

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 3 to 26 June 2016; The Copa America Centenario football tournament was hosted in the United States.
- It is an international men's association tournament.
- The tournament was the 45th edition of Copa America since its inception in 1916.
- It was held between CONMEBOL (the South American football confederation) and CONCACAF (the football confederation for North and Central America and the Caribbean).
- This edition was held as a special edition between the usual four-year cycle, and featured an expanded field of 16 teams (an increase from the usual 12), with all ten teams from CONMEBOL and six teams from CONCACAF.
- In 2015 the Copa America cup was held in Chile and in 2019 Chile will be the host country.
- This was the first Copa America hosted outside of South America.



- The winner of the special edition of the tournament would not have received an invitation to the 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup, as Chile had already qualified by winning the 2015 Copa America..
- The final match was played between Argentina and Chile on 26 June 2016.
- Both teams could not score in regulation and extra time.
- Chile defeated Argentina by 4-2 in a penalty shootout to win the tournament.
- Columbia in a match for third place, defeating the US by 1-0.
- The major awards given in the tournament are as follows:
- Golden Ball Award: Alexis Sanchez (3 goals) (Chile)
- Golden Boot Award: Eduardo Vargas (6 goals) (Chile)
- Golden Glove Award: Claudio Bravo(Chile)(Defended 13 Goals
- Fair Play Award: Argentina
- Chile became the fourth nation to win at least two consecutive Copa America titles, after Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil.
- Argentina, meanwhile, lost their third consecutive final in a major tournament, following a loss to Germany at the 2014 World Cup and Chile at the 2015 Copa America.

#### **Reference:**

<http://www.ca2016.com/matches/32>

<http://www.ca2016.com/awards/golden-boot>

<http://www.ca2016.com/awards/golden-ball>

<http://www.ca2016.com/awards/golden-glove>

<http://www.ca2016.com/article/recap-chile-downs-argentina-4-2-on-penalties-to-lift-second-straight-copa-america>

<http://www.ca2016.com/article/recap-chile-downs-argentina-4-2-on-penalties-to-lift-second-straight-copa-america>

# CHESS

## FIDE Women's Grand Prix

**Question: Who among the following has won the title of recently held FIDE Women's Grand Prix-2016?**

- (a) Pia Cramling
- (b) Mariya Muzychuk
- (c) Dronavalli Harika
- (d) Olga Girya

**Ans:( c )**

**Reference:**



- The final round of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix was played on 1 to 15 July 2016 in Chengdu, China.
- Koneru Humpy defeated Antoaneta Stefanova to catch up with her compatriot Dronavalli Harika on the shared first place with 7/11 points each.
- On 14 July 2016 in the final match against Russian Grandmaster Olga, Indian Grandmaster Dronavalli Harika played draw with a total of 7 points won the competition.
- Harika, however, was awarded with the winner's trophy due to better tie-break – a win in the head-to-head match.
- This was Dronavalli Harika's first Grand Prix title.
- Ju Wenjun of China was awarded the cup for third place with 6 points.

**Reference:**

<https://www.fide.com/component/content/article/1-fide-news/9718-fide-womens-grand-prix-chengdu.html>

<http://chengdu2016.fide.com/en/component/tumuva/?task=fileview&kid=2>

<http://www.chessdom.com/chengdu-fide-women-grand-prix/>

<http://chengdu2016.fide.com/en/component/content/article/1-news-en/313-chengdu-grand-prix-r11-indians-share-first-place-harika-takes-trophy>

# BADMINTON

## Vietnam Open Grand Prix, 2016

**Question:** Who among the following has won men's singles title in the recently held Vietnam Open Grand Prix, 2016?

- (a) Wong Wing Ki Vincent
- (b) Chong Wei Feng
- (c) Yang Le
- (d) Harsheel Dani

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 18 to 24 July 2016; The 2016 Vietnam Open Grand Prix badminton tournament held at the Nguyen Du Stadium in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- This was the eleventh Grand Prix's badminton tournament of the 2016 BWF Grand Prix and Grand Prix Gold.
- Result of the tournament is as follows:
- Men's Singles:
  - Winner: Wong Wing Ki Vincent (Hong Kong)
  - Runner Up: Wei Feng Chong (Malaysia)
- Women's Singles:
  - Winner: Jia Min Yeo (Singapore)
  - Runner Up: Ayumi Mine (Japan)
- Men's Doubles:
  - Winner: Jhe-huei Lee and Yang Lee (Both are of Chinese Taipei)
  - Runner Up: Kien Keat Koo and Boon Heong Tan (Both are of Malaysia)
- Women's Doubles:
  - Winner: Della Destiara Haris and Rosyita Eka Putri Sari (Both are of Indonesia)
  - Runner Up: Tiara Rosalia Nuraidah and Rizki Amelia Pradipta (Both are of Indonesia)
- Mixed Doubles:
  - Winner: Kian Meng Tan and Pei Jing Lai (Both are of Malaysia)
  - Runner Up: Alfian Eko Prasetya and Annisa Saufika (Both are of Indonesia)

**Reference:**

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2468/yonex-sunrise-vietnam-open-gp-2016/podium>

## Yonex Canada Open Grand Prix-2016

**Question: Who has won the men's singles title in Yonex Canada Open Grand Prix-2016?**

- (a) B. Sai Praneeth    (b) Lee Hyun-il  
(c) Ajay Jayaram    (d) H. S. Prannoy

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 28 June to 3 July 2016 Yonex Canada Open Grand Prix-2016 was held at the Markin MacPhail Centre in Calgary, Canada .
- Results of the tournament are as follows:
- Men's Singles:
  - Winner: B. Sai Praneeth( India)
  - Runner Up: Lee Hyun-il (South Korea)
- Women's singles:
  - Winner:Michelle Li(Canada)
  - Runner Up: Zhang Beiwen(United States)
- Men's Doubles:
  - Winner: Manu Attri and B. Sumeeth Reddy(Both are of India)
  - Runner Up: Adrian Liu and Toby Ng(Both are of Canada)
- Women's Doubles:
  - Winner: Setyana Mapasa and Gronya Somerville(Both are of Australia)
  - Runner Up: Heather Olver and Lauren Smith (Both are of England)
- Mixed doubles:
  - Winner: Tuan Duc Do and Nhu Thao Pham(Both are of Vietnam)
  - Runner Up: Nico Ruponen and Amanda Hogstrom (Both are of Sweden)

**Reference:**

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2570/yonex-canada-open/podium>

<http://bwf.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=56C9BAFB-12DE-4962-BB5A-A341F958E14E>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/badminton/canada-open-praneeth-manu-sumeeth-rio-olympics-2016-2892577/>

## Taipei Open Grand Prix Gold-2016

**Question: Who has won the men's singles title in the recently held Taipei Open Grand Prix Gold-2016 badminton tournament?**

- (a) Chou Tien Chen
- (b) Jan O Jorgensen
- (c) Mathias Boe
- (d) Zhang Nan

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 28 June to 3 July 2016. The 2016 Chinese Taipei Open Grand Prix Gold held at the Taipei Arena in Taipei, Chinese Taipei.
- It was the eighth Grand Prix's badminton tournament of the 2016 BWF Grand Prix and Grand Prix Gold.
- The result of the tournament is as follows:
- Men's singles:
  - Winner: Chou (Chinese Taipei)
  - Runner Up: Qiao Bin (China)
- Women's Singles:
  - Winner: Tai Tzu-ying (Chinese Taipei)
  - Runner Up: Wang Shixian (China)
- Men's Doubles:
  - Winner: I and Liu Yuchen (Both are of China)
  - Runner Up: Chen Hung-ling and Wang Chi-lin (Both are of Chinese Taipei)
- Women's Doubles:
  - Winner: Huang Dongping and Zhong Qianxin (Both are of China)
  - Runner Up: Luo Ying and Luo Yu (Both are of China)
- Mixed Doubles:
  - Winner: Zheng Siwei and Chen Qingchen (Both are of China)
  - Runner Up: Ian and Pei Jing Lai (Both are of Malaysia)

**Reference:**

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2456/yonex-open-chinese-taipei/podium>

<http://bwf.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=1C8E8E79-B91A-4FA1-8C34-501F773D9294>

# BILLIARDS, SNOOKER & SQUASH

## 73rd Senior National Squash Championships

**Question:** Who among the following has won the men's title for the record 11th time in the recently held 73rd Senior National Squash Championships?

- (a) Harinder Pal Sandhu
- (b) Saurav Ghosal
- (c) Siddharth Suchde
- (d) Cyrus Poncha

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 July 2016 the 73rd Senior National Squash Championships held at the Otters Club in Bandra, Mumbai.
- Dipika Pallika of India won the women's title in the 73rd Senior National Squash Championships by defeating Joshna Chinappa.
- Saurav Ghosal won the Senior National Squash Championship in men's single categories.
- With this win, Ghosal created a history by winning the title for the 11th time.
- Ghosal has broken the previous record of R.K Narpal Singh, who won 10 from 1946 to 1955.

**Reference:**

<http://www.toumamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=1016EEF3-7D7D-4207-9ADD-AE4CCBDC112B>

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/73rd-senior-national-squash-championship-ghosal-wins-in-style/article8850475.ece>

<http://www.sportskeeda.com/squash/india-squash-nationals-saurav-ghosal-dipika-pallikal-crowned-champions>

# FORMULA ONE

## Hungarian Grand Prix

**Question:** Who among the following has won the recently held Hungarian Grand Prix?

- (a) Sebastian Vettel
- (b) Nico Rosbergss
- (c) Lewis Hamilton
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 24 July 2016; The 2016 Hungarian Grand Prix Formula One motor race held at the Hungaroring in Mogyorod, Hungary.
- It was a eleventh race of Hungarian Grand Prix Formula One series.
- British driver Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes team won the competition.



**Reference:**

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/947/hungary.html>

## British Grand Prix-2016

**Question:** Who among the following has won the title of recently held British Grand Prix-2016?

- (a) Nico Rosberg
- (b) Sebastian Vettel
- (c) Lewis Hamilton
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- From 8 to 10 July 2016 The 2016 Formula One Season ,British Grand Prix-2016 was held in Silverstone Circuit, Silverstone, United Kingdom.
- It was the 10th race of 2016 Formula One Season ,British Grand Prix.
- British driver of Mercedes team Lewis Hamilton has won the title of recently held British Grand Prix-2016.



**Reference:**

<http://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/946/great-britain.html>



## Austrian Grand Prix-2016

**Question:** Who has won the title of recently held Austrian Grand Prix -2016?

- (a) Nico Roseburg
- (b) Lewis Hamilton
- (c) Sebastian Vettel
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- The 2016 Austrian Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race that was held on 3 July 2016 at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria.
- British driver of team Mercedes, Lewis Hamilton has won the title of Austrian Grand Prix -2016



**Reference:**

<https://www.formula1.com/content/fom-website/en/championship/races/2016/Austria.html>

<http://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/945/austria.html>

## SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

### Amul signed up as official sponsor of Indian team to the Olympics

**Question:** Rio Olympics 2016 will held in which of the following country?

- (a) Japan
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Brazil
- (d) Russia

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 June 2016 India's leading food products company "Amul" has signed up as the official sponsor for the Indian contingent to the Rio Olympics 2016.
- The contract was signed by Secretary General Indian Olympic Association IOA, Rajeev Mehta and Managing Director Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul), R S Sodhi.
- Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which sells its product under the brand Amul will provide one crore to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for the sponsorship.
- Amul will launch a series of advertising campaigns for milk and various dairy products to promote Indian Olympic Association.
- The Amul's turnover during 2014-15 was of Rs 20,733 crore.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/sports/amul-signs-up-as-official-sponsor-for-indian-team-to-the-olympics/article8788068.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Amul-to-officially-sponsor-Indian-contingent-of-Rio-2016-Olympic-Games/articleshow/52972620.cms>

# PERSONALITIES

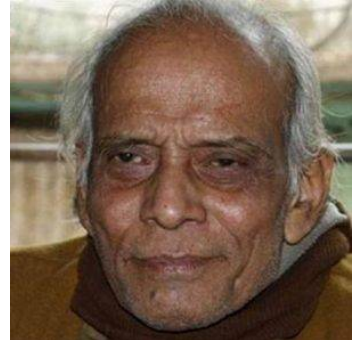
## Pandit Lachhu Maharaj

**Question:** Recently Pandit Lachhu Maharaj passed away. He was a-

- (a) Tabla maestro
- (b) Flute maestro
- (c) Sitar maestro
- (d) Shehnai maestro

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 July 2016 Tabla maestro Pandit Lacchu Maharaj passed away in Varanasi. He was 72.
- He has learned tabla playing from his father Vasudev Narayan Singh.
- Presently, he was one of the world's best tabla players.
- His real name was Lakshmi Narayan Singh.
- He was renowned internationally and his tabla performance had drawn attention of the connoisseur of performing arts from across the country and world.

**Reference:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/tabla-maestro-pandit-lacchu-maharaj-dies-in-varanasi-2940596/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Tabla-maestro-Pandit-Lacchu-Maharaj-dies-in-Varanasi/articleshow/53436522.cms>

## Mahasweta Devi

**Question:** Recently eminent writer and social activist Mahasweta Devi passed away. She won Jnanpith award in which of the following year?

- (a) 1995
- (b) 1996
- (c) 1999
- (d) 1980

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 July 2016 writer and social activist Mahasweta Devi passed away in Kolkata. She was 90.
- Mahasweta Devi was born in 1926 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- She always fought for the rights of women, Dalits and tribals through her writings.
- In 1997, she was awarded with the “Ramon Magsaysay Award”.
- In 1979 she won ‘Sahitya Academy Award’ and in 1996 she won “Jnanpith award”.
- In 1986, the Government of India awarded him with ‘Padma Shri’ and in 2006 with ‘Padam Vibhushan’.
- West Bengal Government awarded her with “Banga Bhushan” the state’s highest civilian honor, in 2011.
- In a six-decade literary career, she authored over 120 books, comprising 20 collections of short stories and around 100 novels, and contributed innumerable articles and columns to newspapers and magazines, a large number of them woven around tribal life.
- Her first book, Jhansi’s Rani (The Queen of Jhansi), came in 1956 is one her best creation other includes Aranyer Adhikar (The Occupation of the Forest, 1977), Agnigarbha (Womb of Fire, 1978).

### Reference:

<http://bdnews24.com/neighbours/2016/07/28/indian-writer-social-activist-mahasweta-devi-dies-at-90>  
<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/mahasweta-devi-writeractivist-passes-away/article8911291.ece>  
<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/mahasweta-devi-dies-at-90-bengali-writer-social-activist/1/726438.html>

## Arundhati Ghosh

**Question:** In July Arundhati Gosh passed away. She was a –

- (a) Musician
- (b) Diplomat
- (c) Painter
- (d) Politician

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 25 July 2016 former Diplomat Arundhati Ghosh passed away in New Delhi. She was 76.
- She was the Ambassador of India to the Conference on Disarmament (CD), Geneva, where India faced exceptional pressure to sign CTBT during the mid- 1990s.
- On August 8, 1996, in an assertive speech, Arundhati Ghose conveyed India's opposition to the CTBT.
- She was a member of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters from 1998 to 2001. She was a Member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) from 1998 to 2004.
- She was also a member of Task Force on non-proliferation and Disarmament set up by the Ministry of External Affairs in 2007.
- She was awarded with Friends of Liberation War Honour by the Government of Bangladesh on 27 March 2012.

**Reference:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/former-diplomat-arundhati-ghose-passes-away-2936661/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/arundhati-ghose-19402016-obituary-a-diplomat-for-war-and-peace/article8901718.ece>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arundhati\\_Ghose](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arundhati_Ghose)

## Syed Haider Raza

**Question:** Recently Syed Haider Raza passed away. He was a-

- (a) Famous writer
- (b) Famous painter
- (c) Famous architect
- (d) Well-known historian

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 July 2016 famous painter Sayed Haider Raza, passed away in New Delhi. He was 94 years old.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri and Fellowship of the Lalit Kala Akademi in 1981.
- He was also awarded with the Padma Bhushan in 2007, and Padma Vibhushan in 2013.
- He was conferred with the highest French civilian honour, the Commandeur de la Legion d'honneur (Legion of Honour) in July, 2015.

**Reference:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S. H. Raza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S._H._Raza)

<http://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/art-and-culture/syed-haider-raza-force-of-art-never-tired-of-the-bindu-2932334/>

## Dr. Budha Rashmi Mani

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the Director General, National Museum, New Delhi by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet?

- (a) Dr. Balram Ji Tandon
- (b) Dr. Buddha Rashmi Mani
- (c) Dr. A.B.P Pandey
- (d) Dr. Devmani Tripathi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 26 July 2016 the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr. Budha Rashmi Mani, Additional Director General (Retired), Archaeological Survey of India to the post of Director General, National Museum, and New Delhi.
- The appointment is on contract for a period of three years or till attaining the age of seventy (70) years or until further orders, whichever is the earliest.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147700>

## Hashim Ansari

**Question:** Recently Hashim Ansari passed away. He was associated with which of the following dispute ?

- (a) Godhra riot dispute
- (b) Babri Masjid dispute
- (c) Sohrabuddin fake encounter
- (d) Shah Bano Begum dispute

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 Hashim Ansari the oldest litigant in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri mosque dispute passed away. He was 95.
- He was associated with the Babri mosque dispute case since December 1949.
- In 1961, he along with six others became main plaintiff in the 'Ayodhya title suit' filed by the Sunni Central Waqf Board in the court of Faizabad civil judge.
- Five other plaintiffs were Mohammad Farooq, Shahabuddin, Maulana Nisaar, Mahmood Sahab and Hashim Ansari.
- He was first to file the suit in the court of civil judge of Faizabad on the matter.
- Allahabad High Court in 2010 in its majority verdict allotted one-third of the disputed site in Ayodhya to Nimohi Akahara.
- The other two-thirds portion has been given equally to be shared by the Waqf Board and the side representing Ram Lalla.
- The case is currently before the Supreme Court.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/babri-case-oldest-litigant-mohd-hashim-ansari-dies-116072000133\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/babri-case-oldest-litigant-mohd-hashim-ansari-dies-116072000133_1.html)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/oldest-babri-litigant-hashim-ansari-passes-away/article8874156.ece>



## Dr. A.B.P.Pandey

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet?

- (a) Rakesh Kumar Chaturvedi
- (b) Dr. A.B.P.Pandey
- (c) Dr. Naman Sharma
- (d) Dr. Deepak Kumar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 21 July 2016 Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr. A.B.P.Pandey, as Chief Executive Officer of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- He was Director General and Mission Director, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- It should be known that the UIDAI was established in 2009.
- At that time, former Infosys CEO Nandan Nilekani was the president.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147492>

[https://uidai.gov.in/images/ab\\_pandey\\_appointed\\_as\\_ceo\\_21072016.pdf](https://uidai.gov.in/images/ab_pandey_appointed_as_ceo_21072016.pdf)

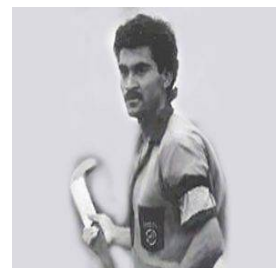
## Mohammed Shahid

**Question:** Recently hockey player Mohammad Shahid passed away. He has won the Arjuna award in which of the following year?

- (a) 1982 (b) 1983
- (c) 1981 (d) 1988

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 hockey player Mohammad Shahid passed away. He was 56.
- He was part of the Indian team that won gold medal at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.
- Later he won silver at the 1982 Asian Games and bronze at the 1986 Asian Games.
- He was awarded Arjuna Award in 1980–1981.
- He has been awarded with Padma Shri in 1986.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/hockey/hockey-legend-mohammad-shahid-passes-away/article8874890.ece>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammed\\_Shahid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohammed_Shahid)



## Mubarak Begum

**Question:** Recently Mubarak Begum passed away, She was a-

- a) Playback singer
- b) Writer
- c) Poet
- d) Environmentalist

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 18 July 2016 Famous playback singer Mubarak Begum passed away. She was 80.
- She was a popular playback singer in Bollywood films during the 1950s and 1960s.
- In 1961 she sang Kabhi Tanhaiyon Mein Hamari Yaad Aayegi, the title song of Tanuja-starrer Hamari Yaad Aayegi, remains one of Begum's most remembered tracks.
- Neend Ud Jaaye Teri, Mujh ko Apne Gale Lagalo and Humein Dum Daike with Asha Bhosle are among her other known songs.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/cinema/legendary-playback-singer-mubarak-begum-dies-at-80/article8870516.ece>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mubarak\\_Begum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mubarak_Begum)

## Guruprasad Mohapatra

**Question:** Recently who has assumed office as the chairman of Airports Authority of India (AAI)?

- (a) Vikas Jaiswal
- (b) Guruprasad Mohapatra
- (c) Deepak Mishra
- (d) Neelam Mukherjee

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 19 July 2016 Guruprasad Mohapatra took over as Chairman, Airports Authority of India.
- He is an IAS Officer of Gujarat Cadre, (1986 Batch)
- Earlier he was joint secretary in the Commerce Ministry.
- The Government of India constituted the International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) in 1972 to manage the nation's international airports.
- While the National Airports Authority (NAA) was constituted in 1986 to look after domestic airports.
- The organizations were merged in April 1995 by an Act of Parliament and was named as Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- This new organization was to be responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing civil aviation infrastructure both on the ground and air space in the country.



**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/mohapatra-takes-charge-as-aii-chairman-116071901099\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/mohapatra-takes-charge-as-aii-chairman-116071901099_1.html)

## Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education(CBSE) by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- (a) Rakesh Kumar Garg
- (b) Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi
- (c) Rakesh Mohan
- (d) Deepak Singhal

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 14 July 2016 Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education(CBSE) by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- He has been appointed for a five-year term.
- He is a 1987 batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh.
- Post of CBSE chairperson is of the Joint Secretary level.
- The post had been lying vacant from December 2014.

### Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/rajesh-kumar-chaturvedi-appointed-cbse-chairman/article8850470.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/cbse-chief-rakesh-kumar-chaturvedi-appointment/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/Rajesh-Kumar-Chaturvedi-appointed-CBSE-chairperson/articleshow/53216250.cms>

## Theresa May

**Question:** Recently Theresa May became UK's second-ever female Prime Minister. Who is the first female Prime Minister of UK?

- (a) Teresa May
- (b) Margaret Thatcher
- (c) Andrea Leadsom
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 13 July 2016 Conservative party leader Theresa May became Prime Minister of United Kingdom.
- She is second-ever female Prime Minister after Margaret Thatcher.
- She succeeds David Cameron, who had resigned in the wake of Brexit referendum.
- Margaret Thatcher was the female Prime Minister of United Kingdom, she was in office from 1979-1990.



**Reference:**

<https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2016/07/13/cameron-gets-standing-ovation-in-warm-send-off-from-parliament.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/13/europe/theresa-may-david-cameron-british-prime-minister/index.html>

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/14/world/europe/david-cameron-theresa-may-prime-minister.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/14/world/europe/david-cameron-theresa-may-prime-minister.html?_r=0)

## Sanjay Gupta

**Question:** Who has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL)?

- (a) Sanjay Gupta
- (b) Vikram Limaye
- (c) Sudarshan Sen
- (d) Sujoy Bose

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 8 July 2016 Sanjay Gupta has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL).
- He was working as Director (Operations and Commercial) of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL) from September 30, 2013 till his elevation.
- He was officiating as the CMD from November 24, 2015, after the superannuation of B.P. Tayal.
- He is from the Indian Railway Services of Mechanical Engineering (IRSME).



**Reference:**

<https://twitter.com/KonkanRailway/status/751382774922244098>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Mangalore/sanjay-gupta-is-cmd-of-konkan-railway/article8826909.ece>

## Vishal Kapoor

**Question: Which of the following mutual fund company has appointed Vishal Kapoor as its chief executive officer(CEO)?**

- (a) IDFC Asset Management Company
- (b) Sahara Star Value Fund
- (c) Escorts Tax Plan
- (d) Sundaram Rural India Fund

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 7 July 2016 IDFC Asset Management Company has appointed Vishal Kapoor as its chief executive officer.
- Mr Kapoor is a senior executive from Standard Chartered Bank.
- He will assume the charge from September, 2016.
- He has over two decades of rich experience, he worked with American Express and ITC Threadneedle AMC etc.
- IDFC Mutual Fund is ninth ranked with total assets under management now at Rs 54,142 crore..

**Reference:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/former-standard-chartered-d-executive-vishal-kapoor-to-be-the-new-ceo-of-idfc-mf/articleshow/53100302.cms>

[http://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/idfc-appoints-vishal-kapoor-as-ceo-of-amc-116070800254\\_1.html](http://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/idfc-appoints-vishal-kapoor-as-ceo-of-amc-116070800254_1.html)

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/vishal-kapoor-new-ceo-of-idfc-amc/1/709856.html>

## Linda Burney

**Question:** Recently Linda Burney become the first indigenous woman elected to lower house of the parliament of which of the following country?

- (a) England
- (b) Australia
- (c) Netherlands
- (d) New Zealand

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 July 2016 Linda Burney has made political history by becoming the first indigenous (Aboriginal) woman elected to Australia's lower house of parliament.
- She is as former deputy leader of New South Wales Labour party.
- Linda Burney has claimed victory in the southern Sydney seat of Barton.
- She is also the first female Aboriginal to enter the New South Wales state parliament in 2003.

**Reference:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/jul/02/linda-burney-first-indigenous-woman-elected-australia-lower-house>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/jul/02/linda-burney-first-indigenous-woman-elected-australia-lower-house>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-02/election-2016-linda-burney-declares-victory-seat-of-barton/7563952>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/aboriginal-woman-linda-burney-makes-australian-political-history/article8803820.ece>

## Michael Cimino

**Question:** Recently Michael Cimino passed away, He was a-

- (a) Scientist
- (b) Film Director
- (c) Cartoonist
- (d) Blogger

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 July 2016 the famous American film director Michael Cimino passed away in Los Angeles. He was 77.
- Cimino co-wrote, directed, and produced the 1978 Academy Award(Oscars Award) winning film “The Deer Hunter”.
- The film was about a trio of Russian American steelworkers and their service in the Vietnam War.
- The film won the Oscar in 5 categories.
- Other directed films are Heaven’s Gate (1980), Year of the Dragon(1985), The Sicilian (1987), Desperate Hours (1990), The Sunchaser (1996) and To Each His Own Cinema (2007).
- In 2001, Cimino published his first novel, Big Jane.

**Reference:**

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/michael-cimino-dead-deer-hunter-908188>

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0001047/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael\\_Cimino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Cimino)

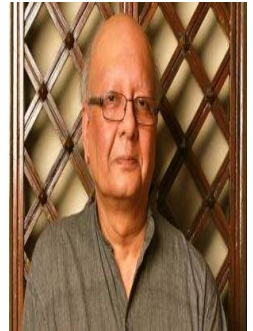
## Amit Dasgupta

**Question: Recently who has been appointed by University of New South Wales(UNSW) of Australia as its India Country Director?**

- (a) Akhilesh Dasgupta
- (b) Amit Dasgupta
- (c) Deepak Gupta
- (d) Narendra Chatterjee

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 4 July 2016 University of New South Wales(UNSW) of Australia has appointed distinguished former Indian diplomat, author and educator Amit Dasgupta as its inaugural India Country Director.
- Dasgupta served in a range of overseas postings including as India's Consul General in Sydney (2009-12).
- He also served as the Ambassador to the Philippines as well as other stints serving in Germany, Belgium, Egypt and Nepal.
- He also served as the Ministry of External Affairs' Director of Finance and was the first head of the Ministry's Public Diplomacy Division.
- He is the author of famous book named "Lessons from Ruslana In search of Transformative Thinking".

**Reference:**

<http://newsroom.unsw.edu.au/news/general/unsw-appoints-former-diplomat-champion-ties-india>



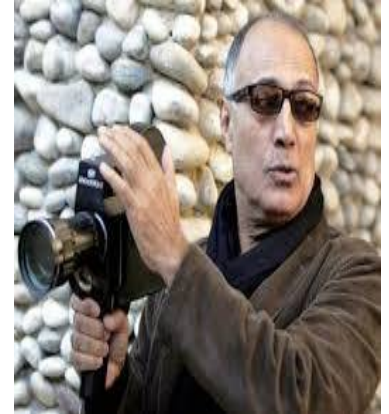
## Abbas Kiarostami

**Question:** Recently famous film director Abbas Kiarostami passed away, He belongs to which of the following country?

- (a) Israel
- (b) Iran
- (c) United states of America
- (d) Russia

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 famous film director Abbas Kiarostami of Iran passed away in Paris. He was 76-year-old.
- He has directed various films for 40 years.
- His film Taste of Cherry (1997) was awarded the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival in 1997.
- His other acclaimed films are Where Is My Friend's Home(1987) Close-Up (1990), The Wind Will Carry Us(1999).

**Reference:**

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2016/07/abbas-kiarostami-close-long-shot-cut-160705055110689.html>

[http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0452102/bio?ref\\_=nm\\_ov\\_bio\\_sm](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0452102/bio?ref_=nm_ov_bio_sm)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Where\\_Is\\_the\\_Friend%27s\\_Home%3F](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Where_Is_the_Friend%27s_Home%3F)

## Om Prakash Sonik

**Question:** Recently Om Prakash Sonik who was also known as Omi passed away. He was related to which of the following field?

- (a) Music
- (b) Dance
- (c) Journalism
- (d) Education

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 7 July 2016 Bollywood noted music director Om Prakash Sonik, also known as Omi, part of the Sonik-Omi duo, died in Mumbai. He was 77.
- He was born in Sialkot (now in Pakistan) and his family had moved to India after Partition in 1947.
- Sonik–Omi are an Indian composer duo consisting of Master Sonik and his nephew Omiji (Om Prakash Sonik).
- They provided music to nearly 125 Bollywood movies in the 1950-1980s.
- The duo are known for their work on Hindi film soundtracks.
- Some of their best-known works are Bhakti Mein Shakti, Dharma, Dil Ne PhirYaadKiya (1966), SawanBhadon, Aabroo, and Raftaar.

**Reference:**

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/music/music-composer-omi-of-sonik-omi-duo-passes-away/story-qSEQKOOdTDNrUpDV20bCrJ.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/music/yesteryear-music-director-omi-no-more-2900942/>

## Radhika Menon

**Question: Recently Radhika Menon has become the first woman in the world to receive the Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea for 2016, from the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). She is working in-**

- (a) Indian Navy    (b) Indian Merchant Navy  
(c) Indian Army    (d) Indian Airforce

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- Captain Radhika Menon the first woman captain in the Indian Merchant Navy become the first woman to receive the IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea-2016, from the International Maritime Organisation (IMO).
- Menon was at the helm of oil tanker 'SampurnaSwarajya' of Shipping Corporation of India.
- The Awards ceremony is expected to take place at IMO Headquarters, on 21 November 2016, at the end of the first day of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC).
- She has been awarded for her role in the dramatic rescue of seven fishermen from a sinking fishing boat in tumultuous seas in the Bay of Bengal in June 2015.
- The IMO Council, meeting for its 116th session in London, endorsed the decision of a Panel of Judges that Captain Menon displayed great determination and courage in leading the difficult rescue operation in the Bay of Bengal.
- This annual Award was established by IMO to provide international recognition for those who, at the risk of losing their own life, perform acts of exceptional bravery, displaying outstanding courage in attempting to save life at sea or in attempting to prevent or mitigate damage to the marine environment.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146939>

<http://ddinews.gov.in/Current%20Affairs/Pages/Radhikafirst.aspx>

## Rodrigo Duterte

**Question:** Recently Rodrigo Duterte sworn in as president of which of the following country?

- (a) Myanmar
- (b) Philippines
- (c) Thailand
- (d) Cambodia

**Ans. (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 30 June 2016 Rodrigo Duterte sworn in as 16th president of Philippines.
- In May, 2016 he received historic victory in the presidential election.
- His term in office will be for 6 years
- Earlier, he served as the mayor of the city, Davao for seven terms totalling to almost 22 years.



**Reference:**

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/05/rodrigo-duterte-philippines-presidency-160527125454511.html>

<http://rodrigo-duterte.com/index.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodrigo\\_Duterte](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodrigo_Duterte)

## Elie Wiesel

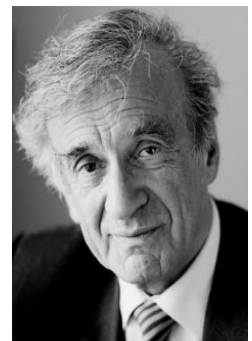
**Question:** Recently Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor passed away. He won the nobel prize in which of the following year?

- (a) 1985
- (b) 1987
- (c) 1995
- (d) 1986

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On 2 July 2016 Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel passed away. He was 87 years old.
- He was a Romanian-born American Jewish writer, professor, political activist.
- He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986.
- He was the author of 57 books, written mostly in French and English, including "Night", his most famous book.
- In this book he wrote his experiences as a prisoner in the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps.



**Reference:**

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/07/02/statement-president-death-elie-wiesel>

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gene-klein/a-holocaust-survivors-tri\\_b\\_10825664.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gene-klein/a-holocaust-survivors-tri_b_10825664.html)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/02/world/elie-wiesel-dies/>

## Ramchandra Chintaman Dhere

**Question:** Recently Ramchandra Chintaman Dhere passed away, he was a-

- (a) Famous Kannada writer
- (b) Famous Marathi writer
- (c) Famous Telugu writer
- (d) Famous Malayalam writer

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 July 2016 famous Marathi writer Ramchandra Chintaman Dhere passed away. He was 86 years old.
- He is known for his ground-breaking work on Maharashtra's religious traditions.
- He wrote more than 100 books.
- He was honoured with the prestigious Sahitya Akademi award in 1987 for his book Shri Vitthal: EkMahasamanvay.
- His other writings include 'Muslim Marathi Santkavi', 'Nath Sampradayacha Itihas' and 'Sri Venkateswara'.
- He was the first person to receive the D.Lit. from the University of Pune.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/chronicler-of-religious-tradition-rc-dhere-passes-away/article8800324.ece>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramchandra\\_Chintaman\\_Dhere](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramchandra_Chintaman_Dhere)

## Alvin Toffler

**Question:** Recently Alvin Toffler passed away. He was a-

- (a) Author
- (b) Scientist
- (c) Artist
- (d) Architect

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 27 June 2016; Alvin Toffler, famous American author and one of the most respected futurists of the modern era died at age 87.
- His best-selling book is "Future Shock" of which more than 6 million copies were sold worldwide.
- He is known for his works discussing modern technologies, including the digital revolution and the communication revolution, with emphasis on their effects on cultures worldwide.
- His other famous books are "The Third Wave" and "Powershift".



**Reference:**

[http://tofflerassociates.com/world-renowned-business-futurist-author-and-lecturer-alvin-toffler-dies-at-87/?utm\\_content=35299599&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter](http://tofflerassociates.com/world-renowned-business-futurist-author-and-lecturer-alvin-toffler-dies-at-87/?utm_content=35299599&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter)

<http://www.usatoday.com/life/books/>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/alvin-toffler-author-of-best-selling-future-shock-and-the-third-wave-dies-at-87/2016/06/29/0d63748c-3e09-11e6-80bc-d06711fd2125\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/alvin-toffler-author-of-best-selling-future-shock-and-the-third-wave-dies-at-87/2016/06/29/0d63748c-3e09-11e6-80bc-d06711fd2125_story.html)

## Nand Kishore

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)?

- (a) Balbinder Singh
- (b) Nand Kishore
- (c) Deepak Kumar
- (d) Chandra Prakash

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 June 2016 the Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved the appointment of Senior bureaucrat Nand Kishore as Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG).
- He is a 1981 batch officer of Indian Audit and Account Service.
- The post is of Secretary level in the Government of India.
- His appointment will be in effect from September 1, 2016.
- He will replace Balvinder Singh who retires on 31 August 2016.



**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/nand-kishore-appointed-dy-cag-116062900565\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/nand-kishore-appointed-dy-cag-116062900565_1.html)

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7603073\\_Nand-Kishore-appointed-Dy-CAG.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7603073_Nand-Kishore-appointed-Dy-CAG.html)

<http://www.indianbureaucracy.com/nand-kishore-appointed-as-deputy-comptroller-auditor-general/>

## Sanjay Malik

**Question:** Recently who has been appointment as the head of Indian market by Nokia?

- (a) Sanjay Malik
- (b) Sandeep Girotra
- (c) Supriya Sahu
- (d) Sujoy Bose

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 24 June 2016, Nokia has appointed Sanjay Malik as the head of Indian market.
- He will replace Sandeep Girotra from 1 August 2016.
- Nokia is a Finnish multinational communications and information technology company, founded in 1865. In India Nokia is known as mobile manufacturer. However, in September 2013, its mobile division was acquired by Microsoft.



**Reference:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/hardware/nokia-appoints-sanjay-malik-india-head/articleshow/52900986.cms>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/tech-news/Nokia-appoints-Sanjay-Malik-India-head/articleshow/52903461.cms>



## New Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the new Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet?

- (a) S. S Khan
- (b) N.S Vishwanathan
- (c) H.R Khan
- (d) Arundhati Bhattacharya

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 June 2016 Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed N.S. Vishwanathan as the new Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.
- He is currently working as the executive director of the Reserve Bank of India.
- He will succeed H.R. Khan who is due to retire on July 4 2016.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/vishwanathan-is-rbi-deputy-governor/article8784560.ece>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/ns-vishwanathan-appointed-rbi-deputy-governor/articleshow/52957850.cms>

## Sujoy Bose

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Ltd?

- (a) Arvind Kumar
- (b) Sujoy Bose
- (c) Vandana Mittal
- (d) Deepak Kumar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 27 June 2016 Sujoy Bose has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Ltd.
- Presently he is serving as the Director and Global Co-Head, Infrastructure and Natural Resources, International Finance Corporation (IFC), Washington DC.
- The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Limited has been incorporated as a company under the Companies Act, 2013.
- It was authorized to act as investment manager of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146560>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/sujoy-bose-from-ifc-to-head-niif/article8780349.ece>



## Gudni Johannesson

**Question:** Who among the following has been elected as the president of Iceland?

- (a) Gudni Johannesson
- (b) Olafur Grímsson
- (c) Eliza Redo
- (d) Daniel Miller

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 25 June 2016 Gudni Johannesson has been elected as the president of Iceland.
- Johannesson will be sworn in as the 6th President of the Republic of Iceland on 1 August 2016.
- He will replace President Olafur Ragnar Grímsson who is now stepping down after having served five consecutive terms.
- He received 39.1 percent of the vote in election followed by Halla Tomasdottir receiving 27.9 percent of the vote.
- Gudni was an associate professor at the University of Iceland.
- In his election campaign he always advocated for a constitutional provision which provide the right to initiate a referendum to the citizens.

**Reference:**

<http://gudnith.is/en/biography/>

<http://icelandreview.com/news/2016/06/27/gudni-th-johannesson-elected-president-iceland>

[http://icelandmonitor.mbl.is/news/politics\\_and\\_society/2016/06/26/breakin](http://icelandmonitor.mbl.is/news/politics_and_society/2016/06/26/breakin)

# PLACES

## Bhatinda

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the establishment of a new AIIMS at which of the following place?

- (a) Amritsar
- (b) Pathankot
- (c) Bhatinda
- (d) Patiala

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 27 July 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the establishment of a new AIIMS at Bhatinda in Punjab.
- The decision has been taken under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).
- The cost of the project for establishment of the new AIIMS in Bhatinda shall be Rs. 925 crore.
- The institution shall have a hospital with capacity of 750 beds which will include Emergency/Trauma Beds, AYUSH Beds, Private Beds and ICU Speciality & Super Speciality beds.
- In addition, there will be an Administration Block, AYUSH Block, Auditorium, Night Shelter, Hostels and residential facilities.
- The Central Sector Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) was first announced in August 2003.
- Under this scheme AIIMS have been established in Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Raipur, Rishikesh, Bhopal and Patna while work of AIIMS Rae Bareilly is in progress.
- Also, three AIIMS in Nagpur (Maharashtra), Kalyani (West Bengal) and Mangalagiri in Guntur (A.P) have been sanctioned in 2015.
- It may be recalled that on 22 July 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- On 7 October 2015 the Cabinet had approved proposals for setting up three new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147846>

## Greater Noida

**Question: Recently Pullela Gopichand has set up a world class Badminton Academy at-**

- (a) Greater Noida
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Mathura
- (d) Kanpur

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 Gopichand, Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) and Sportzlive came together sign the agreement for the academy.
- Under this agreement Chief National coach Pullela Gopichand will set up a world class Badminton Academy at Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex in Greater Noida.
- This will be the first such academy by Gopichand in North India. He already has academies at the Gwalior, Vadodara and Hyderabad.
- Greater Noida Academy will begin its operation from October 2016.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/gopichand-to-set-up-a-badminton-academy-in-greater-noida-116072000650\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/gopichand-to-set-up-a-badminton-academy-in-greater-noida-116072000650_1.html)

## Petrapole Integrated Check Post

**Question:** When did the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the Petrapole Integrated Check Post?

- (a) 11 July 2016
- (b) 21 July 2016
- (c) 18 July 2016
- (d) 20 July 2016

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 21 July 2016 the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the Petrapole Integrated Check Post (ICP) through video-conferencing.
- Petrapole-Benapole is an important land border crossing for India-Bangladesh trade.
- More than 50 per cent of the India-Bangladesh trade passes through Petrapole. Trade worth more than Rs. 15000 Crore takes place through the Petrapole ICP.
- Which is more than all the other Indian Land Ports and Land Customs Stations put together.
- Approximately 15 lakh people and 150,000 trucks cross Petrapole-Benapole every year.
- Petrapole ICP will be the second ICP on the India-Bangladesh border after the Agartala ICP at the Agartala (India)-Akhaura (Bangladesh) land border.
- It will also be the biggest land port in South Asia.
- The commissioning of the Petrapole ICP will also serve to foster greater economic integration and connectivity between India and Bangladesh.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147452>

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/joint-dedication-of-the-petrapole-integrated-check-post-icp/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/joint-dedication-of-the-petrapole-integrated-check-post-icp/)

<http://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-at-inauguration-of-india-bangladesh-integrated-check-post-500461>

## Maoist attack in Bihar

**Question:** On 18 July 2016 ten CRPF commandos belonging to its Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) battalion were killed in an improvised explosive device blast by Naxalites in which of the following districts?

- (a) Gaya
- (b) Aurangabad
- (c) Siwan
- (d) Palamu

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 18 July 2016 ten CRPF commandos belonging to its Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) battalion were killed in an improvised explosive device blast by Naxalites in the forests of Bihar's Aurangabad district.
- Four Naxals were also killed in the encounter that lasted for nearly eight hours.
- The jawans belonged to the 205th COBRA battalion and were deployed in the state for conducting anti-naxal operations.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/crpf-commandos-killed-in-ied-blast-in-bihar/article8867245.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/10-CRPF-commandos-killed-in-IED-blast-set-off-by-Naxals-in-Bihar/articleshow/53276019.cms>

## Gorakhpur

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval for establishment of new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at-

- (a) Raebareli
- (b) Gorakhpur
- (c) Allahabad
- (d) Varanasi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the Union Cabinet has given its approval for establishment of new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh.
- It will be established under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).
- The cost of the project for establishment of the new AIIMS in Gorakhpur shall be Rs. 1011 crore.
- The institution shall have a hospital with capacity of 750 beds which will include Emergency/Trauma Beds, AYUSH Beds, Private Beds and ICU Speciality & Super Speciality beds.
- In addition, there will be an Administration Block, AYUSH Block, Auditorium, Night Shelter, Hostels and residential facilities.
- Under this scheme, AIIMS have been established in Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Raipur, Jodhpur, Rishikesh and Patna while work of AIIMS Rae Bareli is in progress.
- Also, three AIIMS in Nagpur (Maharashtra), Kalyani (West) and Mangalagiri in Guntur (A.P) have been sanctioned in 2015.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147406>

## India sets up apparel training centre in Nigeria

**Question:** Recently India has set up an Apparel Training Centre in Kaduna. Kaduna is located in which of the following African country?

- (a) Mozambique
- (b) Nigeria
- (c) Algeria
- (d) None of the Above

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- An Apparel Training Centre has been established in Kaduna, Nigeria.
- It has been established under the Cotton Technical Assistance Programme (Cotton TAP) for Africa which is being implemented by Department of Commerce, Government of India under 2nd India Africa Forum Summit.
- This is a first of its kind centre in Nigeria set up in partnership with Government of Nigeria.
- The Centre was inaugurated on 22nd June, 2016.
- It aimed to support and catalyse the initiative of the Government of Nigeria in realizing the objectives to rebuild the cotton & textile value chain.
- The centre will help in addressing the need for skilled workforce for domestic as well export-oriented apparel industry in the west African region.
- Nigeria is an important trading partner of India. The bilateral trade between the two countries stood at 12.17 billion dollars last year as against 16.36 billion dollars in the previous fiscal.
- Nigeria is Africa's biggest oil producer, and its major export to India is crude.
- There are over 100 Indian companies present in Nigeria mainly in telecom, hydrocarbons, textiles, chemicals, electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals, plastics, IT and auto sectors.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146901>

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/29569>



## Terrorist attacks in Iraq and Saudi Arabia

**Question:** Name the city in Saudi Arabia in which the US consulate was attacked by terrorist on 3 July 2016?

- (a) Riyadh
- (b) Medina
- (c) Jeddah
- (d) None of the above

**Ans. (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 3 July 2016 a suicide bomb attack carried out by ISIS killed at least 292 people in central Baghdad, the capital city of Iraq.
- According to the health ministry of the country 200 people were injured in the attack.
- The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as ISIS) claimed responsibility for the attack.
- On 3 July the US consulate in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia was attacked by suicide bombing.
- Two policemen were injured in the attack.
- On 4 July 2016 suicide bomb attack in Medina, Saudi Arabia killed four people.



**Reference:**

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/07/iraq-bombing-baghdad-death-toll-rises-250-160706045245744.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/04/middleeast/saudi-arabia-jeddah-bomb/index.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/04/middleeast/saudi-arabia-jeddah-bomb/index.html>

## First Port in Country to Implement Logistics Data Tagging of Containers

**Question:** Name the port which became the first port in the country to implement logistics data tagging of containers?

- (a) Kochi port
- (b) Paradip port
- (c) Jawaharlal Nehru Port
- (d) Kandla port

**Ans:(c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 July, 2016, Jawaharlal Nehru Port becomes the first port in the country to implement logistics data tagging of containers.
- The facility will help importers/exporters track their goods in transit through logistics data bank service.
- An RFID (Radio Frequency Identification Tag) tag would be attached to each container which would be tracked through RFID readers installed at different locations.
- This would provide the 'Visibility' and 'Transparency' of the EXIM Container Movement.
- This will help in covering the entire movement through rail or road.
- The movement will be covered till the ICDs (Inland Container Depot) and CFSs (Container Freight Station).



**Reference:**

<http://www.jnport.gov.in/Writereaddata/data/News/PressReleaseofJNPImplementinglogisticsdatabanktaggingofcontainers.pdf>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146759>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-/transport/jnpt-becomes-first-port-in-logistics-data-tagging-of-containers/articleshow/53047393.cms>



## Rajesh Agrawal

**Question:** Recently Indian origin Rajesh Agrawal has been appointed as deputy mayor for business of which of the following city?

- (a) Colombia
- (b) London
- (c) Canberra
- (d) New York

**Ans. (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 June 2016 Indian origin Rajesh Agrawal has been appointed as deputy mayor for business of the London.
- He has been appointed by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan.
- Rajesh Agarwal was the business adviser of Sadiq Khan during the Mayor Election campaign.
- Sadiq Khan has tasked Rajesh Agrawal with championing London's interests following the United Kingdom referendum on leaving the European Union, and protecting jobs and growth while the negotiation process takes place.
- Rajesh Agrawal, a fintech entrepreneur and innovator, is the founder and CEO of Xendpay, an international money transfer service and RationalFX, an online foreign exchange service – both of which have grown into globally successful businesses.



**Reference:**

<https://www.london.gov.uk/press-releases/mayoral/deputy-mayor-for-business-appointed>

## Terror attack in Pampore

**Question:** Recently Pampore was attacked by terrorist. Pampore is located in which of the following state?

- (a) Nagaland
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) None of the Above

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 25 June 2016 CRPF bus carrying CRPF personnel came under terrorist attack in Pampore district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- In this attack eight CRPF personnel were killed and 21 others critically wounded.
- It was carried out by fidayeen squad of the terrorist.
- Lashkar-e-Taiba has claimed responsibility for the attack.
- On the same day in another encounter two terrorists were killed by security forces in Baramulla.



**Reference:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Pampore-terror-attack-Lashkar-terrorists-ambush-CRPF-bus-kill-8-personnel/articleshow/52918975.cms>

[http://zeenews.india.com/news/jammu-and-kashmir/terrorists-attack-crpf-convoy-in-kashmir-two-gunned-down\\_1900134.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/jammu-and-kashmir/terrorists-attack-crpf-convoy-in-kashmir-two-gunned-down_1900134.html)

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/pampore-attack-dg-crpf-contradicts-manohar-parrikars-sop-remark/1/702115.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/pampore-encounter-ends-bodies-of-two-let-terrorists-recovered-in-edi-building/>

## Darjeeling zoo

**Question:** Name the snow leopard which is bought to Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP) in West Bengal's Darjeeling?

- (a) Makalu
- (b) Kashi
- (c) Bithna
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- According to the press release published in news paper on 23 June 2016 Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP) in West Bengal's Darjeeling will receive a two-year-old male snow leopard named "Makalu".
- The leopard will be brought to Darjeeling zoo for a global conservation breeding programme.
- Under this programme there are nine lion eight of which are females and only one is male.
- The two-year-old male snow leopard was brought from Dudley Zoological Gardens (DZG) in Britain.
- The snow leopard is named after the world's fifth highest peak at 27,765 feet on the south-east side of the Everest.
- The conservation and breeding programme of snow leopards at the PNHZP started in 1983.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thestatesman.com/news/northeast/darjeeling-zoo-to-welcome-snow-leopard-from-britain/150073.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/darjeeling-zoo-to-receivesnow-leopard-from-london/article8765413.ece>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/darjeeling-zoo-to-welcome-snow-leopard-from-britain-116062300751\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/darjeeling-zoo-to-welcome-snow-leopard-from-britain-116062300751_1.html)

## Colombia

**Question:** The government of which of the following country have agreed to a bilateral and “definitive” ceasefire with country’s rebel group called as Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC)?

- (a) Colombia
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Argentina
- (d) Brazil

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 June 2016 the Colombian government and country’s rebel group Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) have signed ceasefire agreement to end of one of the world's oldest wars which led to a more than 50 years of bloodshed.
- Colombian president Juan Manuel Santos and Farc commander Timoleon Jimenez signed the agreement in Cuba.
- Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) will disarm within six months under the supervision of United Nations.
- It is the longest running civil war in Latin American countries.
- About 7000 FARC Soldier will be demobilize, who have bases in the mountains and forests.

**Reference:**

<http://www.economist.com/news/americas/21701178-government-declares-end-its-war-against-farc-peace-last-colombia>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jun/23/colombia-farc-rebel-ceasefire-agreement-havana>

<http://colombiapeace.org/>

# AWARDS & HONORS

## Ramon Magsaysay Award 2016

**Question: Name the two Indians who were named for the prestigious Magsaysay Award for the year 2016?**

- (a) Rajendra Singh and Ashok Choubey
- (b) Anshu Gupta and Sanjeev Chaturvedi
- (c) TM Krishna and Bezwada Wilson
- (d) Sunita Narain and Poonam Mahajan

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 27 July 2016 the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Awards for the year 2016 were announced. There are total six awardees selected for the 2016 Ramon Magsaysay Award, often regarded as Asia's Nobel Prize. Among these six two are Indians.
  1. Bezwada Wilson(India)
  2. Conchita Carpio Morales (Philippines)
  3. Dompot Dhuafa (Indonesia)
  4. Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers(Japan)
  5. Thodur Madabusi Krishna(India)
  6. Vientiane Rescue (Laos)
- Bezwada Wilson has been recognised by the board of trustees for 'asserting the inalienable right to a life of human dignity.'
- Wilson, the founder of Safai Karmachari Andolan, an organisation that is working towards eradicating the practice of manual scavenging from Indian villages, won the award for "asserting the inalienable right to a life of human dignity".
- T. M Krishna performing ever since he was six. Born in a family of musically influenced people, the carnatic musical vocalist won the award for "social inclusiveness in culture".
- It should be known that the award was given in six different categories till the year 2008 but subsequently category was abolished.
- The Award was established in 1957 and is widely regarded as Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize. It was established in 1957 in the memory of Philippines' 3rd President Ramon Magsaysay by Ramon Magsaysay foundation.
- The prize will be given at the presentation Ceremony scheduled to be held in Manila on 31 August 2016.

**Reference:**

<http://sandbox.mossesgeld.com/maf/awardees/year/2016/>

<http://sandbox.mossesgeld.com/maf/awardees/year/2016/>

## Mr. World

**Question:** Recently who among the following has won the title of Mr. World?

- (a) Rohit Batra
- (b) Rohit Khandelwal
- (c) Deepak Kumar
- (d) Rohit Kumar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 19 July 2016 Rohit Khandelwal, model and actor won the title of Mr. World 2016 at the grand finale of the competition held at the Southport Theatre & Convention Centre in Southport in U.K.
- He became the first Asian and Indian to win the title of Mr. World.
- He has won title of Mr. India in 2015.
- With this title, he has also rewarded with \$50 thousand.



**Reference:**

<http://www.mrworld.tv/shownews/India-Wins-Mr-World-2016/289.html#.V5DNZfI97IV>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/actor-from-hyderabad-crowned-mr-world/article8877481.ece>

## OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

### Operation ‘SankatMochan’

**Question:** Recently Operation ‘Sankatmochan’ was launched to evacuate stranded Indians from which of the following country?

- (a) Iraq
- (b) Somalia
- (c) South Sudan
- (d) Yemen

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 13 July 2016 Operation ‘Sankatmochan’ was launched to evacuate stranded Indians from war torn South Sudan.
- Minister of State for External Affairs VKSingh has lead the overall operation.
- He left for South Sudan with two C-17 Globemaster Indian Air Force aircrafts to evacuate more than 300 Indians stuck in the war-torn African country.
- Operation SankatMochan is the first big evacuation effort in a year after Operation Rahat evacuated 4000 citizens of India and other countries in July 2015 from Yemen.



**Reference:**

[https://twitter.com/MEAIndia/status/753388099791622145?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw](https://twitter.com/MEAIndia/status/753388099791622145?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

<http://ddinews.gov.in/Home%20-%20Top%20Story/Pages/OpsSankatMochanlaunched.aspx>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/operation-sankat-mochan-rescue-team-lands-in-juba-swaraj-calls-on-indians-to-move-out-immediately-2913546/>

## Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan Launched

**Question: Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan was launched on-**

- (a) 9 July 2016
- (b) 20 May 2016
- (c) 1 January 2016
- (d) 15 April 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 9 July 2016 Meghalaya Governor V. Shanmuganathan inaugurated the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan(PMSMA) in the East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya.
- The PMSMA Scheme is a new initiative of the central government aimed at boosting the health care facilities for pregnant women especially the poor.
- The scheme provides that pregnant women would be given health check-up and required treatment for free on the 9th of every month in all government hospitals and health centres across India.
- The inaugural programme was followed by a daylong Free Medical Camp for Pre-Natal and Post-Natal care which was availed by hundreds of women and children.

**Reference:**

[http://meghalaya.gov.in/megcms/sites/default/files/press\\_release/9.7.16%20355.pdf](http://meghalaya.gov.in/megcms/sites/default/files/press_release/9.7.16%20355.pdf)

<http://wrrta.com/pradhan-mantri-surakshit-matritva-abhiyan-launched/>

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=jul1116/oth054>



## Exercise Jalrahat

**Question:** Recently where did the Exercise JALRAHAT started?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) West Bengal

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 28 June 2016 Exercise JALRAHAT commenced at Narangi Cantt, Guwahati, Assam.
- The three day Exercise JALRAHAT is a joint initiative taken by the Assam State Govt and the Armed Forces.
- It is being led by GAJRAJ Corps with full support from HQ Eastern Command.
- In addition to Exercise Jalrahat based on Flood Relief in an urban setting, Indian Navy will be carrying out Exercise Prakampana based on relief and assistance in case of a super cyclone at Vizag, Andhra Pradesh in August 2016.
- Indian Air Force will be undertaking Exercise Sahayta based on relief and assistance in case of a major earthquake at Bhuj, Gujarat.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146582>

<http://idrw.org/army-use-uavs-flood-relief-assam/>

[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160624/jsp/northeast/story\\_93010.jsp#.V3bvKvI97IV](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160624/jsp/northeast/story_93010.jsp#.V3bvKvI97IV)

## COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

### Expert Committee for exploring other possible alternatives to Pellet Guns as Non-lethal Weapons constituted

**Question:** Recently Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the constitution of a seven-member Expert Committee under the chairmanship of-

- (a) Atul Karwal
- (b) T V S N Prasad
- (c) Naresh Bhatnagar
- (d) Tushar Tripathi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 26 July 2016 the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the constitution of a seven-member Expert Committee under the chairmanship of T V S N Prasad, Joint Secretary, and Ministry of Home Affairs for exploring the other possible alternatives to Pellet Guns as Non-lethal Weapons.
- Other six members of the Expert Committee include:
  1. Atul Karwal, IG, CRPF, Srinagar,
  2. Rajeev Krishna, IG (Ops.), BSF,
  3. Rajesh Kumar, IPS, J&K Police,
  4. Tushar Tripathi, IOFS, DDG, Small Arms, OFB,
  5. Dr. Manjit Singh, Director, TBRL, Chandigarh
  6. Dr. Naresh Bhatnagar, Professor, IIT, Delhi
- The Committee will submit its report within two months.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147779>



## Committee Constituted to Prepare Guidelines for Desiltation of River Ganga

**Question:** Recently Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a committee to prepare guidelines for desiltation of river Ganga. Who has been appointed as Chairman of the committee?

- (a) Dr. Mukesh Sinha
- (b) Madhav Chitale
- (c) Justice Giridhar Malviya
- (d) Pro. Nayan Sharma

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 22 July 2016 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a committee to prepare guidelines for desiltation of river Ganga from Bhimgauda (Uttarakhand) to Farakka (West Bengal).
- Madhav Chitale (Expert Member, NGRBA) has been appointed as Chairman of the committee.
- The other members of the committee are: Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and Dr. Mukesh Sinha, Director, Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune.
- The committee has also been asked to establish difference between desilting and sand mining and also to establish need for desilting for ecology and e-flow of the river Ganga.
- The tenure of the committee would be for a period of three months.
- It may be recalled that Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti while chairing the 6th meeting of the National Ganga River Basin Authority in New Delhi on 4th July, 2016 had said that a committee will be setup soon for desiltation of river Ganga.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147514>

## Committee Constituted to Prepare Draft Ganga Act

**Question:** Recently Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a committee to prepare draft Ganga Act. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the committee?

- (a) Justice Sanjay Mishra
- (b) Justice Deepak Mishra
- (c) Justice Girdhar Malviya
- (d) Justice Sudhir Agarwal

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 22 July 2016 the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a committee to prepare draft Ganga Act.
- Justice Shri Girdhar Malviya (Retd.) has been appointed as the Chairman of the committee.
- Other members of the committee are: Shri V.K.Bhasin, Ex-Secretary, Legislative Department, Govt of India, Prof. A.K. Gosain, IIT Delhi and Prof. Nayan Sharma, IIT Roorkee. Shri Sundeep, Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga is the Member Secretary.
- The Committee has been asked to prepare a Draft Act on Ganga ensuring wholesomeness of the River.
- The Act should have provisions to ensure cleanliness (Nirmalta) and uninterrupted e-flow (avirlta) of Ganga.
- The Committee may take into consideration any other issue which it may deem fit in the drafting of the Act.
- The tenure of the Committee would be for a period of three months which may be extended by another three months, if required.
- 79 year old Justice Malviya who is Chairman of Ganga Mahasabha is associated with Ganga conservation movement.
- The Mahasabha was founded by his grandfather and founder of BHU Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147512>

## Committee to examine the desirability and feasibility of having ‘a new financial year’

**Question:** Who is the head of the committee constituted by government to examine the desirability and feasibility of having ‘a new financial year’?

- (a) K. M Chandrasekhar
- (b) P. V Rajaraman
- (c) Dr. Shankar Acharya
- (d) Dr. Rajiv Kumar

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 6 July 2016 the Government of India constituted a Committee to examine the desirability and feasibility of having ‘a new financial year’.
- The Committee is headed by Dr. Shankar Acharya (former Chief Economic Adviser) has K.M. Chandrasekhar (former Cabinet Secretary), P.V.Rajaraman (former Finance Secretary, Tamil Nadu) and Rajiv Kumar (Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research) as other Members.
- The Committee will examine the merits and demerits of various dates for the commencement of the financial year including the existing date (April to March), taking into account the various relevant factors.
- The Committee has been given time till 31st December, 2016 to submit its Report.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146883>

# PLANNING & PROJECT

## SVEEP portal and NERP handbook

**Question:** Which of the following institution of India has launched the SVEEP Portal in Hindi?

- (a) Election Commission Of India
- (b) Finance Commission of India
- (c) NITI Ayog
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 18 July 2016 Dr. Nasim Zaidi, Chief Election Commissioner of India and A. K. Joti and O.P. Rawat, Election Commissioners of India launched the SVEEP Portal in Hindi along with the release of Matdaata Mahotsav document and film during the Conference of Chief Electoral Officers of States.
- A handbook on NERP (National Electoral Rolls Purification) was also released during the conference. SVEEP Portal is a web based application, accessible to the Chief Electoral Officers and all other stakeholders.
- It serves as a window for easy accessibility of various initiatives of the Commission like NVSP, Online Voter Competition, and information on events, best practices, creative content and other resource material.
- The conversion/ translation of all the available text/ WebPages/ documents/resources on the Portal in Hindi language shall serve a long way in making the requisite information available to a majority of Hindi Literate population.
- Additionally, efforts have also been made to make the website disable friendly.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147213>

## First Green Train Corridor

**Question: Recently Railway Minister Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu has inaugurated First Green Train Corridor at which of the following rail route of Tamil Nadu?**

- (a) Rameswaram-Manamadurai
- (b) Rameswaram-Trichy
- (c) Rameswaram- Coimbatore
- (d) Rameswaram-Salem

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 24 July 2016 Railway Minister Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu has inaugurated First Green Train Corridor namely “Rameswaram-Manamadurai” free from human waste discharge.
- In order to contribute to mission ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ launched by Prime Minister of India, Ministry of Railways have taken up a mammoth task of providing human discharge free bio-toilets in all its coaches and the same would be completed by September 2019.
- With provision of bio-toilets in all its coaches’ discharge of human waste from trains on to the ground would be completely stopped which in turn would help in improving cleanliness and hygiene.
- Ministry of Railways has already provided 40,750 bio-toilets in its coaches till 30th June, 2016 and in the current financial year, it is planned to fit additional 30,000 bio-toilets.
- The Rameswaram-Manamadurai (114 Kms) track was identified to make it Green Train Corridors- free from human waste discharge from trains.
- Accordingly, 10 passenger trains consisting of 286 coaches moving over this section have been provided with bio-toilets.

- After Rameswarm-Manamadurai, Okha-Kanalas Junction (141 Kms), Porbandar-Wansjaliya (34 Kms) and Jammu-Katra (78 Kms) would also be taken up for making them free from human waste discharge from trains.
- For this around 35 trains consisting of nearly 1110 coaches would be further provided with bio toilets and the work is underway.
- These sections and stations were chosen, because the number of trains originating and terminating at these stations and sections are few, thus making it operationally easier and faster to make them human-discharge free.
- Indian Railways in its commitment to provide hygienic environment to passengers and to keep station premises/tracks clean, have developed environment-friendly Bio-toilets for its passenger coaches.
- The technology has been developed jointly by Indian Railways (IR) and Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO) for railway passenger coaches through an MoU.
- This environment friendly, low cost and robust technology is the first of its kind in Railway Systems in the world.
- In the bio-toilet fitted coaches, human waste is collected in tanks below the toilets and the same is decomposed by a consortium of bacteria.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147581>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/indias-first-green-corridor-inaugurated/article8895647.ece>

## Country's first water metro project

**Question:** Country's first water metro project was started in which of the following state ?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 July 2016 Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan, inaugurated the Kochi Water Metro Project of Kochi Metro Rail Limited at 5 pm at the Sacred Heart Church Ground at Kothad, Kadamakkudy Panchayath.
- Kochi Water Metro Project is the country's first water metro project.
- The project would make the urban water transport network in the city modern and safer.
- The project envisages the development of 16 identified routes, connecting 38 jetties across 10 islands and spans a total route network of 76km.
- The Water Metro project will help in ensuring a smooth and safe public transport system.
- German Development Bank, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) would provide the financial assistance.
- Implementation of the project shall be done by Kochi Metro Rail Ltd (KMRL).
- German Development Bank, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), had signed an agreement with the Kochi Metro Rail Limited for this project.

**Reference:**

<http://blog.kochimetro.org/2016/07/23/kochi-water-metro-project-to-be-inaugurated-today/>  
<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/water-metro-project-to-be-completed-in-four-years/article8893272.ece>



## Proposal to install new systems on locomotives for enhancing the vision of Locomotive Pilots

**Question:** Recently Ministry of Railways, Railway Board has initiated a proposal to install which of the following system on locomotives for enhancing the vision of Locomotive Pilots in inclement weather?

- (a) TRI-NETRA system
- (b) INFRARED system
- (c) Optical and Radar-supported system
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 July 2016 Ministry of Railways, Railway Board has initiated a proposal to install TRI-NETRA systems on locomotives for enhancing the vision of Locomotive Pilots in inclement weather.
- TRI-NETRA stands for – Terrain imaging for diesel Drivers Infra-red, Enhanced Optical & Radar Assisted system.
- TRI-NETRA system shall be made up of high-resolution optical video camera, high sensitivity infra-red video camera and additionally a radar-based terrain mapping system.
- These three components of the system shall act as three eyes (Tri-Netra) of the Locomotive Pilot.
- During fog, heavy rain and also during night, the locomotive pilots face serious challenges in looking out ahead to spot any obstruction on the track such as vehicles which get stuck while crossing the track or trees or boulders which have fallen across the track etc.
- The concept of TRI-NETRA was developed by Development Cell under the guidance of Member Mechanical, Railway Board while brainstorming on how to use the technology employed by fighter aircrafts to see through clouds and operate in pitch darkness and the technology used by naval ships in mapping the ocean floor and navigating in the night.
- There has been very enthusiastic response to this Expression of Interest (EoI) published by Railway Board and number of companies from Israel, Finland, USA and Austria have expressed interest in developing such a system.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147159>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/suresh-prabhu-led-indian-railways-banks-tri-netra-avoid-train-accidents/315011/>

## Ghatampur thermal power project

**Question:** Recently the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for installation of Ghatampur Thermal Power Project (GTPC). It will be installed in which of the following districts of Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Kannauj
- (b) Kanpur
- (c) Gorakhpur
- (d) Etawah

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for installation of Ghatampur Thermal Power Project (GTPC) of 1980 MW (3 X 660 MW) capacity.
- Its installation will take place through a Joint Venture Company named “Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Limited (NUPPL)” formed jointly by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL).
- It will be installed in Ghatampur Tehsil of Kanpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- The project will be implemented at an estimated cost of Rs.17, 237.8 crore including Interest during Construction component of Rs.3, 202.42 crore.
- The commissioning of Unit I, II and III will be 52 months, 58 months and 64 months respectively from starting date.
- The benefits of this generation will be available in the 12th Five Year Plan.
- The energy generated by the Ghatampur Thermal Power station (GTPS) (about 14000 MU/annum) will mainly be supplied to Uttar Pradesh.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147394>

## CCEA approves construction of a New Dry Dock

**Question:** Recently the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for construction of a new dry dock within the existing premises of which of the following shipyard?

- (a) Shipping Corporation of India
- (b) Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers
- (c) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (d) The Indian Maritime University

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 20 July 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for construction of a new dry dock within the existing premises of Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL).
- Its estimated cost is of Rs.1799 crore.
- It aims is to augment the shipbuilding / repair capacity of the country.
- The objective is to augment the shipbuilding/ ship repair capacity essentially required to tap the market potential of building specialized.
- Apart from direct employment of 300 personnel, about 2000 personnel would be indirectly employed when the project becomes fully operational.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147390>

## Samajwadi Hathkargha Bunkar Pension Yojana

**Question:** Recently Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Samajwadi Hathkargha Bunkar Pension Yojana under which weavers over 60 years of age will get a monthly pension of-

- (a) Rs 600
- (b) Rs 500
- (c) Rs 750
- (d) Rs 1000

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 18 July 2016 Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Samajwadi Hathkargha Bunkar Pension Yojana.
- Under this scheme the weavers over 60 years of age will get a monthly pension of Rs 500.
- The pension will be deposited into the bank accounts of beneficiaries in six monthly installments in January and June every year.
- There are about 2.5 lakh weavers and about 80,000 handlooms in the state.
- It is known that the handloom industry after agriculture is most employing Industry of the state among the decentralized cottage industry.



**Reference:**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_Hindinews.aspx?id=2930](http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=2930)

## Hausala Poshan Scheme

**Question:** Recently CM of Uttar Pradesh has inaugurated “Hausala Poshan Scheme” from which of the following district?

- (a) Kannauj
- (b) Shravasti
- (c) Santkabir Nagar
- (d) Faizabad

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 15 July 2016 Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav's government has launched “Hausala Poshan Scheme” from Shravasti district under state nutrition mission.
- It is a scheme for providing nutritious food to pregnant woman and malnourished children.
- Under this scheme, pregnant women and malnourished children would be given cooked food and one fruit each.
- Consultation would also be provided to pregnant women and malnourished children come under the age group of 7 months to 3 years along with facility of regular weight check up.
- The malnourished children would be given half kg desi ghee at the rate of 20 gm per child per day.
- The pregnant women would also be given iron tablets and children biscuit packets/puffed rice for consumption at home.
- Rs. 700 crore has been arranged for this scheme which will considerably improve the health of pregnant women and children.

**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/up-govt-to-launch-hausla-poshan-scheme/1/681216.html>  
[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/up-govt-to-launch-hausla-poshan-scheme-116053001539\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/up-govt-to-launch-hausla-poshan-scheme-116053001539_1.html)

## National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme

**Question: National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme has an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore with a target of how much apprentices to be trained by 2019-20?**

- (a) 65 Lakhs
- (b) 60 Lakhs
- (c) 55 Lakhs
- (d) 50 lakhs

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July, 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme.
- The Scheme has an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore with a target of 50 lakh apprentices to be trained by 2019-20.
- Currently 2.30 lakh youth are undergoing training of Apprenticeship at thousands of factories.
- The Scheme would be implemented by Director General of Training (DGT) under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- 25% of the total stipend payable to an apprentice would be shared with employers directly by Government of India.
- 50% of the total expenditure incurred on providing basic training would be supported by Government of India.
- It is for the first time a scheme has been designed to offer financial incentives to employers to engage apprentices.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146803>

<http://www.uniindia.com/cabinet-approves-national-apprenticeship-promotion-scheme/india/news/544021.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/cabinet-approves-the-national-apprenticeship-promotion-scheme-116070500870\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/cabinet-approves-the-national-apprenticeship-promotion-scheme-116070500870_1.html)

<http://bjpkarnataka.org/whats-new/economic-roundup-by-s-vishwanatha-bhat-11-07-2016/>

100 | <http://www.edristi.in>

## Namami Gange

**Question:** The second phase of project “Namami Gange” will be started in which of the following year?

- (a) 2016
- (b) 2017
- (c) 2018
- (d) 2020

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 7 July 2016 Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti has inaugurated 231 projects.
- The government of India will bear the cost of the projects as part of an integrated approach to clean the national river.
- The second phase of the project will be started in 2018.
- The project work will be completed in 3 phases.
- The project will be implemented in 5 states in 103 villages, towns and cities located along the banks of the river Ganga.
- It was inaugurated at various locations in Uttarakhand, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Haryana and Delhi.
- The projects involve modernization and redevelopment of Ghats and crematoriums.
- It also includes development of sewage infrastructure and treatment, afforestation, tree plantation (medicinal plants), pilot drain project, interceptor drain project, trash skimmers and conservation of biodiversity.
- Eight biodiversity centers will be developed along Ganga for restoration of identified priority species.
- These centers will be developed at Rishikesh, Dehradun, Narora, Allahabad, Varanasi, Bhagalpur, Sahibganj and Barraackpore.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146858>

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7631061\\_231-Namami-Gange-projects-worth-Rs-1500-Cr-launched-](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7631061_231-Namami-Gange-projects-worth-Rs-1500-Cr-launched-)

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/uttarakhand/-namami-gange-takes-off-at-haridwar-today/262132.html>



## New industrial township in Sohna and Manesar of Haryana

**Question:** Haryana would develop a new industrial township in Sohna and Manesar with the help of which of the following country?

- (a) China
- (b) United Kingdom
- (c) France
- (d) Germany

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 3 July 2016 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop a new industrial township in Sohna and Manesar was signed between Haryana Government and China Fortune Land Development (CFLD) Company in the presence of Chief Minister, Manohar Lal, at New Delhi.
- The agreement was signed by Managing Director, Haryana Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSI IDC), Sudhir Rajpal, and President, China Fortune Land Development Company, Jerry Zhao.
- Under this agreement a new industrial township would be developed at a cost of \$5 billion over 1,500 acres in Sohna and Manesar, district Gurgaon, Haryana.
- HSI IDC and CFLD Company would execute the project as a Joint Venture.
- The Chinese firm would develop infrastructural facilities, industrial units and residential and commercial projects in the township.
- These projects would be completed within the next 10 years.
- Industrial units related to automobiles and electronics would be established in this township.

**Reference:**

<http://prharyana.gov.in/erelease.aspx>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-industrial-township-to-developed-in-har-with-chinese-help-116070200899\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-industrial-township-to-developed-in-har-with-chinese-help-116070200899_1.html)

<http://www.ndtv.com/gurgaon-news/haryana-to-develop-new-industrial-township-in-gurgaon-district-1427512>

<http://www.dailypost.in/regions/haryana/64404-haryana-to-develop-new-industrial-township-in-gurgaon-district.html>



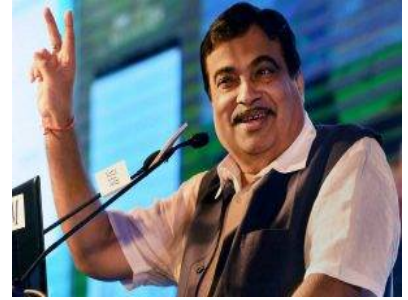
## National Green Highways Mission launched

**Question:** National Green Highways Mission was started on-

- (a) 5 July 2016
- (b) 4 July 2016
- (c) 2 July 2016
- (d) 1 July 2016

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 1 July 2016 Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari launched the National Green Highways Mission in New Delhi.
- It includes plantation drive on 1,500 km of National Highways at a cost of about Rs 300 crore.
- The Mission will employ 15,000 people.
- This project may even be linked with the NREGA scheme.
- The afforestation is expected to help in sequestering approximately 12 lakh mt carbon annually.
- It will be useful for agriculture and rural economy.
- Under the Green Highways Project, the government has made it mandatory to set aside 1 per cent of the total project cost of any NH contract to a Green Fund corpus that will be used for plantation purposes.
- The Vision document, comprising strategy, mission and action plan for 2016-2026, focuses on core issues, future roadmaps and success indicators for effective implementation of Green Highways Project.
- The government aims to expand the network of national highways to 2 lakhs km from present length of 1 Lakhs Km.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146720>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/govt-launches-green-highways-policy/article7702950.ece>

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/YLIA9Ue6Yn4Jxvlg7iMtYP/Nitin-Gadkari-kickstarts-national-green-highways-mission.html>

## “MySpeed” App

**Question:** Recently Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) launched a mobile app named “Myspeed” for-

- (a) Internet speed
- (b) Network quality
- (c) Mobile Recharge
- (d) Online Payment

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has launched a mobile app named “Myspeed”.
- The mobile application will check internet speed in real-time on customer’s handsets.
- The mobile app will send the data automatically on Trai’s analytics portal, where anybody can see the data.
- In case of poor experience, users are requested to register a complaint with their network service providers.
- The app can be downloaded free of cost on any android mobile with Android 4.3 – Jelly Bean or higher version.
- The page consists of “send to trai” button which automatically sends the report to the regulator.

### Reference:

<https://apps.mgov.gov.in/descp.do?appid=1110&param=app>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/apps/Trai-launches-app-to-check-real-time-internet-speed/articleshow/53065026.cms>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/trai-now-trains-guns-on-quality-of-data-services-116070500492\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/trai-now-trains-guns-on-quality-of-data-services-116070500492_1.html)

<http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/mobile-tabs/trai-launches-myspeed-app-to-measure-real-time-mobile-internet-speed-that-customers-get-2894911/>

## ‘SBI Mingle’

**Question: Recently State Bank of India (SBI), largest bank in the country launched “SBI Mingle”. It is a-**

- (a) Social media banking platform for Facebook and Twitter users
- (b) Application Based Banking service
- (c) New Venture launched by SBI
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 1 July 2016 State Bank of India (SBI), largest bank in the country launched “SBI Mingle”
- It is the social media banking platform for Facebook and Twitter users.
- Using SBI Mingle, the Bank’s customers can do a host of banking services on their Facebook or Twitter at their own convenience.
- This new initiative was launched by Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chairman, SBI on the occasion of 61st State Bank Day.
- The customers have to register for service through a simple one-time registration process using either their account number or their ATM/Debit Card details.
- After registering they can undertake the various banking facilities available on the platform. Currently balance enquiry, mini statement, funds transfer within SBI as well as interbank and beneficiary management services are available for Facebook.
- On Twitter, using hashtags the customers can find out their account balance and view mini statements.

**Reference:**

<https://www.sbi.co.in/portal/documents/44978/14492424/State+Bank+of+India+launches++27+SBI+Mingle+27+-+social+media+banking+platform+ 1 .pdf/613b8a79-ddc9-4f94-8718-dcba983a9cf8>

## ‘Prashikshak’- a teacher education portal launched

**Question:** When did the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Smriti Zubin Irani had launched ‘Prashikshak’ – a teacher education portal?

- (a) 28 June 2016
- (b) 29 June 2016
- (c) 30 June 2016
- (d) 01 July 2016

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 June 2016 the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Smriti Zubin Irani dedicated ‘Prashikshak’ – a teacher education portal, to the nation at Vigyan Bhawan, in New Delhi.
- ‘Prashikshak’ is launched with a vision to strengthen District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and bring quality teachers into the Indian school education system.
- It will cover block level institutes in the future and identify gaps at the bottom of the pyramid.
- There is a plans for enhancing “Prashikshak” to cover all Govt. Teacher Education Institutions in the country, which are recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education.
- “Prashikshak” was established through joint collaboration between Ministry of Human Resource Development and Central Square Foundation.
- The objective of “Prashikshak” is to define quality benchmarks and help DIETs to make informed decisions about their institutes, compare the performance of their institute against other DIETs in the state/country as well as helping aspiring teachers make informed decision making.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146688>

## ‘Nivaran’ portal launched

**Question:** Which of the following Ministry has launched the Nivaran portal?

- (a) Ministry of Railways
- (b) Ministry of Power
- (c) Ministry of Human resource and development
- (d) Ministry of farmers Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 June 2016 Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu in a programme held at Rail Bhawan, New Delhi formally launched NIVARAN portal.
- It is an online system for redressal of service related grievance of serving and former railway employees.
- The system would also provide facility for lodging appeal to the higher authority in case the decision is not found satisfactory.
- Highest controlling authorities shall also be able to monitor the progress of grievance redressal by field offices.
- The Application is developed by CRIS, the IT arm of Indian Railways.
- It is designed by Establishment directorate of Railway Board.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146675>

## Project “Tejaswini”

**Question:** Recently the World Bank has approved the US\$ 63 million for Socio Economic Empowerment of Adolescent Girls & Young Women Project in Jharkhand. The project is named as-

- (a) Tejaswini
- (b) Nirbhaya
- (c) Women Development Society
- (d) Ujawal

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 21 June 2016 the World Bank Board approved the US\$ 63 million Tejaswini: Socioeconomic Empowerment of Adolescent Girls & Young Women Project in Jharkhand, which will support adolescent girls and young women, ages 14-24, to complete their secondary level education and acquire relevant skills for the job market.
- The project will support market-driven skills training and secondary education as well as broader socio-economic empowerment for adolescent girls and young women.
- It will be implemented in 17 select districts of Jharkhand, is expected to benefit about 680,000 adolescent girls and young women.
- The project will intervene at two levels – at the community and at the institutional level.
- The community-based platforms (“clubs” and “centers”) will hold regular counselling and guidance sessions, life skills education, livelihood support services, and provide information on, and access to, broader services and opportunities.
- At the institutional level, it will work with partner institutions through performance-based contracts to deliver vocational training, business skills training, and non-formal education to a subset of adolescent girls and young women.
- Life skills education will include Resilience and “soft skills”, Rights and protections, Health and nutrition and Financial literacy .
- This is the first World Bank project in India that is solely focused on the welfare of adolescent girls and young women.

**Reference:**

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/06/21/world-bank-approves-usd63-million-socio-economic-empowerment-adolescent-girls-young-women-in-jharkhand-india>

## Kalinga Siksha Sathi Yojana

**Question:** Which of the following state has recently launched “Kalinga Siksha Sathi Yojana”?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 27 June 2016 Odisha chief minister, Naveen Patnaik has launched Kalinga “Siksha Sathi Yojana”.
- Education loan at 1% interest to students for pursuing higher studies will be provided under this scheme.
- It will be useful for students pursuing higher education including Management, Law, Engineering, Medicine.
- CM of the state dedicated the scheme to the foresight of Biju Patnaik on his birth centenary.
- The state government will meet the fund requirement of about Rs 500 crore from its own resources.
- One of the criteria for availing this benefit is that family income must be below 4.5 lakh per annum.
- It should be known that Biju Patnaik had instituted ‘Kalinga UNESCO’ award for the popularisation of science.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/odisha-government-to-provide-education-loan-at-1-interest-116062700737\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/odisha-government-to-provide-education-loan-at-1-interest-116062700737_1.html)

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/india-news/odisha-government-to-provide-education-loan-at-1-interest/298524/>

<http://updateodisha.com/2016/06/27/kalinga-siksha-sathi-provide-education-loan-1-interest-10612/>



## Sakhi-One Stop Centre

**Question:** Which of the following state has recently started “Sakhi-One Stop Centre”?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 June 2016 Nagaland Governor P.B Acharya launched a women helpline – 181 and also inaugurated Sakhi- One stop Centre, an institute indented to support women affected by violence in the premises of the District Hospital, Dimapur.
- The objectives of the One Stop Centers are to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence, both in private and public spaces, under one roof.
- The centre will facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical, legal, psychological and counselling support to fight against any form of violence against women.
- “Sakhi-One Stop Centre” is a centrally sponsored scheme by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) to be funded through Nirbhaya Fund.
- 181 (women’s helpline) Emergency service for all women affected by violence.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/nagaland-governor-launches-women-s-helpline-116062300765\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/nagaland-governor-launches-women-s-helpline-116062300765_1.html)

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=jun2816/oth053>

<http://www.northeasttoday.in/nagaland-governor-inaugurates-181-helpline-for-women/>

<http://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/OSCGuidelines-Final.pdfnal.pdf>

# TREAY & AGREEMENTS

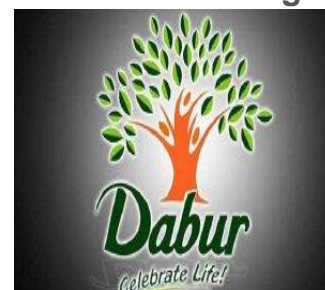
## Agreement between Dabur and DRDO

**Question:** Agreement between Dabur and DRDO is related to which of the following purpose?

- (a) Sustainable cultivation of high-altitude medicinal plants
- (b) Production of Military equipment.
- (c) Production of the light combat aircraft.
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 16 July 2016 Dabur India has signed a pact with DRDO's unit Defense Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), Leh.
- The aim of the agreement is to promote sustainable cultivation of high-altitude medicinal plants in Ladakh.
- Under this agreement both organisations will educate farmers and help enhance livelihood opportunities in the cold desert area.

**Reference:**

<http://www.drdo.gov.in/drdo/pub/npc/2016/july/din-18Jul2016.pdf>

[http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/dabur-drdo-unit-tiefor-high-altitude-medicinal-plants\\_7052281.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/dabur-drdo-unit-tiefor-high-altitude-medicinal-plants_7052281.html)

## Agreement between India and Mozambique

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved signing of Agreement between India and Mozambique in which of the following field?

- (a) Tourism
- (b) Air Services
- (c) Information and Technology
- (d) Terrorism

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved signing of the Air Services Agreement between India and Mozambique.
- Presently there is no Air Services Agreement between India and Mozambique.
- The airline agreement between the two countries will lead to trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147403>

## Agreement between NITI Aayog & Intel India

**Question:** Recently NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) with Intel India for which of the following mission?

- (a) Atal Innovation Mission(AIM)
- (b) Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL)
- (c) Atal Stand Up Mission(ASM)
- (d) Atal Start Up Mission(ASM)

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



On 19 July 2016 NITI Aayog has introduced the Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL) initiative as a part of its flagship programme – the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).

As part of a crucial effort to efficiently implement the initiative, NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) with Intel India.

The key objectives of setting up Atal Tinkering Laboratories is to build relevant skill sets among youngsters and to provide access to technology that will enable solutions.

Intel will co-lead the creation and management of ten ATLs as State Hubs.

These laboratories intend to impact 250,000 youth with innovation skills & skills for the future across 500 communities & schools.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147291>

## Agreement between the Netherlands-Uttar Pradesh

**Question: Recently Uttar Pradesh has signed memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which of the following country?**

- (a) United Kingdom
- (b) Netherlands
- (c) Russia
- (d) United States Of America

**Ans: (b)**



**Related facts:**

- On 14 July 2016 Uttar Pradesh government signed an MoU with the Netherlands for cooperation various areas including Skill Development.
- The memorandum of understanding (MoU) which was signed by ambassador of the Netherlands Alphonsus Stoelinga and chief secretary Deepak Singhal in the presence of Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav.
- State government will set up a skill development centre in collaboration with Netherlands to provide modern technology to farmers on potato, dairy and floriculture.
- The MoU aims at cooperation in areas like solid waste management, urban development and infrastructure, water management and supply, cleaning of water resources, lakes and ponds, sewage treatment, transport management and infrastructure.
- It will also help in land reforms in 1,500 acre in the Ganga basin in Kanpur.
- The Netherlands government will also assist in cleaning Yamuna in Agra and sewage treatment.
- The MoU which will remain operational for the next three years will also see cooperation in areas like development of smart cities, cycle track, power capability in industry, agriculture and dairy.
- The two governments would take up skill development, training, research, symposiums and educational journeys and that with this PPP would also be encouraged.

**Reference:**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_engnews.aspx?id=1014](http://information.up.nic.in/View_engnews.aspx?id=1014)

## MoU between SBI and Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IIT-B)

**Question:** Society of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) is hosted by which of the following IIT?

- (a) IIT Madras
- (b) IIT Kharagpur
- (c) IIT Bangalore
- (d) IIT Bombay

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- According to press release on 12 July 2016, Society of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) hosted by Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (IIT-B) signed an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with State Bank of India to promote innovation by startups in the financial sector.
- SBI has commenced a strategic initiative to promote Innovation by engaging with Start-ups in FinTech area, through funding, procurement and co-innovation under a special window.
- The MoU was signed at SBI's Global IT Centre on 7th July 2016 by Prof. Devang Khakhar, Director, IIT Bombay and Mrutyunjay Mahapatra Dy. Managing Director & Chief Information Officer of SBI.
- This MoU, a first of its kind in India will help evaluation of start-ups.
- Society of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) with SBI would provide opportunities for commercial exploitation of new age digital concepts, products and services.

**Reference:**

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/state-bank-of-india/sbi-signs-mou-with-iit-bombay-for-collaborative-innovation/1175152512535545>

<http://www.asianage.com/mumbai/iit-b-signs-mou-sbi-promote-financial-start-ups-179>

## Asian Development Bank approves \$100 million loan

**Question:** Recently government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$100 million loan agreement to strengthen key irrigation and drainage system and improve water management in which of the following state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Maharashtra

**Ans:(c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 14 July 2016 the Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$100 million loan agreement.
- The agreement was signed to strengthen key irrigation and drainage system and improve water management in the Vennar sub-basin of the Cauvery delta in Tamil Nadu.
- The financing will be used to strengthen embankments of six major irrigation water channels in the Vennar system and rehabilitate 13 irrigation pumping schemes.
- The project aims to improve existing infrastructure and will provide flood protection and renewed access to irrigation.
- The Water Resources Department of the State of Tamil Nadu is responsible for implementing the project, which is expected to be completed by December 2020.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147075>

<http://www.adb.org/news/adb-loan-help-tackle-climate-threats-tamil-nadu-s-cauvery-delta>

## Acquisition of Grama Vidiyal Micro Finance

**Question:** Which of the following bank has acquired Grama Vidiyal Micro Finance Ltd?

- (a) IDFC Bank
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) State Bank of India

**Ans:(a)**

**Related facts:**



**IDFC BANK**

- On 12 July 2016 IDFC Bank signed a share purchase agreement to acquire 100% of Grama Vidiyal Micro Finance Ltd.
- Grama Vidiyal will act as a dedicated Business Correspondent of IDFC Bank.
- The acquisition will give IDFC Bank immediate access to 1.2 million rural and semi-urban households and Grama Vidiyal's network of 319 locations across 65 districts of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- Grama Vidiyal's has an AUM (Assets Under Management) of Rs. 1,502 crore of micro finance assets, as on March 31, 2016.
- GramaVidiyal Micro Finance Ltd has its headquarter in Tiruchirappalli.
- According to Dr Rajiv Lall, Founder MD & CEO of IDFC Bank, the acquisition of a micro-finance institution by a bank is an industry's first.

**Reference:**

<http://www.idfcbank.com/content/dam/idfc/image/press-releases/IDFC-Bank-Press-Release-July12-2016.pdf>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/idfc-bank-announces-acquisition-of-grama-vidiyal-microfinance/articleshow/53183481.cms>



## Bangladesh and India sign agreement for joint coal fired power plant

**Question:** Recently Bangladesh and India signed an agreement for the construction of a 1,320 megawatt coal fired power plant. The estimated cost of the project is-

- (a) \$1.68 billion.
- (b) \$1.78 billion.
- (c) \$2.68 billion.
- (d) \$3.00 billion.

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 12 July 2016 Bangladesh and India has signed an agreement for the construction coal fired power plant.
- The capacity of the thermal power plant will be 1,320 megawatts.
- The National Thermal Power Corporation of India and the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) signed a Joint Venture Agreement to build a 1,320 MW coal-fired thermal power plant.
- It will be known as Maitree Super Thermal Plant, at Rampal in Bangladesh's Bagherhat district.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) was awarded the contract after being identified as "technically qualified and financially competitive".
- India's Exim Bank will provide \$1.49 billion for the project.
- It is scheduled to start generating power in 2019.

**Reference:**

<http://bdnews24.com/economy/2016/07/13/bangladesh-india-sign-rampal-power-plant-construction-agreement>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/bangladesh-and-india-sign-agreement-for-joint-coal-fired-power-plant/articleshow/53179712.cms>

## Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) signed an agreement with IIT-Bombay and Madras

**Question:** Recently Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) had signed an agreement with IIT-Bombay and Madras to establish which of the following centre ?

- (a) Centre of Propulsion Technology' (CoPT)
- (b) Centre of Aircraft Technology' (CoAT)
- (c) Centre of Cryogenic Technology' (CoCT)
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 9 July 2016 the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) had signed an agreement with IIT-Bombay and Madras to establish a bi-nodal 'Centre of Propulsion Technology' (CoPT) at the two institutions.
- It is aimed at achieving synergy between DRDO and IITs for channelizing the research efforts towards developing products and technologies.
- The Centre will evolve mechanisms to facilitate execution of programmes related to propulsion technology and will engage both IITs as primary research nodes.
- It will also undertake advanced collaborative research in the areas of critical defence technologies.

**Reference:**

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/29592>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/bombay-madras-iits-to-develop-aero-propulsion-tech-for-drdo-116070900450\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/bombay-madras-iits-to-develop-aero-propulsion-tech-for-drdo-116070900450_1.html)

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/556998/drdo-iits-sign-deal-develop.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/drdo-inks-pact-with-iits-for-centre-for-propulsion-technology-2903368/>

## Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) acquired the Indian business of 'Forever 21'

**Question:** Recently Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) acquired the Indian business of global brand 'Forever 21' for how much amount?

- (a) 175.52 crore
- (b) 174.52 crore
- (c) 173.52 crore
- (d) 172.52 crore

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 Recently Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) acquired the Indian business of global brand 'Forever 21'.
- The acquisition took place for over Rs.175 crore or \$26 million.
- For this the Board of Directors of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Limited ['ABFRL'] in-principally approved a proposal to enter into a Binding Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] with Forever 21.
- The MoU will enable the Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) to acquire its exclusive online and offline rights to the global brand – Forever 21, for the Indian market and its existing store network in India from the current franchisee i.e. Diana Retail Private Limited.
- Forever 21 has more than 700 stores across the globe.
- Diana Retail Pvt. Ltd. is local franchise partner of 'Forever 21', a U.S.-based company.
- Forever 21 is among the fastest growing fashion retailers in the world.
- Diana Retail Pvt. Ltd has revenues of Rs 262 crore in Financial Year 2016.

**Reference:**

<http://www.bseindia.com/xml->

[data/corpfiling/AttachHis/11954FDE\\_4A3B\\_4DBF\\_9100\\_8868B4F1E066\\_133701.pdf](http://www.bseindia.com/xml-data/corpfiling/AttachHis/11954FDE_4A3B_4DBF_9100_8868B4F1E066_133701.pdf)

<http://www.adityabirla.com/media/press-releases/ABFRL-signs-MoU-Forever-21-India-business>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/aditya-birla-arm-buys-forever-21-from-diana/article8812115.ece>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/industry/companies/aditya-birla-fashion-buys-india-rights-to-forever-21/308010/>

## Reliance Industries and State Bank of India signed shareholder agreement for payments bank Joint Venture

**Question:** Recently Reliance has signed shareholder agreement with which of the following Bank for payments bank Joint Venture?

- (a) Bank of Baroda
- (b) Union Bank
- (c) State Bank of India
- (d) City Bank

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 June 2016 Reliance Industries has signed shareholder agreement (The Subscription and Shareholders Agreement) with State Bank of India for payments bank Joint Venture.
- Reliance as promoter signed the agreement with a 70 per cent equity contribution and SBI as joint venture with a 30 per cent equity contribution.
- The Reliance now will seek all regulatory and statutory approvals for operationalising the payments bank.
- It may be recalled that RIL and SBI put in a joint application to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to set up a payments bank that can offer services such as remittances and deposits but not loans.
- RBI granted in-principle approval to RIL as a promoter in September 2015 for the setting up of the payments bank.

**Reference:**

<http://www.bseindia.com/xml->

[data/corpfiling/AttachHis/288D953B\\_7841\\_4981\\_84BA\\_8B55326774E4\\_165732.pdf](http://www.bseindia.com/xml-data/corpfiling/AttachHis/288D953B_7841_4981_84BA_8B55326774E4_165732.pdf)

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/ril-sbi-sign-shareholder-pact-for-payments-bank-joint-venture/article8797862.ece>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/ril-sbi-sign-shareholder-agreement-for-payments-bank-jv/articleshow/53009074.cms>

# CONFERENCE

## First Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of BRICS New Development Bank (NDB)

**Question:** The First Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the BRICS New Development Bank was held at-

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Shanghai
- (c) Johannesburg
- (d) Beijing

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the First Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the BRICS New Development Bank was held at Shanghai, China.
- Raj Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India represented the Finance Minister of India and delivered the Governor's Statement on his behalf.
- It was decided that India will be the Chair of the Board of Governors of the Bank and the second Annual meetings of NDB will be held in India in 2017.
- The New Development Bank (NDB) has completed one year since its establishment in 2015.
- It has headquarters in Shanghai, China and headed by K.V Kamath.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147420>

## NATO Summit 2016

**Question:** NATO Summit 2016 was held in which of the following country?

- (a) Poland
- (b) Germany
- (c) France
- (d) Canada



**Ans:(a)**

### Related facts:

- On 8 and 9 July 2016; The 2016 Warsaw Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) held at the National Stadium in Warsaw, Poland.
- It was the 27th formal meeting of the heads of state and heads of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
- Some of the major points discussed in the summit includes the terrorism that has struck hard in many of our countries; Russia's actions, especially in Ukraine, that undermine the rules-based order in Europe; and the instability in the Middle East and North Africa.
- The decision for strengthening the alliance's military presence in the east, with four battalions in Poland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on a rotational basis has been taken.
- All member states agreed to spend 2% of their GDP on defense by 2020.
- The next alliance summit (28th) would take place in 2017 in Brussels to inaugurate the new 1 billion € (Euro) NATO headquarters building.
- NATO was established on April 4, 1949. Currently it has 28 members.

### Reference:

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133171.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133171.htm?selectedLocale=en)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/nato-summit-warsaw-pms-press-conference-9-july-2016>

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133168.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133168.htm?selectedLocale=en)

[http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_133169.htm?selectedLocale=en](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_133169.htm?selectedLocale=en)

## BRICS Youth Summit 2016: Call to Action

**Question:** Recently the BRICS Youth Summit, 2016 was organised in which of the following Indian city?

- (a) Amritsar
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Guwahati
- (d) Imphal

**Ans:( c )**

**Reference:**



- On 1 July 2016 Chief Minister of Assam, Sarbananda Sonowal lit the lamp and declared beginning of the three-day BRICS Youth Summit 2016: Call to Action in Guwahati, India.
- This was the second BRICS Youth Summit held from 1st to 3rd July, 2016.
- The Theme for the Summit is “Youth as bridge for Intra-BRICS Exchanges”.
- The programme for the Summit also includes thematic debates, cultural events, site-visits and interactive sessions with local youth.
- The first BRICS Youth Summit was held in Russia in 2015.
- The Indian Youth Delegation was led by minister of state (independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports Dr. Jitendra Singh.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146609>

<http://pibphoto.nic.in/documents/rlink/2016/jul/p20167401.pdf>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/india-news/second-brics-youth-summit-kicks-off-in-guwahati/304107/>



## BRICS Working Group meeting on ‘Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency

**Question:** The first meeting of the BRICS Working Group on “Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency” was held at which of the following place?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Vishakhapatnam
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Ahmedabad

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- During 4th-5th July, 2016; The first meeting of the BRICS Working Group on “Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency” was held in Visakhapatnam.
- The meeting saw participation from all BRICS countries, viz., Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa has been confirmed.
- It may be recalled that the meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Energy was held in Moscow on 20th November 2015, wherein the BRICS energy Ministers signed a Memorandum of Mutual Understanding in Energy Saving and Energy Efficiency.
- The meet reaffirmed the importance and necessity of advancing cooperation in the field of energy saving, energy efficiency and developing energy efficient technologies.
- The draft Action plan on development of Cooperation in Energy Saving & Energy Efficiency within BRICS as well as the draft terms of reference of the BRICS Working Group on Energy Saving and Improvement of Energy Efficiency was discussed.
- The draft will be submitted for the approval by the BRICS Ministers of Energy and Energy Efficiency.
- The goals and objectives incorporated in the draft Action Plan are:
- To Implement the areas of cooperation between the BRICS countries as identified in the Memorandum of Understanding on energy saving and energy efficiency.
- To Prepare recommendations for the development of cooperation in the area of energy saving and improvement of energy efficiency for the BRICS Ministers of Energy.
- To Elaborate the work plan on development of cooperation in energy saving and energy efficiency within BRICS till 2020 and beyond.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146739>

<http://www.ddinews.gov.in/Home%20-%20Other%20Stories/Pages/BRICS05.aspx>

# CONFERENCE

## AIIB's First Annual Meeting of its Board of Governors

**Question:** The Headquarter of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is located in-

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Beijing
- (c) Dhaka
- (d) Hanoi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On June 25, 2016; The Board of Governors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank convened the Bank's first Annual Meeting in Beijing.
- The Governors representing the Bank's 46 Founding Members along with the representatives from Signatories of the Bank's Articles of Agreement that are not yet members, as well as observers from partner institutions and observers from potential new members also attended.
- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had represented India at the meeting.
- On the occasion president of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Jin Liqun reported on the Bank's progress during its first six months of operation.
- The Governors elected the next Board of Directors. The Governor for Korea was elected to serve as the incoming Chairman of the Board of Governors.
- Presently, the Chinese Minister of Finance, Lou Jiwei is the Chairman of the AIIB Board of Governors.
- The Governors for Georgia and the United Kingdom were elected as Vice Chairmen.
- The 2017 AIIB Annual Meeting will be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea from June 16-18, 2017.

**Reference:**

[http://www.aiib.org/html/2016/NEWS\\_0625/122.html](http://www.aiib.org/html/2016/NEWS_0625/122.html)

[http://english.gov.cn/state\\_council/vice\\_premiers/2016/06/25/content\\_281475379757589.htm](http://english.gov.cn/state_council/vice_premiers/2016/06/25/content_281475379757589.htm)

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/06/at-first-annual-meeting-china-led-aiib-approves-first-loans/>

# ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

## Tech Mahindra acquired The BIO Agency

**Question:** “The BIO Agency” company is related to which of the following country?

- (a) United Kingdom
- (b) Russia
- (c) France
- (d) Germany

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 22 June 2016 Tech Mahindra Limited, a leading provider of IT, Networks & Engineering solutions and BPO services in India announced the acquisition of The BIO Agency (BIO), headquartered in the UK.
- The BIO Agency (BIO) was acquired by Tech Mahindra for an enterprise value of 45 million pound.
- The acquisition will further strengthen and enable the Company to engage with its clients at the start of the journey and more importantly, help design the customer experience for their businesses.

**Reference:**

[http://www.techmahindra.com/media/press\\_releases/TechMahindra-acquires-leading-Digital-Change-Agents-TheBIOAgency.aspx](http://www.techmahindra.com/media/press_releases/TechMahindra-acquires-leading-Digital-Change-Agents-TheBIOAgency.aspx)

## New non-permanent members of the Security Council elected

**Question:** Recently the United Nations General Assembly elected which of the following group of countries as non permanent members?

- (a) Ethiopia, Bolivia, Uruguay, Ukraine
- (b) Ethiopia, Sweden, Bolivia, Japan
- (c) Kazakhstan, Ethiopia, Sweden, Senegal
- (d) Ethiopia, Bolivia, Sweden, Kazakhstan

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 June 2016 United Nations General Assembly elected Sweden, Bolivia, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan to serve on the world body's Security Council for a period of two years.
- Italy and the Netherlands had been contending for the remaining seat, but the voting yielded no clear winner.
- The newly-elected countries will replace Spain, Malaysia, New Zealand, Angola and Venezuela.
- The Security Council has 15 members, including five permanent.
- The five permanent members, each with the power of veto, are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.
- Other current non-permanent members are Japan, Egypt, Senegal, Ukraine and Uruguay.

**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54350#.V3bxqfl97IV>

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFKCN0ZF0HK>

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-06/29/c\\_135474113.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-06/29/c_135474113.htm)

<http://english.cri.cn/12394/2016/06/29/3821s932426.htm>

# LAW & JUSTICE

## Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill 2016

**Question:** When did the Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill 2016?

- (a) 18 July 2016   (b) 19 July 2016  
(c) 20 July 2016   (d) 21 July 2016

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 the Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill 2016.
- Through this Bill the Government has evolved a mechanism for their social, economic and educational empowerment.
- The Bill will benefit a large number of transgender persons, mitigate the stigma, discrimination and abuse against this marginalized section and bring them into the mainstream of society.
- It will lead to greater inclusiveness and will make the transgender persons productive members of the society.
- The Bill will make all the stakeholders responsive and accountable for upholding the principles underlying the Bill.
- It will bring greater accountability on the part of the Central Government and State Governments/Union Territories Administrations for issues concerning Transgender persons.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147398>

## Madhya Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods in Local Areas Amendment Bill, 2016 approved

**Question:** Recently approved “Madhya Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods in Local Areas Amendment Bill, 2016” seeks to levy how much percent entry tax on goods brought to local areas for consumption after purchase under e-commerce?

- (a) 4 Percent
- (b) 5 Percent
- (c) 6 Percent
- (d) 8 Percent

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 Cabinet of Madhya Pradesh headed by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has approved the “Madhya Pradesh Tax on Entry of Goods in Local Areas Amendment Bill, 2016”.
- The Bill approves 6 percent entry tax on goods brought to local areas for consumption after purchase under e-commerce.
- With the approval of entry tax, the Online shopping will become expensive.

**Reference:**

<http://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/hindi/hindusthan-samachar-hindi-epaper-hshind/madhyapradesh-m-antrimandal-ki-baithak-me-lie-gae-kai-nirnay-on-alain-shoping-par-lagega-6-phisadi-taiks-newsid-55189083>

## Cabinet approves the High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval to introduce 'The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016' in Parliament to facilitate the changing the names of High courts under which of the following act?

- (a) Indian High Court Act, 1861
- (b) Indian High Court Act, 1862
- (c) Indian High Court Act, 1873
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval to introduce 'The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016' in Parliament.
- The High Courts (Alteration of Names) Bill, 2016 will facilitate the changing of the names of 'Bombay High Court as Mumbai High Court' and 'Madras High Court as Chennai High Court' respectively.
- The bill has been introduced under Indian High Court Act, 1861.
- But at present, there is no central law under which the proposal for change of names of these high courts can be addressed.
- Both cities were renamed in the 1990s. Since then, there is demand to change the name of High Court.
- Indian High Court Act of 1861 vested in the Queen of England to issue letters patent to establish high courts of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=146809>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/bombay-madras-calcutta-high-courts-to-be-renamed/article8811881.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/high-courts-of-bombay-madras-to-undergo-change-in-names/>



## Model Shops and Establishments Bill, 2016

**Question: Model Shops and Establishment (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2016 will cover the establishment which have-**

- (a) Eleven or more workers
- (b) Ten or more workers
- (c) Twelve or more workers
- (d) Fifteen or more workers

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 June 2016 the Union Cabinet has considered the Model Shops and Establishment (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2016.
- The main features of the draft model Bill are:-
- The bill will cover only establishments employing ten or more workers except manufacturing units.
- The Bill provides for freedom to operate 365 days in a year and opening/closing time of establishment.
- Women to be permitted during night shift, if the provision of shelter, rest room ladies toilet, adequate protection of their dignity and transportation etc. exists.
- No discrimination against women in the matter of recruitment, training, transfer or promotions.
- Online one common Registration through a simplified procedure.
- Powers of Government to make rules regarding adequate measures to be taken by the employer for the safety and health of workers.
- Basic facilities like Clean and safe drinking water, Lavatory, creche, first aid and canteen by group of establishments, in case, it is not possible due to constraint in space or otherwise by individual establishment.
- Five paid festival holidays in addition to national holidays etc.
- Exemption of highly skilled workers (for example workers employed in IT, Biotechnology and R&D division) from daily working hours of 9 hours and weekly working hours of 48 hours subject to maximum 125 over-time hours in a quarter.
- The Model Bill would bring about uniformity in the legislative provisions, making it easier for all the States to adopt it.
- The bill will ensure uniform working conditions across the country and facilitate the ease of doing business and generate employment opportunities.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146627>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/business-others/arun-jaitley-on-7th-pay-commission-model-shops-and-establishment-bill-2016-key-highlights-2883770/>

# YEAR, DAY & WEEK

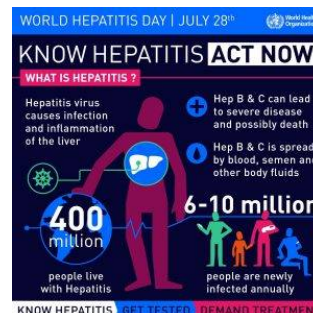
## World Hepatitis Day

**Question: World Hepatitis Day was celebrated on-**

- (a) 26 July
- (b) 28 July
- (c) 14 July
- (d) 20 July

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 July 2016 World Hepatitis Day was celebrated across the world.
- The Day is celebrated to increase awareness about Hepatitis prevention, testing and treatment.
- The theme of the Day for this year is “Know hepatitis – Act now”.
- According to an estimate viral hepatitis affects 400 million people globally. Every year 6–10 million people are newly infected.
- Primarily there five hepatitis viruses – A, B, C, D and E.
- Following the adoption of a resolution during the 63rd World Health Assembly in May 2010, World Hepatitis Day was given global endorsement as the primary focus for national and international awareness-raising efforts.
- The July 28 is decided in honour of Nobel Laureate Baruch Samuel Blumberg, discoverer of the hepatitis B virus, who celebrates his birthday on that date.

**Reference:**

<http://www.who.int/campaigns/hepatitis-day/2016/event/en/>

<http://www.who.int/campaigns/hepatitis-day/2016/en/>

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2016/world-hepatitis-day/en/>

<http://zeenews.india.com/health/world-hepatitis-day-2016-ten-facts-you-should-know-1912299>

## Kargil Vijay Diwas

**Question:** The 17th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated on-

- (a) 25 July
- (b) 26 July
- (c) 27 July
- (d) 31 July

**Ans b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 26 July 2016; 17th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated.
- On this day, 26 July 1999, India successfully took command of the high outposts which had been occupied by Pakistani intruders.
- On this occasion, several events were organized across the country.
- Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) of the Indian Army, General Dalbir Singh Suhag paid tribute to the martyrs at the memorial.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/erelease.aspx>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/sport-others/kargil-vijay-diwas-sports-fraternity-pays-homage-indian-soldiers-2936604/>

## International Gaucher Day

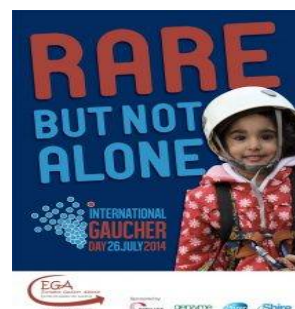
**Question:** International Gaucher Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 26 July
- (b) 28 July
- (c) 24 July
- (d) 15 July

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 26 July 2016 International Gaucher Day was celebrated across the world.
- The official slogan of International Gaucher Day was 'Rare but not alone'.
- Philippe Charles Ernest Gaucher was a French dermatologist who in 1882 became the first person to describe the signs and symptoms of Gaucher disease.
- On the occasion of 160th birthday of Philippe Gaucher, this day has been established by the European Gaucher Alliance (EGA) to raise international awareness about Gaucher disease.



**Reference:**

[https://www.gaucher.org.uk/about\\_us/international\\_gaucher\\_day\\_2016](https://www.gaucher.org.uk/about_us/international_gaucher_day_2016)

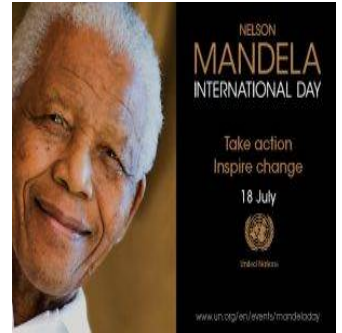
## Nelson Mandela International Day

**Question:** Nelson Mandela International Day was celebrated on-

- (a) 17 July
- (b) 18 July
- (c) 20 July
- (d) 15 July

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 18 July 2016 Nelson Mandela International Day was celebrated across the world.
- For the year 2016 the theme of the day is “Take Action! Inspire Change”.
- In November 2009, the UN General Assembly declared 18 July “Nelson Mandela International Day” in recognition of the former South African President’s contribution to the culture of peace and freedom.
- It was first celebrated on 18 July 2010.
- The purpose of the day of is to bring peace and harmony in the world.

**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay/>

## Ministry of Health launches Nationwide “Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF)”

**Question:** The Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) will be observed during which of the following date across the country?

- (a) 11 July to 23 July
- (b) 12 July to 24 July
- (c) 15 July to 25 July
- (d) 14 July to 26 Julys

**Ans: ( a )**

**Reference:**



- On 11 July 2016 Minister of Health and Family Welfare, J P Nadda, Ministry of Health launched nationwide “Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF)”.
- The Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) will be observed from 11th to 23rd July across the country.
- Various activities shall form part of this fortnight.
- ASHAs shall visit all households with children below five years of age for pre-positioning the ORS.
- There are about 10 crore children below five years of age across the country. During last year, due to the interventions carried out as part of IDCF, about 6.3 crore children were reached out to.
- According to figures of the Health Ministry, in India, about 1.2 lakh children under the age of five succumb to diarrhoea every year.
- This translates to 328 diarrhoeal deaths every day and 13 every hour.
- This year in order to expand the cover of this fortnight, the target is to cover all the under-5 children. 21 Lakh children could be prevented from hospitalization and death due to Diarrhoea last year.
- This shall be complemented by monitors from the State governments and development partners.
- The combination of ORS and Zinc has been found to be the most cost-effective intervention to prevent deaths due to diarrhea and has been recognized as one of the best practices globally.
- Diarrheal disease is more widely present in developing countries, mainly because unsafe drinking water, sanitation and health and nutritional status is the toilet.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146982>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/ministry-of-health-launches-nationwide-intensified-diarrhoea-control-fortnight-idcf-116071101096\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/ministry-of-health-launches-nationwide-intensified-diarrhoea-control-fortnight-idcf-116071101096_1.html)

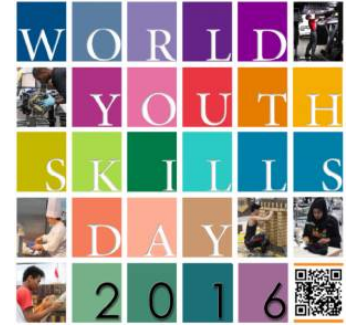
## World Youth Skills Day

**Question:** The World Youth Skills Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 16 July
- (b) 14 July
- (c) 18 July
- (d) 15 July

**Ans:(d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 15 July 2016 the World Youth Skills Day was celebrated across the world.
- United Nations is observing 15 July 2016 as the World Youth Skills Day with a special event on the theme of “Skills Development to Improve Youth Employment.”
- Understanding what works to support young people in today’s and tomorrow’s labour market through training and skills development will be key to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and will be at the center of this high-level event.
- Surveys of learning outcomes and skills show that a large number of youth have low levels of achievement in basic literacy and numeracy.
- Skills and jobs for youth feature prominently in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and Sustainable Development(SDG) target 4.
- Target-4 calls for a substantial increase in the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills.

**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/youthskillsday/>

<http://www.un.org/en/events/youthskillsday/smessage.shtml>

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>



## World Population Day

**Question: What is the theme of World Population Day celebrated on 11 July 2016?**

- (a) Investing in teenage boys.
- (b) Investing in teenage girls.
- (c) Vulnerable Populations in Emergencies
- (d) Unsafe food system

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 11 July 2016 the World Population Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of 2016 World Population Day is “Investing in teenage girls”.
- In 1989, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme recommended that 11 July be observed by the international community as World Population Day.



**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/populationday/>

<http://www.unfpa.org/events/world-population-day>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/slideshows/nation-world/its-world-population-day-interesting-facts-you-should-know/its-world-population-day-interesting-facts-to-know/slide-show/53150611.cms>

## International Day of Co-operatives

**Question: This year's International Day of Co-operatives was celebrated on-**

- (a) 3 July
- (b) 2 July
- (c) 1 July
- (d) 4 July

**Ans. (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 2 July 2016 the International Day of Cooperatives was celebrated across the world.
- The theme for this year is ‘Co-operatives: The power to act for a sustainable future.’
- In 1992, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed, in its resolution 47/90 of 16 December 1992, the International Day of Co-operatives to be celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July.



**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/cooperativesday/>



## Statistics Day 2016

**Question: Statistics Day is celebrated on-**

- (a) 28 June
- (b) 25 June
- (c) 26 June
- (d) 29 June

**Ans:(d)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 June 2016; The 10th Statistics Day 2016 was celebrated by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- The theme for this year is 'Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare'.
- "Statistics Day" is celebrated every year on 29th June to mark the birth anniversary of late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, the Father of Indian Statistics.
- On 5 June 2007 Govt. of India has decided to designate 29th June every year, coinciding with his birth anniversary, as Statistics Day in the category of special day to be celebrated at the national level



**Reference:**

[http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi\\_New/upload/statisticday\\_23june16.pdf](http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi_New/upload/statisticday_23june16.pdf)

[http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi\\_New/site/inner.aspx?status=2&menu\\_id=31](http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi_New/site/inner.aspx?status=2&menu_id=31)

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146610>

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Cabinet increases the limit for foreign investment in Stock Exchanges

**Question: Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval for raising foreign shareholding limit from 5% to-**

- (a) 20%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 15%
- (d) 18%

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 27 July 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for raising foreign shareholding limit from 5% to 15% in Indian Stock Exchanges.
- The Cabinet has also approved the proposal to allow foreign portfolio investors to acquire shares through initial allotment, besides secondary market, in the stock exchanges.
- The approval is in pursuance of implementation of the Budget Announcement made by the Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley while presenting the Union Budget 2016-17.
- The move will help in enhancing global competitiveness of Indian stock exchanges by accelerating/facilitating the adoption of latest technology and global best practices.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147855>

## World's largest amphibious aircraft

**Question:** Which of the following country has recently made World's largest amphibious aircraft?

- (a) France
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) United States of America

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 23 July 2016 China has completed production of a massive amphibious aircraft that it plans to use to fight forest fires and perform marine rescue missions.
- AG-600 is the name of the aircraft.
- The aircraft has a maximum take-off weight of 53.5 tonnes, a maximum cruising speed of 500 km per hour, a maximum flight range of 4,500 km.
- Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) is the maker of the aircraft.
- The 37-meter-long AG600 with a wingspan of 38.8 meters is by far the world's largest amphibian aircraft.
- The aircraft is capable to fly from both land and water.

**Reference:**

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-07/23/c\\_135534988.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-07/23/c_135534988.htm)

<http://sputniknews.com/asia/20160725/1043609286/china-amphibious-aircraft.html>

## Tata, India's most valuable brand

**Question:** Which of the following Brand has been declared as the India's most valuable brand in the list released on India Brands by consulting firm Brand Finance India?

- (a) Tata
- (b) Airtel
- (c) SBI
- (d) LIC

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 20 July 2016 Consulting firm Brand Finance India has released its annual study on India Brands in which Tata with a brand valuation of \$13.7 billion has been declared as the India's most valuable brand.
- The top 10 brands of 2015-16 include Tata, LIC, Airtel, SBI, Infosys, Reliance, ONGC, L&T, Indian Oil and HCL.
- Infosys brand value grew 110 per cent in two years due to leadership change and is placed in top 10.
- Brand Finance is the London-based Consulting firm which evaluates businesses based brand.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/tata-is-most-valuable-brand-despite-11-decline-in-value/article8871561.ece>

<http://www.livemint.com/Consumer/7CSdxeF4gyaRFxiLjaqWQK/Tata-still-Indias-most-valuable-brand.html>

<http://www.ndtv.com/photos/news/tata-group-is-indias-most-valuable-brand-18244#photo-234731>

## Fifth report of the SIT on black money

**Question:** What is the maximum limit for on cash transactions recommended by SIT on black money?

- (a) Upto 4 Lakhs
- (b) Upto 3 Lakhs
- (c) Upto 5 Lakhs
- (d) Upto 2.5 Lakhs

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- The Fifth SIT report has been submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court by the SIT.
- The SIT has recommended that there should be a total ban on cash transactions above Rs.3 Lakhs and an Act is framed to declare such transactions as illegal and punishable under law.
- SIT has suggested an upper limit of Rs.15 lakhs on cash holding.
- Further stating that in case any person or industry requires holding more cash, it may obtain necessary permission from the Commissioner of Income tax of the area.
- Notably, in June 2014, a Special Investigation Team was constituted headed by former judge of the Supreme Court M. B Shah.
- The special investigation team probing allegations of black money.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147082>

[http://www.dor.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/revenue/files/Press\\_Release\\_SIT\\_5\\_Report%281%29.pdf](http://www.dor.gov.in/sites/upload_files/revenue/files/Press_Release_SIT_5_Report%281%29.pdf)

## Lifeline Express completed 25 years

**Question:** Lifeline Express was operated for the first time on-

- (a) 16 July 1991
- (b) 14 July 1991
- (c) 15 July 1991
- (d) 18 July 1991

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 16 July 2016 the Lifeline Express completed 25 years of operations.
- On July 16, 1991, the Lifeline Express (LLE) started as the world's first hospital on a train.
- It was started by Impact India Foundation (IIF), a Mumbai-based NGO and Indian Railways (IR).
- The MoU was signed under which the Railways would provide a three-coach train, provide water and electricity, and maintain it, and the NGO would operate the medical services.
- Since 1991, LLE has regularly conducted medical projects by camping in different parts of the country.



**Reference:**

<http://www.railnews.co.in/lifeline-express-the-first-hospital-train/>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/hospital-train-lifeline-express-completes-25-years-of-service/1/716342.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/news/the-lifeline-express-25-years-of-changing-lives/article8861769.ece>

<https://www.impactindia.org/lifeline-express.php#content-start>

## 74th Round of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)

**Question: What are the main characteristics of 74th Round of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)?**

- (a) The survey focuses on collecting data related to the service sector.
- (b) The survey focuses on collecting data related to the industry sector.
- (c) The survey focuses on collecting data related to the agricultural sector.
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 13 to 14 July 2016; The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) held an All India Workshop of Trainers for the NSS 74th Round at Pune.
- The survey has commenced on 1st July 2016 and conclude on 30th June 2017.
- The 74th Round of NSS will be on “Establishment focused Survey on Services Sector”.
- Though the services sector is the main contributor to the country’s gross domestic product and accounts for nearly 60 per cent of it, there is little official data on economic activities by the sector.
- The first round results of the survey are expected in 2018.
- Presently, most of the service sector figures are provided by the Reserve Bank of India and other private institutions.

**Reference:**

[http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi\\_New/upload/workshop74thrd\\_6july16.pdf](http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi_New/upload/workshop74thrd_6july16.pdf)

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/sample-survey-bodys-74th-round-to-map-service-sector-enterprises/article8862572.ece>

## First e-court of India Inaugurated

**Question:** The first e- court of India was inaugurated at-

- (a) High Court of Allahabad
- (b) High Court of Hyderabad
- (c) High Court of Delhi
- (d) High Court of Calcutta

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 July 2016 India's first paperless e-court was inaugurated at High Court of Hyderabad by Supreme Court judge Justice Madan B. Lokur.
- High Court of Hyderabad is the common high court for the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are first two states in the country to be chosen for Integrated Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project.
- This system will integrate police stations with the courts, with jails, with the prosecution and with the forensic science laboratories.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/first-ecourt-inaugurated-in-hyderabad-hc/article8863480.ece>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/hc-gets-its-first-paperless-ecourt/article8863679.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/Countrys-first-e-court-opened-at-Hyderabad-High-Court/articleshow/53252771.cms>

## Cabinet approves disinvestment in NBCC

**Question:** Recently the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the disinvestment of what percent of paid up equity of National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) out of Government of India's 90% shareholding?

- (a) 10 Percent
- (b) 15 Percent
- (c) 7 Percent
- (d) 5 Percent

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited

- On 13 July 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the disinvestment in National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC).
- Cabinet has allowed disinvestment of 15% paid up equity of National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC) out of Government of India's 90% shareholding.
- It would result in estimated receipts of Rs.1,706 crore approximately to the Government.
- NBCC was incorporated on 5th November, 1960 as a wholly owned Government of India enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of Urban Development.
- The company was incorporated with the objective for becoming a leading company in the field of construction, engineering and project management consultancy services.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147028>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/cabinet-approves-stake-sale-in-nbcc-india/article8844268.ece>



## Yaws, maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination

**Question:** The World Health Organization presented certificates declaring elimination of yaws and maternal and neonatal tetanus to the Health and Family Welfare Minister, India on-

- (a) 14 July 2016
- (b) 15 July 2016
- (c) 15 June 2016
- (d) 16 July 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 14 July 2016 the World Health Organization presented certificates declaring elimination of yaws and maternal and neonatal tetanus to the Health and Family Welfare Minister of India, J P Nadda.
- It should be noted that India was validated for Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination (MNTE) in April 2015, much ahead of the global target date of December 2015.
- With this, India has joined the 174 countries of the world, who have succeeded in overcoming tetanus.
- Tetanus, also known as lockjaw, is an infection characterized by muscle spasms. In the most common type, the spasms begin in the jaw and then progress to the rest of the body.
- India is the first country to be officially acknowledged as being Yaws-free.
- Tetanus is caused by an infection with the bacterium *Clostridium tetani*, which is commonly found in soil, dust and manure
- The bacteria generally enter through a break in the skin such as a cut or puncture wound by a contaminated object.
- The disease mostly affects children under the age of 15 years.
- This disease is most common among the age 6-10 year age group.
- According to an estimate around 8 crore 90 lakhs people in 13 countries are having tetanus infection.

**Reference:**

<http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2016/1629/en/>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147093>



## Road Transport, Highways & Shipping Minister, Nitin Gadkari's Visit to US

**Question: What is the length of India's coastline?**

- (a) 7516.6 Km
- (b) 6500 Km
- (c) 5400 Km
- (d) 4200 Km

**Ans:(a)**

**Related facts:**



- Road Transport, Highways & Shipping Minister Nitin Gadkari arrived in Washington for scheduled one week visit to United States of America.
- On 11 July 2016 he holds official talks with his counter-part US Secretary of Transportation, Anthony Foxx in Washington on a wide range of projects of mutual interest.
- During his visit he will be particularly looking for widening and deepening the scope of Indo-US cooperation in innovative technologies for improving highway development, road engineering, road safety and development of green fuels in automobile sector and electric vehicles.
- He has envisaged 50-60 Billion USD foreign investment for infrastructure and another 100 Billion USD towards industrial development for port-led economic growth in the maritime sector and inland waterways.
- His itinerary in Washington included a talk on “A window into India's Infrastructure Development” organized by Atlantic Council, a Washington-based think tank.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146946>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/nitin-gadkari-to-seek-infra-investment-during-his-week-long-us-visit/articleshow/53139777.cms>

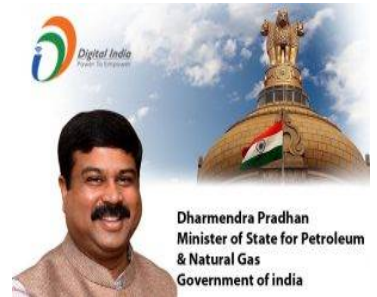
## Houston and Calgary Road -Show

**Question: In which of the following two countries the Ministry Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched the International Road show to promote Discovered Small Fields Bid Round 2016?**

- (a) China and Japan
- (b) United States of America and Canada
- (c) Australia and New Zealand
- (d) Oman and Dubai

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 12 July 2016 Ministry Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched the International Road show in Houston, United States of America and Calgary, Canada.
- The road show will be held as part of process of promoting the Discovered Small Fields Bid Round 2016.
- Houston road show is scheduled on 14th and 15th July, 2016 while the Calgary road show will be held on 18th and 19th July, 2016.
- Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan will visit Houston and Washington D.C, during 13 – 18 July, 2016.
- Discovered Small Fields bidding was launched in New Delhi on 25th May, 2016. Subsequently, Road-Shows for this round were held in Mumbai and Guwahati.
- Under this round, 67 DSF of ONGC and Oil India Ltd, which could not be monetized during previous years, are being offered for international bidding

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146990>

<http://www.uniindia.com/dsfs-bidding-pradhan-to-launch-global-road-show-in-houston/business-economy/news/551337.html>

## “Kendrapara sheep”- a new breed of sheep

**Question:** Kendrapara sheep is locally known as-

- (a) Kuji mendha
- (b) Garol breed
- (c) KunjiPada
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 10 July 2016 National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) has formally accorded registered breed status on “Kendrapara sheep”, an indigenous variety mainly found Odisha state.
- Locally it is called as ‘kuji mendha’.
- It is the 42nd sheep breed to have been registered in India
- It is a typical breed of sheep. These sheep are fast breeders giving multiple birth while those in other parts of the state give single birth at a time.
- Kendrapara breed was identified as the second in India and sixth in the world to carry FecB mutation gene responsible for multiple births such as twins and triplets.
- Similarly, in Sundarbans area of West Bengal, Garol breed sheep are found who are multiple-breeders.
- These sheep are mostly brown in colour. Head, face, belly and legs are bare. Rest of the body is covered with non-lustrous hair.
- Animals have horizontal ears; short, straight and drooping tail. Button type horns in few males.
- Adult body varies from 24 to 30kg. Estimated population is about 1,23,000.
- These are primarily used for production of mutton.
- It should be known that Breed Registration Committee in its meeting on 21st June, 2016 at New Delhi approved registration of nine new breeds of livestock and poultry.
- This includes one breed of cattle, two breeds each of goat and sheep, three breeds of pig, and one breed of chicken.
- After including these newly registered breeds, total number of indigenous breeds now in the country is 160, which include 40 for cattle, 13 for buffalo, 26 for goat, 42 for sheep, 6 for horses & ponies, 9 for camel, 6 for pig, 1 for donkey and 17 for chicken.

**Reference:**

<http://www.nbagr.res.in/registeredbreed.html>

[http://www.cs.wri.res.in/sectionhttp://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/Kenns\\_animal\\_biotechnology.asp](http://www.cs.wri.res.in/sectionhttp://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/Kenns_animal_biotechnology.asp)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/flora-fauna/Kendrapara-sheep-gets-rare-status/articleshow/53140281.cms?>

## World's largest Charkha (spinning wheels) unveiled

**Question:** Recently World's largest Charkha (spinning wheels) unveiled at-

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Gandhinagar
- (d) Jaipur

**Ans. (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 July 2016 the World's largest Charkha (spinning wheels) was unveiled by Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for MSME at the Terminal 3 of IGI Airport, New Delhi.
- The idea behind displaying the world's biggest charkha at the country's "busiest airport" is to highlight India's quest to foster an egalitarian society as demonstrated by Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation.
- It is 9 ft wide, 17 ft tall and 30 ft long.
- It was built in 55 days by a team of 42 highly skilled carpenters hailing from Ahmedabad.
- The four-tones Charkha made from high-quality Burma teak wood is estimated to last for over 50 years.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=146820>

## Country's first Commercial Dispute Resolution Centre and Commercial Court

**Question:** Recently the India's first Commercial Dispute Resolution Centre and Commercial Court was inaugurated at which of the following city?

- (a) Bhopal
- (b) Patna
- (c) Naya Raipur
- (d) Gandhinagar

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 July 2016 Dr Raman Singh, Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, and Justice Madan B. Lokur of the Supreme Court of India inaugurated India's first dedicated Commercial Dispute Resolution Centre and Commercial Court in Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- The court also consists of arbitration centre and a mediation centre.

**Reference:**

<http://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/english/business-world-epaper-bizworld/chhattisgarh-becomes-first-state-to-have-commercial-dispute-resolution-centre-and-commercial-court-news-55142335>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/chhattisgarh-cm-inaugurates-india-s-first-commercial-court-in-raipur-116070200498\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/chhattisgarh-cm-inaugurates-india-s-first-commercial-court-in-raipur-116070200498_1.html)

## UP Government's announcement related to natural disaster

**Question:** Website <http://rahat.up.nic.in/> is related to-

- (a) Disaster Management Department, Govt. of U.P
- (b) Rahat Fateh Ali Khan
- (c) Social Welfare Department, Govt. of U.P
- (d) Health department, Govt. of U.P

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 28 June 2016 the Government of Uttar Pradesh has announced the natural disasters like unseasonable heavy rain, lightning, storm and Loo(Hot and Dry summer afternoon wind) will be treated like State Disaster.
- All the victims of these disasters would be given relief from the state disaster relief fund in accordance with the provisions of the central government.

**Reference:**

<http://airworldservice.org/hindi/archives/24497>

<http://newzindia.com/news/up-govt-declares-all-natural-calamities-to-be-treated-as-state-disaster>



## Panama Canal reopened

**Question: Panama Canal project is also known by which of the following name?**

- (a) First Set of Locks Project      (b) Third Set of Locks Project  
(c) Second Set of Locks Project      (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 26 June 2016 the Expanded Panama Canal was officially opened for business.
- Its length is 82 Km.
- The canal connects the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.
- Panama Canal consists of three lock systems.
- That is why this project is also called as the Third Set of Locks Project.
- The inaugural transit began with the passage of Neopanamax vessel COSCO Shipping Panama through the Agua Clara Locks on the Atlantic side of the country and concluded with its transit through the Cocoli Locks on the Pacific side.
- The ship of 366 m. Long and 49 m. Wide can pass through the canal.
- Panama with a population of 38 million, largely dependent on the Panama Canal for its revenue.
- After the construction of New dams (Locks) 96 per cent of the ship will be able to use it.
- The Panama Canal is a man-made 48-mile (77 km) progress through the fresh water lake "Gatun".
- The canal cuts across the Isthmus of Panama and is a key conduit for international maritime trade. There are locks at each end to lift ships up to Gatun Lake, an artificial lake created to reduce the amount of excavation work required for the canal, 26 metres (85 ft) above sea level.

**Reference:**

<https://micanaldepanama.com/expansion/2016/06/game-changer-inauguration-of-expanded-panama-canal-ushers-in-new-era-of-global-trade/>

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the\\_americas/an-expanded-panama-canal-opens-for-giant-ships/2016/06/26/11a93574-37d1-11e6-af02-1df55f0c77ff\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/an-expanded-panama-canal-opens-for-giant-ships/2016/06/26/11a93574-37d1-11e6-af02-1df55f0c77ff_story.html)



# SPORTS PERSONALITY

## Vijender Singh

**Question:** Recently Indian boxer Vijender Singh won the WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight title by defeating whom?

- (a) Siddharth Verma
- (b) Dilbagh Thakran
- (c) Kerry Hope
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 16 July 2016; WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight Championship held at the Tyagaraj Stadium in New Delhi.
- Indian boxer Vijender Singh won the WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight title by defeating former WBC European champion Kerry Hope in 10 rounds.
- This is his seventh straight win in the pro circuit.
- In another competition Siddhartha Verma defeated Dilbagh Thakran to lift the IBC Super Welterweight Championship Title fight.
- He becomes the country's first-ever professional boxing title holder.

**Reference:**

<http://www.wboboxing.com/vijender-beats-hope-wbo-middleweight-title/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/vijender-becomes-wbo-asia-pacific-super-middleweight-champion/article8860644.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/boxing/Vijender-Singh-vs-Kerry-Hope-WBO-Asia-Pacific-Super-Middleweight-title-fight/liveblog/53242234.cms>



## Lionel Messi

**Question:** On 26 June 2016 which of the following Argentinian player retired from international football?

- (a) Sergio Romero
- (b) Lionel Messi
- (c) Marcos Rojo
- (d) Lucas Biglia

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 26 June 2016 Lionel Messi who plays for Spanish club Barcelona and Argentina footballer announced his retirement from international football.
- He has retired from international duty after missing in a penalty shootout as Argentina lost a fourth major final in nine years.
- Messi is the only football player in history to win five(2010, 2011, 2012, 2015) FIFA Ballons d'Or, four of which he won consecutively.
- He is the first player to win three European Golden Shoes.
- In 2009 Messi won the Ballon d'Or and FIFA World Player of the Year award.
- While playing for Barcelona he has won eight La Liga titles and four UEFA Champions League titles, as well as four Copas del Rey.
- He is his country's all-time top scorer, with 55 goals from 113 appearances.
- The previous record was hold by Gabriel Batistuta, who scored 54 goals for Argentina.
- Javier Mascherano, another Argentina football player also retired from international football.

**Reference:**

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/06/27/football/copa-america-lionel-messi/>

<http://www.bbc.com/sport/football/36637591>

## Lalchand Rajput

**Question: Recently who has been appointed as the Head Coach of Afghanistan Cricket Team?**

- (a) Lalchand Rajput
- (b) Herschelle Gibbs
- (c) Corey Collymore
- (d) Mohammad Yousuf

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 25 June 2016 Lalchand Rajput has been appointed as the Head Coach of Afghanistan Cricket Team by the selection committee of Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB)
- He will replace Inzamam-ul-Haq as the head coach of the National-setup
- He will be joining team in Scotland, Ireland and Netherland tour which was started on 4 July 2016.
- He served as the joint honorary secretary of the Mumbai Cricket Association and also took up coaching, which included successful spells with the Under-19 team.
- He also served as cricket manager for Indian team at the ICC World Twenty20 in South Africa and held the position till the tour of Australia in 2007-08.

**Reference:**

<http://cricket.af/news/view/50>

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/80846/lalchand-rajput-appointed-head-coach-of-afghanistan>

<http://www.espnricinfo.com/ci/content/story/1029501.html>

<http://www.espnricinfo.com/india/content/player/33034.html>

## Anju Bobby George and Pullela Gopichand

**Question:** Which of the following two players have been drafted as members of Khelo India, a national programme for the development of sports in the country, an initiative by the Government?

- (a) Sachin Tendulkar and Karnam Malleswari
- (b) Anju Bobby George and Pullela Gopichand
- (c) Bhaichung Bhutia and P. T. Usha
- (d) Leander Paes and Sania Mirza

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- Anju Bobby George and Pullela Gopichand have been drafted as members of “Khelo India”.
- “Khelo India” is a national programme for the development of sports in the country, an initiative by the Government.
- Khelo India has a seven-member committee.
- In which Anju and Gopichand are the two sportspersons.
- Anju Bobby George is India’s lone athletics World Championship medal winner and Pullela Gopichand is chief national badminton coach.
- The committee will be headed by Sports Secretary Rajiv Yadav.

**Reference:**

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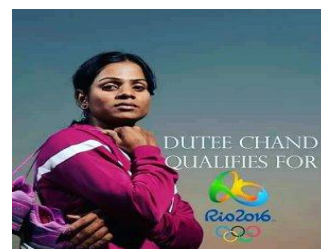
## Dutee Chand

**Question: Name the Indian sprinter who has recently qualified for the 100m event at Rio 2016?**

- (a) Tintu (b) Dutee Chand  
(c) Chitra Soman (d) None of the Above

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 25 June 2016 Indian sprinter Dutee Chand has qualified for the 100m event at Rio 2016.
- She completed her race in set time of 11.30 seconds in the 100m heats at the G Kosanov Memorial Meet in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- Additionally, Dutee revised her previous national record of 11:33 second to complete 100m.
- Rio Olympics entry standard was of 11.32 seconds.
- Dutee became the first Indian woman athlete in 36 years to qualify for 100 metres race in an Olympics after legendary P T Usha competed in the 1980 Moscow Games.
- Dutee became the first Indian woman to qualify for the event since qualification started for the event.
- Earlier P.T Usha had participated for the event in Olympics. But then there was no qualification system.
- P.T Usha secured fourth position in the finals of 1980 Moscow Olympics.
- Dutee is the first athlete from the state of Odisha who has qualified for the Olympics in an individual event.

**Reference:**

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<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/sport-others/dutee-chand-qualifies-for-rio-2016-olympics-in-womens-100m-2874973/>  
<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/rio-olympics-2016-dutee-chand-qualifies-for-rio-olympics-in-100m/article8772869.ece>  
[http://www.bbc.com/sport/athletics/36631294\](http://www.bbc.com/sport/athletics/36631294)